

**PROGRAM DATE: 2015-10-15**

**PROGRAM NAME: WOMANITY WOMEN IN UNITY**

**GUEST NAME: MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA**

<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TRANSCRIPTION</b>
DR. MALKA	Joining us in studio today is award winning South African actress and script writer Ms Moshidi Motshegwa, who has acted in local television series like Hijack Stories, Josie H, Zero Tolerance, The Lab, Rhythm City. As well as international productions in the Netherlands with Stellenbosch, Germany with Flisch, in Botswana with the number one ladies with detective agency, I must add a personal favourite and in America with ER and The Black Sails. Moshidi's acting career was rooted in her arts education. She won a scholarship to the Johannesburg Arts, Ballade and Drama School, now known as the National School of Arts. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and history and her honour in African literature from the University of Witwatersrand. Welcome to the show.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Thank you. I didn't know I had done so much. I was like, is that me.</b>
DR. MALKA	Well we would like to hear more about your developments and elements from your career to date and what I didn't add was specifically in terms of the awards that you hold so SAFTA Best Actress and Drama, SAFTA Best Actress in a Soapie award, Best Actress in a Feature Film. And with all of those components you have become a household name not just in South Africa but beyond our borders into different continents. Can you please take us back to some of those moments when all the hard work that you've invested into your career has finally paid off.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Well it's always difficult to say has it paid off. Has it paid off yet. I think that's a lifelong question, you know because I think we will always strive for more isn't because unless, you never say I've arrived. You always feel like you just beginning because ever project demands new things, new thoughts, new, new ways of being you know um, new approaches to even your own work. Even, even your own growth as well, plays, I think a huge role. I started this career when I was seventeen and I am now thirty nine, so I think over the years you, you change, you develop, you become someone else uh, you become more of the women you supposed to become I hope. So um, I think that influences you greatly in, in the work that you do. I think earlier on in my career I was just grateful to work. You know to, to have, to be asked to audition for a part and then to get it and then to actual see that the career, it's a career, I could make because my parents were very reluctant um for me to go into this profession. They were very concerned that, why don't you do something, something academic, something normal, something, a nine to five job. You know uh, when I was growing most people were either teachers or doctors or nurses you know. The idea of going into the arts sounded like something, something strange, something. How you going make a living, you know.</b>
DR. MALKA	And what attracted you to the arts?
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>It's not so much what attracted me to the arts, I think I found a voice. I grew up as a overweight kid and if you an overweight kid it's very difficult because you can't do athletics and it's a huge thing back then. It was a huge thing to be able to do athletics. I couldn't do athletics. I wasn't very good at maths or science. So you immediately felt like you didn't have a chance in life.</b>
DR. MALKA	Did you almost feel invisible.

MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	You know it wasn't so much invisible, it was just like you lacked something that the others had. You know, you couldn't run, uh, you weren't a good swimmer, you weren't good a netball. You know, it's almost like there was, there was the basics you needed in order to make it and I didn't have them, but when I discovered that I had the ability to stand in front of people and transform into someone else, I actually found something I enjoyed and loved and that I was good at. Also I was a big reader. I've, I've been since I was a child I loved books. I've loved books. I'm a book-a-fan. So I think when you are a reader you, you have such a big and strong imagination, you know uh, and also I think from when I was very little I had a very strong personality, very uh, I think some people are born with a sense of who they are, um, I questioned things a lot. I spoke out. I didn't understand why I had to learn cleaning, cooking and ironing when there were books to read. Um, so my dear mother struggled to, to try and find the balance between my book loving self and you know just empowering me, for life actually you know um. We often see those things of cooking and cleaning as so domestic but actually it's about looking after yourself.
DR. MALKA	It's, it's part of life.
MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	It's part of life.
DR. MALKA	But it's fantastic you managed to find your calling at such a young age, when many people, that's one of the biggest issues that they struggle with is finding what it is they want to achieve.
MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	Look, I was also very encouraged by mother, you know she, she found books we. I don't come from a wealthy background, so my mother used to get second hand books uh, or second hand encyclopaedias. She really en, she really realised you loved something, she encouraged you in that.
DR. MALKA	So she fed it.
MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	She fed it, you know what I mean. She fed the little monster in me. The book monster and I think that gives you such, as a child, you need that, you know, you need. It's like I had my own, that person who says, of course you can do it, you know, so even when I started doing writing, I mean one of the things that happened in my life quite earlier on, when I was fourteen, I wrote a little monologue and I was at a school that was South African but also American and then I won this competition to go to America with this little monologue I had written and, and I remember writing it at night. I grew up in Alexander township, there's no electricity and I had switched on the candle and my mother said to me, why are you up at night, and I said because I have this story I want to write so I wrote it and then I won this competition, now there was no money for me to go to America. So now we had to you know, embark on this thing of getting sponsorship um, and it was very, very difficult. How do you explain that a fourteen year old has won a competition to go compete in America in the eighties, in, in eighties and there is a man to this day that I have never met who paid for me to go to America when I was fourteen years old um, and it's that, the kindness and generosity...
DR. MALKA	I'm getting goose bumps, on that you had a benefactor that you, for your voice to be heard.
MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	Yes, I had. Yes a, I had never met. Yup. Yup. So at fourteen, fifteen I went to America to compete in this international competition with children from all over the world and they gave places, I think to eight, a winners, and I came fourth place and I think that really gave me the affirmation

	<p>that I, I have something. So when the National School of the Arts actually opened to black kids, I was one of the first black kids to go there. There was just four of us. The was me there was a coloured boy and there was an Indian boy. There was another black girl who was there but she left early but the three of us remained and finished our matric there. Our, our uh finale high school year there um. In recently actually I was on Facebook and I saw John Adams, the other coloured boy who was there and he's done, he's gone on, and I said to him, do you realise that you and I went onto do the things that we really love. He's a, he's a fine artist, and um, and I said who would of thought that the two people of colour, in a sea of white people could go on to really live their dreams you know.</p>
DR. MALKA	And having that strong grounding in the foundation of your education to, to move ahead.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yup. Yup.</b>
DR. MALKA	And whilst we on, the sort of, formative...
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Years!</b>
DR. MALKA	Period, yes the years of your life, in your début film you play the role of Zinzi Mandela, alongside, Oscar award winning actor, Sidney Potie in the 1997 feature film, Mandela and de Klerk. What was it like to act such an important part of South African history and also so shortly after the birth of our democracy?
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	You know what, I think again it's, it's so incredible, because when you're young you don't have the weight of history. You come in, just passionate, just wanting to tell the story, wanting to be really good at it and also the fact that you are working on this international production, it's the first time you doing a film, it's like all these things. It's the first time I, I was, I actually flew to Cape Town, I'd never been to Cape Town. I was staying at this hotel, The Vineyard, um, so everything was new. You know, it was kind like, oh my god this is how the other half live you know, but I think at the back of that, was this, I've, I'm very ambitious you know I, my work is very important to me. It's very important that when I walk away from a project that I feel that I've done well with it, you know. So I think at that time for me, the most important thing was just to give a certain authenticity to the story. A certain truth.
DR. MALKA	Because also the weight of responsibility on playing someone who a, is still alive but b, is such an important part of our history.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yes. And I think that's, that's when the youth thing actually saves you because you don't, you don't have the. Right now if I played somebody who's lived I would be uh, little bit more aware of that.</b>
DR. MALKA	Do you think a little bit more intimidated as well.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Exactly. You know what I mean. I would be thinking a lot more, but I think there is a wonderful thing about acting because it does allow you to go, I am merely a vessel, I am in acting. The truth always remains with the human being who lived the story. You only hope to just to, to merely show may be in some light, the person they were or what the script says what they are, you know. And there are limitations, remember you are still working with a script, you know. You don't have the luxury of going to meet the person unless it's a different kind of production, you know.</b>
DR. MALKA	You mentioned the control in terms of the script element and I understand that you have expanded your industry talents to study script editing, directing which you did at the National Film and Television School in the UK and

	you've recently co- produced the film, No My Skollie, which is currently in post-production and will be in local cinema's in 2016.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yes.</b>
DR. MALKA	How do you feel in terms of being behind the scenes doing the scripting and the production and the directing element verses being in front of the camera.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>I will always love acting. It is, it is my gift. I came with it. I will probably leave with it um, but I think I'm, I'm, I've read a lot, I think a lot uh and I think the more you work the more you want more things and I think I also wanted other kinds of representation, you know, um, I never felt satisfied every time I received a script and I think when you're not satisfied with something in life you got to think, how, how can I improve it, you know um and I think that's what propelled me to script editing and I love a story. I just love a story. I remember my dad telling me stories about the Rabbit and the Giraffe uh, both my parents have an incredible ability to tell stories. Even stories about just what happened today. And I did grow up in a household where you sit at the dinner table and you, they ask how was your day, and you have to tell your story, you know. You don't have to be a brilliant story teller but you have to tell a story.</b>
DR. MALKA	And, and not to be mono-syllbic but a story teller that carries it....
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yes, yes just to, to and, and I think as a child it really does, it's a wonderful thing actually for parents to do, to say I how was your day, what happened in your day, you know um. Obviously in teenage hood it's a bit more difficult cause you don't want to say what happened you know.</b>
DR. MALKA	It's getting that, that connection and building relationships..
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>It's the connection. It's, it's relationships you know, so I think coming from that um, it was very important for me to, to, to also grow, to expand, um and this industries unkind as you get older.</b>
DR. MALKA	Well look I think it gives you more opportunities to be a role player in a different value components of the value chain and to expand your, your repute of abilities.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>It's, I thinks is very important for your own growth, for your own sense of self as well you know um, and also I mean we, we work in a profession which is dedicated by beauty, by age, uh by a whole range of factors</b>
DR. MALKA	Particularly when it comes to women.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Particularly when it comes to women. So at some point in your life you have to go, can I keep this up, you know what I mean and there are women who have been able to do it. I mean Meryl Streep is doing fantastically, you know what I mean. She on the rise. So we still, but we still look at youth as, as representation of femininity but actually the older you get the more you have to say, the more of yourself comes out, the more of yourself you discover you know um, and we, it's a pity that we don't give older women or mature women um, those kind of roles that make us see women, not in just that girlie way but in that much more fuller way you know.</b>
DR. MALKA	But you see that as an opportunities in terms of coming through from a script perspective on designing the story and looking at, beyond the youth demographic into the mature segment.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>And also I think even representations of men, you know I think as much as we look at representations of women, it's very important to look at</b>

	<p>representations of men, you know and, and realise that there's, there's different types of men. That men are also evolutionary beings. They are also evolving and what are the challenges they have today that perhaps my father didn't have, you know my grandfather didn't have um, and what are the, their concerns today that are not the same as before we can't always give them these sort of card box images and that's, that's enough, you know uh, but who are these human beings that we spend a lot of our lives with as well.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Gender roles are certainly evolving and I think that those are part of the dynamics of the twenty first century which gives us more opportunities and, and a better appreciation of self.</p>
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<p><b>And I think living on the continent is very important um because we, we, we're and old continent but we are a young population in certain ways you know, there are certain things that are new to us, democracy uh, the idea of freedom um, certain things that we can access that probably ten or twenty years ago were not accessible you know. And how has that changed us you know. And the stories that come out of that.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Well I think it's a inspiration or a source of inspiration and a pool that will continue, for us to derive those stories from. Today we talking to award winning actress Moshidi Motshegwa.</p>
<b>AD BREAK</b>	
DR. MALKA	<p>You're listening to Womanity – Women in Unity on Channel Africa. The voice of the African renaissance, on frequency on 9625 kilo hertz on the 31 meter band. Also available on DSTV channel 902. Today we talking to awarding winning South African actress, script writer, producer, director, Ms Moshidi Motshegwa. We would love to receive your comments on twitter and Womanity Talk. In the previous segment Moshidi shared with us some of her humble up bringing um, looking at winning a significant competition at the tender age of fourteen which took her to the United States of America and hence forward discovering her voice, which lead her onto her acting career. Now picking up on our conversation, this programme is all about gender equality, which increasingly has become a global focus and part of that is really about building female leadership capacity. It's important, not only, for our country but also for the future wellbeing of women across the globe. As a role model to so many young women, how do you see female leadership? Whether it is in the parliament capacity, government, musicians, actresses, business world.</p>
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<p><b>You know I think there's still a lot of work to do with women leadership with even seeing more women in, in certain roles you know uh. I think we are a very patriarchal culture and I think we still view women in a particular way um. This experience of producing really showed me how, you know, because our business has always been so male dominated and usually women are either actresses or makeup or wardrobe, when a women steps into a producer position, there's a lot of resistance from the men.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>So do you feel there's this stereo type image that has been thrown upon, thrust upon women and that sort of boxed them into a mode of being ???</p>
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<p><b>Yeah. I think there are women producers you know and I have often wondered why they, they so, for a lack of a better word, hard core, but you actually realise that they are up against so much. That you being judged in a very different... When a women walks on set as a producer it's almost like the men want to test, are you good enough, do you know what you're doing. Whereas when a man comes on there's a comradary</b></p>

	<p>you know um, so I think just from that, just from this experience, I learnt as a women that you also have to pick your battles, if you going to work in a male environment and you need to, you need to bring in a bit of that tough love, that mothers know about you know um, that ability to be kind but also at the same time to be firm you know um. To not get emotional about things but to remain very, sometimes with the facts you know um and to stay on your job. To not let things sway you, you know um because there's a lot that comes in to sway us you know, we are tested, we are we're, it's almost like are you good enough, are you strong enough to do this, can you handle a man coming to tell, this and this and this and when you don't know to find out. I think that's the most important thing in female leadership, is to empower yourself in the job that you're doing so that when you go and stand in front of a group of people who have probably being doing this longer than you have, you're able to speak with a certain level of authority and also to still say I don't know, please explain that to me you know.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Do feel things may change the more women are present in the different roles within the cin, cinematic environment so that they provide more role modelling opportunities and mentorship.</p>
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<p>I think so. I think that the more women um are in leadership the more, there's, there's a certain kind of, of sensitivity that will also come into, into the work we are doing uh, and I think that the, there's definitely laws that we need in this business, that we don't have at the moment. Women are required to do so much more work, I think, in the work space of working with men than men have to do with us you know, um. And it's means that as a women you are constantly aware of, how do I project myself to, working with these men.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>I think one of the ones which you raised which I find interesting is about working within somebody else's limitations so you're expanding your boundaries in order to accommodate their limitations.</p>
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<p><b>Yup. Yup.</b></p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Now taking into consideration as you'd said, within the acting environment there is hardly any legislation protecting women. On the broader scale though women's rights have, have certainly increased over the years. What areas do you think still needs attention with respect to women?</p>
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<p>Do you know I think uh, I often think a lot about this and I think fundamentally we have lost something in our culture that respects the feminine you know, it's seems that we have written out the feminine as much as we have women's rights and women's legislation but if you look at how every year the stats come out on abuse, on rape, on you know, women being killed by their partner, you realise there's something in this society that's traumatised around, around women you know, or, or, it's playing out on the female you know um. It's almost like a destruction of the female. You know um, in this time where we are supposed to rise there seems to be like a real uh, ????, that taking us down, that's destroying us. So I think there's still a lot to be done, even at grass roots level, even in the way that we raise our children and I'm talking of male and female because if you're raising a male child but you don't teach that male child to respect the feminine, it is going to be a problem in the future. And even if we do all these wonderful things with the girls, one day they going to have to partner with these men who haven't bought into this same evolutionary space.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>You're right. There has to be the correct socialisation that happens at the onset, so people grow up with the mutual respect for each other and um, don't deny</p>

	them their opportunities or their capabilities. Clearly in the elements that you've spoken about that you've personally experienced gender discrimination and challenges, can you tell us about some of those events and how you overcame them in your career?
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Huh. How did I overcome them. I um, you know it's one of the hardest things, to almost feel like you're a second class citizen and I think u, once you go, o, okay, this is the situation I'm in, I'm working with this human being, there is no ways to get around this. The script requires me to be intermit with this person, or whatever it is you know um. I think my biggest strength has always been my mother. My mother was a school principal in the eighties in the Alexander Township when there weren't a lot of women principals. So she really was faced with this sort of this male patriarchal, traditional uh, uh thought pattern and, and I think one of things she always told me is that you've got to stay focused on what it is you came to do. You know it's very important that you don't lose your sense of self but at the same time to also say no. It's very important for women to say no. That's enough now, you know. Even if it means you might have to deal with this person um, being moody because there is generally, when men mistreat women it is something they're used to.</b>
DR. MALKA	It's almost an entitlement.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>It's an entitlement! It's a habit and um, you have to become uh, you have to guard yourself when you work with a person who doesn't have those kind of, that respect for women. You have to as a women, and it sounds terrible because somebody will say, but why should I and I always say, I know that I'm not going to change society today but it's very important for that man to understand, in the time that he's working with me, the kind of women he's working with. So I think it's very important when you take on a job to immediately establish the kind of person you are, the kind of spacial relationships you want to have with people and the kind of way that you want to relate to them.</b>
DR. MALKA	I find what you saying very interesting but I don't think it's just applicable within the acting environment but I think it is a lesson which goes across to any career and domain on establishing your own personal boundaries, being up front about who you are, what you going to accept, what you not going to tolerate.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yup. I worked on a project recently and I, my first day on set, it was like ten men sitting there and I really felt like, okay, here we go, put on your gum boots girl, and your helmet cause this is gona be a long day, but you know, I, I have little things that I do. For example I always bring a book on set, it just helps me to disconnect a little bit, to be within myself. And I just remember going, walking on that set and the men were.. It, it felt like I was in a bar, you know what I mean, with a bunch of men talking just rubbish and I remember thinking you can either react to this or you can just ignore it. And I thought we are tested. We are tested. It's also about the study of human, human beings really half the time.</b>
DR. MALKA	And that is a lifelong learning that continues. You've spoken a bit about your personal reactions and how you've handled yourself in, in different situations. What advice would you give to girls who want to follow in your foot steps and pursue a career in acting?
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>One of the first things I'm going to say is that this is the hardest career that you can go into as a women, because it will challenge everything that you think of yourself because every time you go to an audition there will be a girl more beautiful than you, more talented than you but you need to</b>

	<p>know why you want to do this profession. You need to have your core reason that will sustain you even through the hard times because there will be hard times. So many times you don't get work and not because you're not good, because you just don't have the look they're looking for. And that is going to happen throughout your entire career. It think it's important to be educated, um to have something else that you can do. When I meet young actresses and they say this is the only thing I can do, I want to say no my dear that is not the only thing you can do, you're much more than an actress. You're, you're a human being with so many other talents, you've just discovered one of them. I think it's very important to keep look for the other things that interest you in life and develop those. And I think it's very important to constantly seek, who am I. To never stop asking that question and what is it that I want and to not compromise on the person you want to be but to have the sensibility and the wisdom to know when you need to bend. It's a terrible thing to say but you do need that flexibility you know um, to say do I need to be like rock right now or to be like water. And there are times when you have to be like water, literally and swim between the rocks and, and let things be as they are but you also know when to, when you need to say, that's, that's not right for me. Um, one of the hardest challenges, as an actress, that will come is sometimes you will be offered really great money but a terrible role and..</p>
DR. MALKA	Which will plague you for the rest of your career.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yes. Yes. And you will have to make that decision of what matters to you the most. And at different times in your life, different things will matter, you know, there will be time when you do really need to pay your rent but there will be times when you do need to honour your spirit and the women you are.</b>
DR MALKA	It's a very delicate balance.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>It's a very delicate one. I haven't achieved it, I'm working on it. I'm a work in progress.</b>
DR MALKA	Thanks very much for sharing your personal perspectives and also offering words of advice for anyone that is, is planning on pursuing a career in acting. Giving the real truths.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>I hope so. I hope so and love it, enjoy it, that's also important.</b>
DR MALKA	Today we're talking to award winning South African actress, script writer, producer, director, Ms Moshidi Motshegwa.
<b>AD BREAK</b>	
DR. MALKA	You're listening to Womanity – Women in Unity on Channel Africa. The voice of the African renaissance, on frequency on 9625 kilo hertz on the 31 meter band. Also available on DSTV channel 902. Today we're talking to awarding winning South African actress, script writer, producer and director, Ms Moshidi Motshegwa. We would love to receive your comments on twitter at Womanity Talk. Going back a little bit in time you did your Bachelor of Arts degree in English and history and you're Honours in African Literature and you've continued to educate yourself within your trade and as such you know that education is a vital tool to empower individuals in societies. Can you expand a little on achieving your academic qualification, which I'm sure your mom contributed to being a principal but especially to our young girls who maybe at a cross roads in their life and not certain about the role of an academic degree in their future.

<p><b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b></p>	<p>You uh, it's so easy to say to somebody, if you've got talent you learn on the job, but what we don't tell people is that you will get older. You will change, you will want other things in your life, you'll want stability, you'll want sanity, you'll want to wake up and just know what is going on in your life you know. You'll want to get married, you'll want to settle down all sorts of things will come along your way. And that's when I think an education will kick in, but even before then, you will have to read a contract, you'll have to know what you're committing to on paper and if you cannot read a contract properly you're basically intrusting your life in other people's hands. You'll have to make decisions about what it is you really want to do. We are, we are in an environment where there are so many people who are telling you who you should be, how you should be. We have social media which plays a huge part in, in what we do more and more um, but you're not going to be able to sift through the real things and the, the unnecessary if you don't have that cultivated sense of questioning which is what education gives you, um critically looking at what has been presented to you and, and coming to a conclusion that comes from your own truths.</p>
<p>DR. MALKA</p>	<p>Also to do with thinking.</p>
<p><b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b></p>	<p><b>Yeah, thinking....</b></p>
<p>DR. MALKA</p>	<p>For yourself and not being passive because as you mentioned in terms of the influence and the effects of social media, we're bombarded with sources of information but often it's sort of very shallow, superficial level..</p>
<p><b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b></p>	<p><b>Very shallow, very shallow superficial level and you going to, if you're going to grow in this business you're going constantly be doing self-work. I call it self-work, you know. You gona have to be asking what is it I want, who do I want to be um, and, and those things come with a cultivated sense of reading makes you spend time with yourself and the others. It creates that thinking uh, uh, being in you, you know uh. It's a muscle that you basically exercising on a regular. It teaches you to have opinions, it teaches you to question. It's a, it's a career that needs a real rigorous sense of, of, of intellect actually. We often under estimate that.</b></p>
<p>DR. MALKA</p>	<p>It's being dedicated to not just your, your craft but to taking responsibility for the world around you and to remain relevant in an environment that is constantly changing and if anything, I thinks it's changing at an accelerated rate. Moshidi one of the questions I ask all my guests on this programme who've made significant achievements in their respective fields is about the factors they consider contributed to their success. Some have spoken about hard work, others talked about perseverance, the role of their mothers in their lives um some have spoken about fear as being a motivator. In your opinion what have been your key drivers.</p>
<p><b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b></p>	<p><b>I think respect. Is so under estimated but it's so essential</b></p>
<p>DR. MALKA</p>	<p>Respect for the self, respect in general.</p>
<p><b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b></p>	<p><b>Respect for the self, respect for the work, um honouring the work. Never think you've arrived and don't believe the hype. Even when everybody is saying you're the greatest, you still have work to do, you know. Always come into a space with humility and humbleness and always give thanks for the work because the work will come and the work will dry up and you don't what, what, what decides that you know. And when you are working to really work from a place of, of respect again, respect for the craft you</b></p>

	<p>know. Um, as I get older there are certain things that I absolutely arbore to put it lightly you know. An actor comes on set and they don't know their lines or they, as we are preparing for a take and you know the, the directors saying role camera and you can hear this person just having a conversation about other things, I'm just like, you've got to bring your mind here, this is a job. So I think respect is a very big thing for me and I think also just having a support, you've got have a very strong support. I've always had my mother's support um, she's a really big influence in my life, um, because never mind getting the work, it's also keeping the work, building that name for yourself. Uh, uh making those life decisions. You've got to have someone that grounds you, that helps you to see yourself uh clearly and I think making time with yourself, getting out of the maddening crowd into the silence. I think silence is a very important thing that you require as, as someone to be in this prof., to be an artist you need silence to go to yourself and hear yourself you know. I was doing yoga this morning and the women that I do, that I listen to on YouTube, Lesley Fightmaster, she gave a really wonderful quote this morning about Pinocchio and she said Pinocchio had Jiminy Cricket on his shoulder, remember your Jiminy Cricket</p>
DR. MALKA	So having your conscience resting there.
MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	<p>Yes you know, and, and remember the voices in your head are sometimes just bullies but Jiminy will never bully you because Jiminy is your true self. So I think finding your Jiminy Cricket and being able to hear your Jiminy Cricket is very important.</p>
DR. MALKA	You mentioned your mum and you've mentioned her a couple of times during the show today. Would you say that she's been a big influence on you.
MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA	<p>Huge, she's a force of nature and nature in a force. I have a lot of respect for my mother. I think my mother grew up in a much more difficult era than I did um and made life choices that you know that she wanted to be educated when wasn't that, priority for women to be educated. She went on to be a school principal in a predominately male environment. Um and one of the things I have always loved about her is that in the last two years my mother decided to retire because she wanted to enjoy her life and, and I've, I've always said to her that is a great gift that you've given us to say, to work and then to get to a place in your life, where you go, I now want to enjoy my life and not be, sorting having to wake up to something or someone and report to someone but to really enjoy who I've become and the women I've become. And I think she's, she's always encouraged us you know, if, if you've have an interest in anything my mother will tell you go for it you know. She was my first, she's the first person I've ever performed in front of. When I was a little girl and I would be preparing to go to an audition I would go to my mother's school and I would stand in her office while she's working and I would do whatever piece is and, and then she would say, go you ready. And one of the best advices she ever gave me was that it's not always about getting the part it's about making sure that they remember you. It's to leave your foot print when you leave the room and I cannot tell you how important that is. I, I actually this happened recently with Black Sails, that's what happened. I went to the audition and I did a great audition. They phoned me to say that I didn't get the part and then they phoned two days later and said we actually going to write a part for you.</p>
DR. MALKA	So that's the impact that you made in terms of being, of having your presence in the room and making sure that they were aware of you.

<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Yup, yup. So, the, the, the footsteps, as she calls them, die foet spoore in Afrikaans, is very important and I think, when you asked me earlier on, how difficult must it be to not get a role, the most important thing is not the role, it's that they see your talent, is that in that five minutes you've just shown somebody this is my talent and this is my craft and I have come here today to show case that.</b>
DR. MALKA	That's a very good perspective to have. Unfortunately we are coming to the end of the show today. Can you please share with us a few words of inspiration that you would like to pass onto girls and young women in Africa that are listening to us today.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>I would say to young women today in Africa, love yourself, remember you're the most important person in this equation. Always make sure that you serving you first and foremost, before you serve others because happiness will not come from having served others but it will come from having served yourself as well. And in whatever career you choose just remember that you are in service of the most important person on this journey in this life, and that's you. Your growth um, what you came to do, your life purpose, so love yourself, look after yourself and don't compromise yourself.</b>
DR. MALKA	Thanks for sharing those wonderful words of wisdom.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Thanks for having me here today.</b>
DR. MALKA	It's been great and we look forward hearing, in the future, about your impending developments.
<b>MOSHIDI MOTSHEGWA</b>	<b>Thank you.</b>
DR. MALKA	And invite you back. You have been listening to Womanity – Womanity in Unity on Channel Africa. The voice of the African renaissance and we have been talking to awarding winning South African actress and script writer, Ms Moshidi Motshegwa.
<b>END OF PROGRAM</b>	