

# Jeys Marabini

Music Profile



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When Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, a poet and Harvard Professor, said, "Music is the universal language of mankind," he largely summed up Jeys Marabini's music. Through his music, he unites people from all over the world, connecting them to their spiritual world, and unpacking African history, customs, and beliefs, particularly Zimbabwean culture. Jeys employs a combination of traditional and modern instruments to complement the melodies, rhythms, and storytelling; as a result, his music has universal appeal and can be related to by people from all over the world. Through his music, he is able to emphasise the importance of preserving one's culture and knowing one's identity, as well as the importance of passing down such wisdom from generation to generation.

Of particular interest is how he connects with the spiritual world through his music where he acknowledges God as supreme and links people to their ancestral roots and ensures that African spirituality is indeed kept sanctified and given all the necessary respect it deserves.

Originating from the mountains of Matabeleland, where tradition and culture

hold strong, Jeys Marabini's music transcends boundaries. It appeals to both young and old, leaving audiences in awe and prompting standing ovations worldwide. His music is not just about entertainment, it moves people, it arouses strong emotions, it unites, it rejuvenates, it cures, it comforts, it praises, it celebrates, it is informative as well as educative. In 2024, Jeys marks 34 years in the music industry—a significant milestone in his illustrious career.

From deep down in one of the remote and rural areas of Zimbabwe, Matabeleland South province, Filabusi district, eNyoni village, under Chief Dambisamahubo Maduna, Jeys Marabini was born and bred. Jeys Marabini, born Majahawodwa Ndlovu on 12 November 1971 to Sihawu Ndlovu and Ebelina Nkomo – Ndlovu, under a big and famous clan, Mjayeli. He is currently based in Bulawayo province of Zimbabwe. He is the 7<sup>th</sup> of 9 children born in the family made up of boys, largely dominated by musicians and music lovers. His mother was a great source of inspiration as she used to thrill them with her smooth soothing voice with highly packed lyrics.

## Discography

Emarabini (2002)

Thuthukani Ngothando (2005)

Sounds of Today and Tomorrow (2005)

Jeys Marabini One Time (2008)

Izenzo (2010)

Jeys@40 (2012)

Isilo (2013)

Thula Sana (2016)

Ntunja Mbila (2018)

Xola (2022)



Even the sky is not a limit and one's background does not determine their destiny. Surely odds are defied, and great things unveil. This is the case with Jeys Marabini, once a village herd boy, now a fully fledged musician. Jeys Marabini is an acoustic guitar player, singer, songwriter, song arranger, producer and an entrepreneur who has empowered a lot of musicians.

From a very young age he knew he was destined for greatness and his optimistic nature coupled with a high level of passion led him to be the person he is today, a respectable and flying international icon who is an inspiration and a role model to many, locally and internationally. His works have earned him a legendary/iconic status in the creative and cultural industry. He has performed at several significant events from all corners of the world. Awards from the Zimbabwe Music Awards, Roil Bulawayo Arts Awards, Skyz Metro FM, and Radio Zimbabwe Top 50 attest to his remarkable achievements.

Jeys Marabini, a musician with a deep spiritual connection to his craft, believes that music is a God-given gift that transcends academic explanations. His music serves as a conduit to connect people with their spirits, a belief rooted in ancestral practices.

During his school years at Dekezi primary and secondary schools, Jeys participated in the school choir, where he discovered his passion for music. Inspired by his elder brothers, who performed as part of the Amasango Asekhaya Imbube group in Filabusi, Jeys later formed his own Imbube group called Comforting Brothers.

Comforting Brothers was started in Filabusi where Jeys was based and it later spread to Bulawayo where it shined together with other Imbube groups that included, Black Umfolosi and Amabhusesi. By this period, he was really taking his music as a profession. Their professional approach led to financial



support and victories in various competitions. In 1992, Comforting Brothers took big strides and rebranded as Imbizo, expanding their reach to other provinces, including Harare, the Capital City of Zimbabwe.

In 1994, Jeys left Imbizo to join Sunduza Boys, led by the late Simon Banda. This move exposed him to international music practices, legendary musicians, and global tours across India, Europe, Canada, and America. Despite all this glamour, fame, exposure and great opportunities he received while at Sunduza Boys group, Jeys left the group in 1998 to establish a brand of his own - something he has always wanted to start, pursue and develop.

In 1999 Jeys and Louise Harding co-founded an arts promoting company called Equator. Equator facilitated international tours for bands like The Four Brothers, Imbizo, Siyaya, and Albert Nyathi. In South Africa, they promoted the Tananas Jazz outfit and Tanzania's Hukwe Zawose group. In 2001, Jeys embarked on a solo career, releasing his debut album "Emarabini" in 2002. The album received critical acclaim, earning him the 2003 Best Video of the Year award from the Zimbabwe Music Awards. Its impact continues to resonate both locally and abroad.



In 2002 he formed the Kozekulunge band here he served as the lead vocalist and acoustic guitarist. The group included members like John Speaker Moyo, Mangobongobo, Bhejani, and Mkhonto (may their dear souls rest in eternal peace). Among the living members were Lungile Mlilo, Fortune Mdlongwa, Velepini Ndlovu, Luthi, Thethelela Dube, and Lewis Ndlovu.

Jeys gained traction and popularity as a solo artist through several albums released under his name. Notable albums include "Emarabini" (2002), "Thuthukani Ngothando" (2005), "Sounds of Today and Tomorrow" (2005), "Jeys Marabini One Time" (2008), "Izenzo" (2010), "Jeys@40" (2012), "Isilo" (2013), "Thula Sana" (2016), "Ntunja Mbila" (2018), and "Xola" (2022). Currently, Jeys is working



**Jeys Marabini Live @AFPIF@ Alliance Française de Harare**  
World Music Day - 17 June 2023

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMDsyVI\\_WrI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMDsyVI_WrI)



**Xola Official Video - Jeys Marabini** (From Xola Album - 2022)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loaBoAqQdv4>



on a reggae album which features acoustic sounds and a taste of what he calls “The Usual Jeys Marabini” sound. In the album, set to be released in 2024 he promises fireworks.

Jeys Marabini is currently working on a reggae album, acoustic album and the Usual Jeys Marabini album to be released this year, 2024 and he promises fireworks only.

Jeys Marabini has showcased his musical prowess both locally and internationally. Locally, he has performed at national events such as Zimbabwe Independence Day, Heroes Day, National Unity Day celebrations, and other provincial gala events. He has graced stages at notable venues like the Alliance Française in Bulawayo and Harare.

Internationally, Jeys has participated in various festivals, including WOMAD Festival, Glastonbury Festival, and Sidmouth Folk Festival. His global tours have taken him to places like Singapore, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom (including Sheffield, Birmingham, and Peterborough), Northern Ireland, Czech Republic, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Kenya, Spain, Italy, Slovakia, and Egypt.

Jeys Marabini has shared the stage with renowned artists such as Peter Gabriel, Blind Boys of Alabama, Youssou N’Dour, Baaba Maal, Angelique Kidjo, Hugh Masekela, Insingizi, Freddie Gwala, Louis Mhlanga, and Ladysmith Black Mambazo. He fondly remembers moments spent with other great artists who have since passed away, including Bhukumuzi Luthuli, the Four Brothers, Joseph Shabalala, and Zahara (may their dear souls rest in eternal peace).



**Jeys Marabini LIVE at BAF 2020**

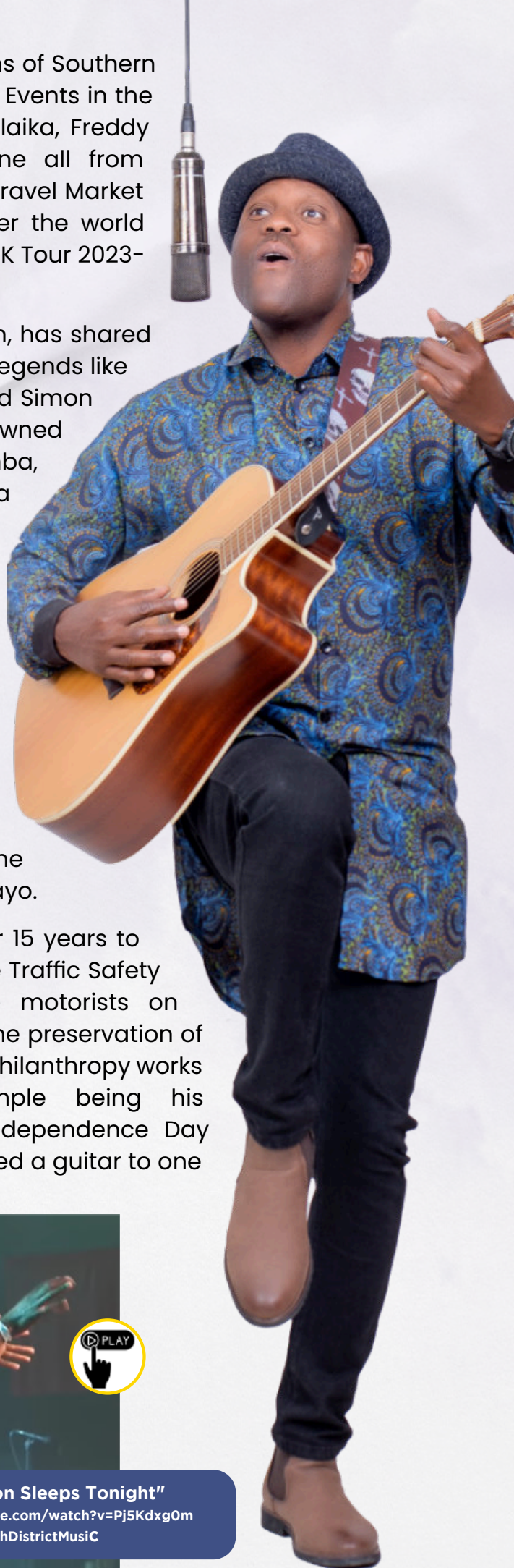
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdqT6M201EA&ab\\_channel=ByoArtsFestTV](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdqT6M201EA&ab_channel=ByoArtsFestTV)

In 2023, Jeys Marabini participated in the “Rhythms of Southern Africa: A Musical Journey” tour hosted by Shanyai Events in the United Kingdom. He toured alongside Tshedi Malaika, Freddy Gwala, Agga Nyabinde, Lady Bee and Ma9nine all from Southern Africa. He also performed at the World Travel Market (WTM) in London, where exhibitions from all over the world celebrated the theme “Africa: A Musical Journey, UK Tour 2023-2024.”

Jeys Marabini, a proud and patriotic Zimbabwean, has shared stages with prominent local artists, including the legends like Oliver Mtukudzi, Andy Brown, Chioniso Maraire, and Simon Chimbetu. His collaborations extend to renowned musicians such as Thomas Mapfumo, Mokoomba, Jah Prayzah, Alick Macheso, Winky D, Sandra Ndebele, Black Umfolosi, and Iyasa.

In 2022, Jeys had the honor of meeting His Excellency, Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa, the President of Zimbabwe, at the State House. He also performed at the President’s birthday celebration in 2023. Continuing his remarkable journey, Jeys received another prestigious invitation in 2024—this time to perform for two heads of state: President Mnangagwa and His Excellency, Dr. William Ruto, the President of Kenya. The occasion was the official opening of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) in Bulawayo.

Beyond music, Jeys Marabini has dedicated over 15 years to road safety awareness as an ambassador for the Traffic Safety Council of Zimbabwe. His programs educate motorists on adhering to safe driving practices, emphasizing the preservation of human life. He partakes in several humanitarian/philanthropy works for community development, current example being his participation at the Khami Maximum Prison Independence Day celebrations held on 21 April 2024 where he donated a guitar to one of the inmates with a strong passion for music.



**Mbube "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pj5Kdxg0mww&ab\\_channel=10thDistrictMusic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pj5Kdxg0mww&ab_channel=10thDistrictMusic)

As an entrepreneur, Jeys maintains a fully equipped recording studio—a space where aspiring musicians can transform from novices to industry icons. He has nurtured numerous talents, both locally and internationally. Notably, Ali, a former band member, now produces music for South African artist Casper Nyovest. Godfrey Mampondo, another mentee, teaches at Music Crossroads in Harare. Rodwell Roda, once under Jeys’s guidance, served as the lead guitarist for the late Dr Oliver Mtukudzi. Celebrating 34 years in the music industry, Jeys Marabini promises an extraordinary event graced by local and international musicians. Plans are underway, including a performance by iconic South African musician Steve Dyer.

Jeys Marabini stands as a rare breed—a global music giant and a cherished mentor. His entertainment is not only enjoyable but also educational, leaving lasting memories for all who experience it.



### PAST PARTNERSHIPS

The creative market is a collaborative space and the right partnerships provide artists and the brands they work with an opportunity to access untapped audiences, differentiate themselves, and gain new meaning through championing each other. As Jeys Marabini we have been and will always be open to meaningful partnerships and collaboration.

### AVAILABLE FOR

- Live & Online Performances
- Training Workshops
- Speaking Events
- Ambassadorship
- Social Media Content & Collaborations
- Sponsored posts
- Social Media Promo
- Road Shows & Giveaways

### SOCIALS

-  +1,8K Instagram followers @jeysmarabini
-  +1.7K Twitter followers @JeysMarabini1
-  Jeys Marabini



**LET'S WORK TOGETHER!**

Jeys Marabini's music can be accessed from the following platforms | **@jeysmarabini**, **YouTube**, **Spotify**, **Instagram**, **Facebook**, **LinkedIn** and **TikTok**. He can perform anywhere and at any time. Just get in touch with him, below are his contacts;

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