

# Jitsvinger

 By [Martin Myers](#) 21 May 2019

Cape Flats-born Jitsvinger is an established conceptual writer, composer, guitarist, educator, musician, poet and performing artist. After the success of his debut album, *Skeletsleutel*, he performed on stages and in festivals both locally and internationally. He has also composed and written music for theatre productions and film.

Jitsvinger is a social commentator on issues concerning heritage, culture and, especially, the Afrikaans language.



## ■ *When are you happiest?*

When I'm playing the guitar for my wife even though she'll critique me, especially when she controls the playlist and asks to play specific songs.

## ■ *What does music mean to you?*

A communication channel to worlds unknown.

## ■ *What is the most enjoyable aspect of your work?*

Being approached by strangers motivating me to continue, hearing how my music accompanied so many through certain parts of their lives, meeting new cultures.

## ■ *Are you famous?*

People say I am. People cloak you with it (fame).

## ■ *What do you think of influencers?*

Modern-day commercial industry hustlers fishing the internet with hooks made of clickbait.

## ■ *What drives you: ego or humility?*

A bit of both. It usually starts with humility but then ego comes along and hands me the spit-shine kit 'cause I hate sloppy technique.

■ ***Any funny moments on stage?***

Performing while my belt buckle popped off. My jeans weren't too big so it held safely throughout my performance. Of course, it was part of my act!

■ ***Which living person do you admire most and why?***

I admire the spirit within us as we continue this journey through life and the guy who invented SA's public transport system

■ ***What is your most treasured possession?***

Hard to choose between my collection of guitars and stash of vinyl.

■ ***It's your round, what are you drinking?***

Honey liquor.

■ ***Dream gig to do?***

Performing alongside SA's finest in entertainment inside a packed and fully improved and upgraded Athlone Stadium.

■ ***What makes you stand out?***

I'm a 6ft tower with a *kroesdraad* afro antenna – that's my hair.

■ ***Nicknames?***

I was dubbed Quinza during my Netherlands tours with Khayelitsha Mambazo Choir, my father still calls me Langman, to my mom and siblings I'm Quinnie or uncle Jits. My seniors call me Jitsie!

■ ***Pick five words to describe yourself?***

Passionate, humble, talented, dreamer, scattered.





■ ***Five favourite SA albums of all time?***

*Age of Truth* – Prophets of the City  
*Super Deluxe Mode* – Moodphase 5ive  
Tumi and the Volume Live  
*Pacific Express* – On Time  
*Skeletsleutel* – Jitsvinger

■ ***What song changed your life?***

“Dala Flet” – Prophets of Da City (POC).

■ ***Favourite fashion garment?***

Navada slacks.

■ ***Give us some real proper slang and what it means?***

*Hoelykit?* – What’s going on?

■ ***Your greatest achievement?***

Escaping life as a factory worker.

■ ***What do you complain about most often?***

*K\*k* Cape Town drivers.

■ ***Happiness is?***

Physically, mentally, spiritually and economically healthy.

■ ***On stage, I tend to?***

Stay in the moment.

▣ ***Where would you like to be right now?***

In a recording session with the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra.

▣ ***Wishes and dreams?***

Touring the world with amazing artists and headlining a huge festival in Holland.

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## **ABOUT MARTIN MYERS**

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