



Colours of a Woman Weekend

*Brought to you by Gracefully Consulting
In proud partnership with*

CONSTITUTION HILL

Overview

Just as there are many colours in a spectrum, and in turn millions when you look at the different shades of each colour, we acknowledge that there are as many ways to express yourself as a woman as there are women in the world.

Gracefully Consulting birthed **Colours of a Woman** to represent an interactive platform for women to discover their inner voice and find the resolve to pronounce it to the world. This is conducted through various different activities and activations - brought to participants' of all ages, designing a space to offer and hold an environment that is safe and conducive for women to explore their true colours by engaging with themselves and other women; celebrating their diversity and embracing their individuality.

This initiative presents a powerful and effective tool for personal growth and empowerment, which ultimately benefits not only the individual but also their families, communities, organisations and societies at large. Women leave the engagements with the assurance that they can indeed shape their own destiny and have the courage to take the first steps.

Constitution Hill, a National Heritage site, has a very complex history going back to 1892 when the Old Fort was built under the Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek, functioning as a prison. One of the buildings added to the fort in the late 1900s was the Women's Prison (1907), where struggle stalwarts such as Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Albertina Sisulu, Fatima Meer and countless more were incarcerated. Constitution Hill hosts a variety of programmes which embrace current issues, celebrate days of national significance, address matters of public interest and create a forum for public debate. With its rich history and character Constitution Hill boasts of ideal platforms to educate and learn about South Africa's story.

In celebration of 20 years of our Country's democracy, *Gracefully Consulting and Constitution Hill* have partnered to commemorate the women who courageously took a stand in 1956, to speak out in one united voice. We acknowledge and honour the role that they played in contributing to the liberation of South Africa with three significant events.

1] **BARS: The Price of Freedom**

Date: Friday, 8th August

Time: 11h00 to 15h00

Venue: Women's Gaol, Constitution Hill

In celebrating Women's Day, a Dialogue will be hosted for 400 women entitled **BARS: The Price of Freedom** as part of the *Colours of a Woman Weekend*. This dialogue presents an opportunity for women who stood on both sides of the Prison Bars at the old Women's Jail to share their personal encounters. We will be hosting former Woman Prisoners and Wardresses, and listen as they open up about their respective experiences on either side of the Prison **BARS**, in turn creating a dual re-telling of memories. This landmark event will also provide a unique platform for women from all walks of life to network in a setting rich with history and significance, celebrating the freedom that we now enjoy as Women 20 years into democracy.

2] **MZANSI WOMEN: Film Festival**

Date: Friday, 8th August & Saturday, 9th August

Time: 09h00 to 17h00

Venue: Human Right's Room, Constitution Hill

The **Mzansi Women Film Festival 2014** was conceived by a collaborative in the creative industry after seeing a need to celebrate women Filmmakers in South Africa on a public platform through screening, sharing and showcasing their films of any genres. The 2014 event of the Festival will be the first of many to follow, and hosted in every August as part of Women's Month celebrations. The theme for this event would be dubbed **Women Films Weekend Fever** as part of The *Colours of a Woman Weekend* that seeks to celebrate women through a series of strategically chosen events.

The Festival Films include:

1. Silent Cry
2. When I was Water
3. As I Am
4. Tsietsi, My Hero
5. Phindile's Heart
6. Bambekile
7. Big Fish Film School Collection
8. Other Short Films



3] Colours of a Woman MARCH

Date: Saturday, 9th August

Time: 08h00 to 11h00

Venue: Constitutional Square, Constitution Hill

The **Colours of a Woman March**, provides a platform and voice for young girls/women to march for five causes or challenges still faced by women today. Boys and men are invited and very welcome, as we believe that they need to begin to be a part of the conversation so that they may start to contribute to the solutions. The March will be a re-creation of the original Women's March of 1956, where this time, we will call on 5,000 people from all walks of life to take to the streets in a demonstration to raise awareness of the following social ills that continue to exist and negatively impact young women in this day and age:

1. Menstrual Dignity
2. Basic Education
3. Abuse of all forms
4. Human Trafficking
5. Teenage Pregnancy

4] Colours of a Woman FESTIVAL

Date: Saturday, 9th August

Time: 11h00 to 17h00

Venue: Women's Gaol, Constitution Hill

This day signifies a time where women in South Africa were brave and courageous. Although we dedicate 16 days of activism each year for several causes such as abuse against women, they are not enough. We need to boldly continue and support advocacy around the *every-day* struggles women face in our beautiful South Africa and the African Continent.

The *Colours of Woman Festival* represents a colourful mixture of the arts, culture and heritage of women, also celebrating the numerous civil society organisations that exist to give women a powerful voice, representing every kind of woman and their respective causes. *The Festival* brings together women artists, crafters and entrepreneurs who will gather inspiration from the Winnie Mandela Courtyard.

This *Festival* creates an empowering platform – *for women, by women* - to celebrate our different talents and showcase the following:

1. Arts, craft and fashion market
2. Organisations that represent women's causes
3. Food stalls
4. Music & live performances

