



Monde Tshazi, left, with Thabiso Radebe and Precious Khoza in a scene from *Misconception*, a new play written by Radebe.

Exploring the struggle of art

Andile Dube

BEST known for his stellar performance in, and gripping script for, *High Heels with Balls*, which received favourable reviews when staged at Durban's Catalina Theatre last year, Thabiso Radebe is back with another play, *Misconception*.

A three-hander featuring Radebe as Patrick Skhakhane, Precious Khoza as A and Monde Tshazi as B, the work explores the mental state of an artist, often filled with conflict, self-recrimination and guilt, says Radebe.

It is to be staged at the Durban University of Technology's Art Gallery on the Berea campus, at 7pm from today until Friday.

Skhakhane is an artist who has lost hope. He battles with life because making a living is difficult.

"That is what some artists experience. There is also a belief that artists might always stay poor and not achieve goals because of being surrounded by many things that could push them towards a downfall".

The play has Skhakhane sharing his frustrations and fears growing up without a father in an unprincipled world.

"His father was never there for his family. There is guilt, suffering, death, and conflict between the characters.

"He gives up hope of ever achieving a bohemian lifestyle and blames this on his father and mother, who made a drastic choice without his consent."

Radebe explains that characters A and B are illusions in Skhakhane's life. Representing his mother and father, they provide the play's core storyline of Skhakhane having been aborted by A. To them, Skhakhane is the son that might have been had they not aborted.

Radebe adds that the work builds to a twist.

"My inspiration as a scriptwriter and actor comes from things I see happening around me which then create a story for me.

"I am inspired to write plays that are educational and meaningful and can call out to the public."

Tickets cost R50 at the door. To book, phone Francesca Verga at 031 373 2207 or 082 720 7635.