

# DREAM

EXCLUSIVE



LOVE & LAUGHS AS  
COMEDIAN TUMI  
MORAKE WEDS

D THEFT VICTIM

My hunt for  
the man who  
stole  
my life

PLUS  
HOW TO  
PROTECT  
YOURSELF

HEMELO NGCOBO: FROM 'FAT' KHENSANI  
TO HOME AFFAIRS' TOUGH PRISON COOKIE

## MY TIME IN JAIL WAS HECTIC!



4 FESTIVE  
OCCASIONS

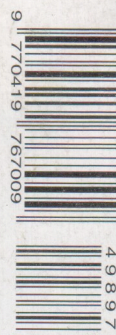
OUR 17-PAGE  
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL  
FOUR FESTIVE  
FAMILY FEASTS!

ARMLESS WOMAN:  
AMAZING PICS

Typing, make-up,  
cooking - all  
with my toes!

BEST ADVICE

10 TOP TIPS  
TO FIGHT  
HOLIDAY  
FLAB



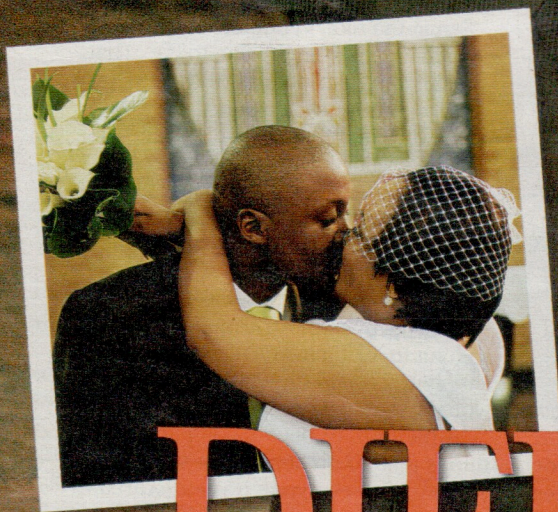
\*HELP FOR YOUR 4-5: NEW WONDER DRUG HITS SA  
\*AYOBA! DURBAN'S MAGNIFICENT 2010 STADIUM  
\*AJAX WHIZZKID THULANI SERERO





MAIN PICTURE:  
Happy newlyweds  
Tumi Morake and  
Mpho Osei-Tutu.  
INSET: They seal  
their union with  
a kiss.

When comedienne  
Tumi Morake  
wed longtime love  
Mpho Osei-Tutu  
friends and family  
expected  
something unique  
from this vibrant  
couple – and they  
weren't  
disappointed



Definitely  
**DIFFERENT!**





A

RING bearer in a pram, bridesmaids in green-hooded dresses and the bridal couple wearing All Star takkies. Unconventional? Absolutely – but what would you expect when one of the quirkiest women in

the Mzansi entertainment world marries a man with a sense of humour to match her own?

Laughter was the order of the day as friends and family gathered to watch Tumi Morake and Mpho Osei-Tutu tie the knot in a white wedding with a difference.

This day has been a long time coming. Tumi, a stand-up comedian who recently starred in *Askies* on SABC2 and Mpho, an accomplished writer, director and actor, have been dating for eight years.

But today they are finally taking the plunge – and guests who have packed the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bloemfontein are expecting to be entertained and amused as they share the happy day with the couple. They aren't disappointed. The first sign today will be a laugh a minute is when the four bridesmaids enter the church wearing chocolate and mint hoodie dresses and brown All Stars.

The groom is already waiting at the altar in his smart suit, mint-green tie and takkies and his face lights up when he sees his bride. She's looking radiant in an Ital-



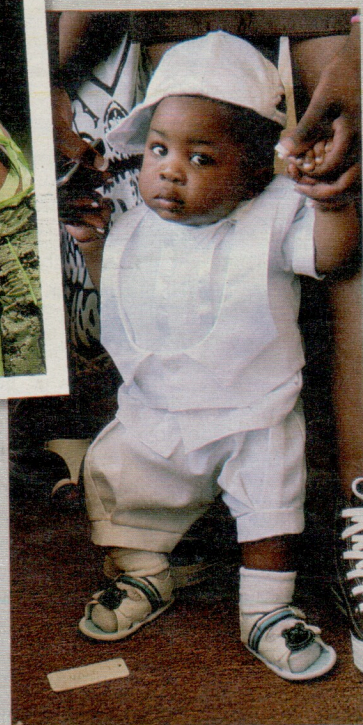
ian satin gown with Swarovski crystal detail and a birdcage veil, a big smile on her face as she sashays down the aisle in her spotless white All Stars to the Sesotho wedding song *Tswang Tswang Tswang*.

But the day isn't just about fun and laughter: Mpho, who is half Sotho and half Ghanaian, and Tumi share deep Catholic beliefs and the ceremony is both meaningful and spiritual.

The pair sit at opposite ends of the church as Father Mike Deeb delivers his sermon on marriage and come to the altar when he calls them. There are sniffles as Mpho turns to Tumi and says, "I prayed for joy and received much more. Tumi, you helped me see the lighter side of life."

Then it's Tumi's turn and it isn't long before the church is filled with laughter.

(Turn over)



TOP LEFT: Brown All Stars completed the bridal party's funky look. TOP RIGHT: Baby Bonsu was the ring bearer. He was helped to the altar by the Mpho's sister, Nana Yaa. ABOVE LEFT: Tumi's bridesmaids and maid of honour admire her ring. ABOVE: The couple's adorable son, nine-month-old Bonsu. BELOW LEFT: The ceremony gets under way. BELOW: The bride and her maid of honour, Solanche Craven, with the bridal car.







ABOVE: The newlyweds with their baby boy.  
RIGHT: There's never a dull moment with this quirky couple! INSET: They jump for joy during the photoshoot.

(From previous page)

"Baby," she begins, "for you I cut the bullet and shoot love." But soon everyone is fighting to hold back tears as she gets emotional. "Please grow old with me my first, my only, my everything."

When it's time for the rings to be exchanged the ring bearer is wheeled ceremoniously up to the altar by the groom's sister, Nana Yaa. All eyes are on Bonsu, the couple's nine-month-old son. His pram has been decorated specially for the day in the wedding colours of chocolate and mint.

Tumi punches the air when Father Mike finally announces them husband and wife and Mpho – a writer and director on SABC1's Zone 14 and the guy who plays Hotplate Mpho on e.tv's Rhythm City – makes a big deal of the first kiss. He grabs his bride and dips her backwards, then smooches her as the crowd ululates.

Then master of ceremonies Lali Danga-zele, the Home Affairs actress who has been friends with the couple since their university days, asks guests to proceed to the church gardens. Outside guests wait with rose petals to toss over the newlyweds – but Tumi and Mpho toy with the guests by running back into the chapel.

"There's never a dull moment with these two!" one guest exclaims.

IT WAS love at first flirt for Mpho and Tumi, who met nine years ago while studying drama at Wits University in Joburg.

"We had to do a crewing credit for first year where we helped build the set for a theatre production," Tumi begins when we steal them away. "We were in the same team and noticed each other for the first time."

"She was hot," Mpho chirps in. "She had this sexiness about her and she was like no one I had ever met."

They were both seeing other people and because they "didn't have the energy for cheating", Tumi says, they decided to be just friends. Two years later they found themselves single at the same time.

"I made the first move," Tumi shouts excitedly.

"We were in a lecture," Mpho recalls. "I was shy and she was flirting heavily with me. I decided to flirt back and see where things went."

Things went so far they ended up flunking the course! "We just couldn't concentrate in class," she wails.

But they managed to graduate and their romance flourished as they got down to the business of earning a living. Yet life hasn't all been fun and games for the pair.

They had a harrowing experience in 2007 when they were hijacked in their silver Toyota Camry while driving back from Mpho's parents' house in Edenvale, east of Joburg.

"Four gunmen suddenly appeared at each

“PLEASE  
GROW OLD WITH  
ME MY FIRST,  
MY ONLY, MY  
EVERYTHING”



door when we stopped at an intersection," Mpho says. "They pulled Tumi out of the car and dragged her into a nearby veld. It was the scariest moment of my life – I thought they were going to rape her."

Mpho begged the men to take him instead and suddenly the gunmen changed their minds. They let Tumi go and drove off, leaving the shaken couple by the side of the road where they were later found by an old friend.

The experience made them realise how precious life is and how much they loved each other – and it made Mpho decide to take their relationship to the next level. He popped the question on 21 March last year – Human Right's Day.

"I woke up that morning and I knew I had to do it," Mpho says. "It was a public holiday and I didn't know where I was go-

RIGHT (from left): Mr and Mrs Osei-Tutu open the floor to Take Me Away by John Legend; the chocolate and mint décor; soft satin drapes and candles created a romantic atmosphere; female guests received hand-held fans as gifts; the magnificent chocolate wedding cake.







ing to find a ring but I was determined to do it that day."

He managed to find an open jewellery shop and drove to the airport to pick up Tumi, who was returning from a gig in Cape Town. Then he drove to a park near their flat in Yeoville.

Tumi was baffled. "I thought he had bad news, like someone in my family had passed away. Then he started talking about our relationship and all I could think was he was going to break up with me."

But then he brought a box out of his pocket. "I freaked out – I just couldn't stop laughing," she says. "He looked all hurt; he thought I was laughing at him."

"I thought she was going to say no," Mpho retorts. "And that I was a clown!"

"He managed to propose . . . sitting on his bum," Tumi laughs. "But I said yes."

"Sorry, but I felt the whole one-knee

thing was overdone. I just couldn't do it."

"A little knee wouldn't have hurt!" Tumi says.

A few months later she discovered she was pregnant, shortly after lobola negotiations had been completed. The couple named their son Kweku Mensa Bonsu Onalenna in a special Ghanaian ceremony seven days after his birth.

Proud papa Mpho explains the name. "Kweku is the Ghanaian name for a child born on a Wednesday; Mensa Bonsu is my father's name – he was named after a warrior chief – and Tumi's mother named him Onalenna, which means God is with me".

After the birth the couple threw themselves into planning their white wedding – or rather, they both planned and Mpho did all the work.

"I think it was because of the baby,"

(Turn over)



ABOVE: The couple pretend to collapse in a heap of exhaustion after their energetic entrance to the Winnie Khumalo hit Live My Life. BELOW: The bride pretends to smoke a cigarette in boredom as Mpho removes her garter. BOTTOM: Even the symbolic gesture of cutting the wedding cake provides an opportunity for a laugh!





(From previous page)

Tumi says, rocking Bonsu to sleep on her lap. "Mpho felt I had too much on my plate so he did most of the groundwork."

They took an early honeymoon to Egypt in January and there are no plans for a second one just yet.

Christmas and New Year will be spent in Joburg with Mpho's relatives who are visiting from Ghana. "It's been a whirlwind year with Bonsu, work and the wedding so it'll be great to just kick back," Tumi says.

RIGHT now though the only kicking is going to be done on the dance floor – and with all the All Stars here today this floor will see plenty of action.

The venue for the reception is a secluded game lodge outside Bloemfontein and while the bridal couple poses for photographs, guests – among them comedians Chris Forrest and David Kau – nibble on delicious finger foods.

Among the crowd are funnyman Ndumiso Lindi, Special Assignment host Aaron Moloisi, Sokhulu and Partners actress Kholeka Qwabe Dakada and Society actress Makgano Mamabolo.

The romantic reception hall has been decorated in chocolate and mint. Each table is named after a place which is symbolic to the couple such as Couch and Coffee at Wits, where the pair bonded over plates of chips and chilli sauce as students, and Hartbeespoort Dam where they escaped to after their hijacking ordeal.

After the couple's parents have made their speeches and welcomed their new children-in-law, everyone tucks into a feast of lamb and chicken on the spit, grilled snoek, roasted vegetables and melt-in-the-mouth sweetcorn soufflé.

Best man Wayne van Rooyen, a star in the M-Net soapie Binnelanders, has guests in stitches as he describes his first impression of Mpho, whom he met at varsity.

"Mpho was always late and he would

apologise profusely," Wayne jokes, imitating a meek Mpho saying how sorry he was. "He also had the most money so he was the one who bought the drinks!"

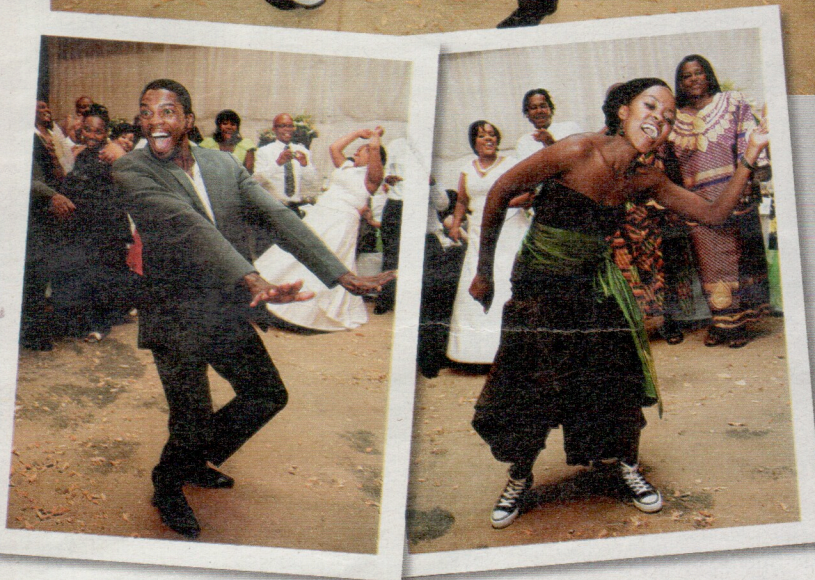
Maid-of-honour Solanche Craven, a varsity friend of the bride's who flew in from England where she is now based, describes Tumi as "the only person who could make me wear All Stars with a dress!"

Always the performer, Tumi then turns to her new husband and, putting on a fake Nigerian accent, says, "You are the mos-

quito in my net and my one and only husband".

After cutting the magnificent chocolate cake, Mpho leads Tumi in a perfect dance routine to Take Me Away by John Legend, opening the dance floor to the guests, who get down to house music and old-school tunes.

The night draws to an end and the newlyweds slip away to the honeymoon suite with little Bonsu in tow. It's time for a well-deserved rest before they start the first full day officially as Mr and Mrs. □



ABOVE: Guests hit the dance floor. FAR LEFT: Special Assignment host Aaron Moloisi shows how it's done. LEFT: Home Affairs actress and MC Lali Dangazele gets her groove on.



LEFT (from far left): Sokhulu and Partners actress Kholeka Qwabe-Dakada and husband Mlungisi; SuperSport and Al-Jazeera anchor Imran Garda and wife Salma; Society actress Makgano Mamabolo gets down with best man and Binnelanders actor Wayne Van Rooyen; comedian David Kau and wife Thalia.