

Harry Sideropoulos takes a final bow from 94.7

After almost seven years together, The Rude Awakening show on 94.7 Highveld Stereo is bidding farewell to one of its members - Harry Sideropoulos is taking his final bow.

It all began when Harry Sideropoulos was heard chatting away at a Sandton coffee shop and was invited for an audition - launching his career into mainstream radio as an integral part of The Rude Awakening morning show, co-hosting with Jeremy Mansfield and Samantha Cowen.

As Sideropoulos celebrates the second run of his multi award winning show Big Band Blast, together with the launch of his debut CD and the preparations for an upcoming national concert tour to promote the CD; plus a host of other projects that include his new Cuban musical for next year, writing a comic play on pregnancy, negotiating the terms of a possible international tour of Big Band Blast, and taking his one-hander No Sugar, Canderel Please (co-written with Samantha Cowen) to Greece.

Sideropoulos has made the decision to leave The Rude Awakening in pursuit of the various career opportunities opening up for him in music and theatre.

Says Sideropoulos: "The decision to resign from The Rude Awakening has been the toughest choice I have had to make in my life. I am devastated to be leaving the team. But I've got to do this if I am to maintain the theatrical momentum built up over the past two years. For me, theatre producing has become an addiction. Together with this is my constant passion for live performance and now for music. The Rude Awakening has given me that confidence to pursue my dreams. To Jeremy, Samantha and all the 94.7 listeners, I thank you for your love, laughter and tears that we have shared over the past seven years. These are special moments in my life that I will carry with me forever."

Says Jeremy Mansfield, "We always knew he'd be out of here someday. He has always made it clear that theatre is his first love and he'd eventually leave to pursue his dream."

Sideropoulos's final day with The Rude Awakening is 3 September.

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