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Kimberley actor gains international acclaim

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KIMBERLEY-BORN international actor, Edwin Gagiano, was recently named the face of a major Toyota Aygo campaign.

The campaign covers cinema, television, print media and billboards as well as the internet.

Known for its prime time slot during the finale of Idols South Africa and the 200 000 hits on YouTube, it has made Gagiano one of South Africa's highest-earning actors.

Gagiano has acquired an enviable reputation, by virtue of his strong personal character and international spark.

His widespread success has made him a household name as well as an extremely influential celebrity with an idiosyncratic brand.

He has dominated the domestic film and television industry, but his American roles on the highly anticipated international sci-fi feature film Last Broken Darkness as well as, the war film Thirst, has boosted his career to

world-wide heights.

In 2006, South Africa witnessed the birth of a superlative actor.

At the age of 16, Gagiano landed the lead role as Alf Bueller in Northern Cape theatre's Back to the 80s production.

He won the Northern Cape best actor of the year award in 2007 for his role.

In 2013, after studying vocals and performance techniques at the North West University, Gagiano showcased his talent internationally in Orlando, Florida.

He received call-backs from Capitol Records, Sony, Paul Weber and Disney Entertainment.

He was also awarded with honorary recognition for his performances in the acting and improvisation categories.

Gagiano also auditioned for the nationwide soap opera competition, Villa Rosa Sterrejang (Villa Rosa StarHunt).

He was the only male actor to advance to the final round of the Top 10.

This was aired on the largest Afrikaans TV network in Africa, kykNET. Villa Rosa comes to an end in June

after 15 years on air.

Gagiano portrays Marcel Geldenhuis, a music student at Juilliard, who is visiting his mother, portrayed by Lieb Bester, for her wedding to Fritz Retief, the owner of the Villa Rosa Guesthouse empire.

Bester has been Villa Rosa's principle star for 11 seasons.

Gagiano received the lucrative role in 2015.

In the same year, the kykNET show picked up three awards at the Royalty Soapie Awards, including the coveted award for the most popular soapie.

Meanwhile, Gagiano was preparing to film his next international role as Fowler in Christopher-Lee Dos Santos's highly anticipated film Last Broken Darkness.

It showcased at the American Film Market's 36th edition, along with another international film Gagiano was in, Thirst.

Both these films showcased Gagiano's work at the Film Convention in Santa Monica, which took place last year in November.

Gagiano portrayed American roles in both films which will be released in 2016.

Gagiano's other roles include Darrell Roodt's Oscar-nominated primetime TV series Snake Park, where he played the lead role of 17-year-old Zak Verwey.

Zak is a professionally sponsored skateboarder who lives in Durban with his grandfather while he deals with the everyday life of a teenager.

The show tackles issues that affect youth from all cultures and walks of life.

With a diverse cast, the show unites the nation, by telling a story about forgiveness, friendship and family values.

With two seasons and multiple reruns, Gagiano has enjoyed over 26 episodes as a leading man on South Africa's largest TV network.

More than 2 million viewers have viewed each episode of Snake Park.

He has also made guest appearances on KykNET's Sterrelopers, produced by Deon Opperman.

Gagiano's abilities as an incredibly versatile actor have consistently brought him rave reviews.



MINT: Edwin Gagiano has become one of SA's highest-earning actors.

His extraordinary acting talent has earned him extensive media coverage, from featuring his musical abilities as a singer on SABC3's show Play Network to national commercial campaigns and interviews.

He has also been on the film Run or Die, where he gave a behind-the-scenes look to aspiring filmmakers and actors and shared his professional insight on industry matter.

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Budget Speech

2016/2017

The Northern Cape MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Mr MacCollen Jack will be tabling the Provincial Budget at a House Sitting in Upington taking place on Tuesday, 8th March 2016. Tune into the following radio stations at 14h15 for the live broadcast:

Mr MacCollen Jack: MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism