

NEWS FROM:

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**05 September 2011**

**Sir Sydney Kentridge to speak at  
34<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of Biko**

**12th annual Steve Biko Memorial Lecture, “Evil Under the Sun: the Death of Steve Biko”,  
on 12 September 2011, at 19h00 in Jameson Hall, UCT.**

**Sir Sydney will be available to answer questions at a media conference immediately  
following the lecture.**

**Media seating available by reservation: please phone Pat Lucas on 021 650 5428 or email  
[pat.lucas@uct.ac.za](mailto:pat.lucas@uct.ac.za) by Thursday, 8 September.**

Internationally renowned advocate Sir Sydney Kentridge will deliver the 12th annual Steve Biko Memorial Lecture, “Evil Under the Sun: the Death of Steve Biko”, hosted by the University of Cape Town and the Steve Biko Foundation, on Monday, 12 September 2011, at 19h00 in Jameson Hall, Upper Campus, UCT.

The lecture is open to the public and there is no admission charge. Because of heavy demand tickets will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis, with no reserved seating. Tickets can be collected from Tuesday, 6 September to Thursday, 8 September from the UCT Communication and Marketing Department, Welgelegen, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank between 08h00 and 16h00. Ticket inquiries can be directed to Ms Zukiswa Dlelembé at 021 650 3759 or by email: [Zukiswa.dlelembé@uct.ac.za](mailto:Zukiswa.dlelembé@uct.ac.za).

**Counsel for the Biko family ... and three Nobel Peace Prize laureates**

In 1977 Sir Sydney was the lead counsel representing the Biko family at the inquest into the death of the black consciousness leader. He also served as the leading lawyer for the defence in a series of other important political cases: he was counsel for the local community at the judicial inquiry into the 1960 Sharpeville massacre and appeared for members of the ANC and other liberation organisations who were accused in the notorious

“Treason Trial” (1958-1961). He appeared for the Dean of Johannesburg in his trial for terrorism and the subsequent appeal. In his early days at the Johannesburg Bar he acted for the Garment Workers’ Union and its secretary, ES “Solly” Sachs (the father of Justice Albie Sachs).

Sir Sydney counts among his former clients three South African Nobel Peace Prize winners – Chief Albert Luthuli, Former President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

### **Fostering history, identity, culture, values**

The Steve Biko Memorial Lecture was established in 2000 as the flagship programme of the Steve Biko Foundation. It is the principal avenue through which the foundation pursues a core element of its mission: to foster the intangible but essential community building blocks – history, identity, culture and values – as the foundation for leadership and agency at the level of the individual and the community.

The Steve Biko Memorial Lecture is an opportunity to explore the contemporary relevance of the life and legacy of Bantu Stephen Biko; central to which is the individual’s role in advancing social justice. Among those who have reflected on the life and legacy of Biko through the Memorial Lecture have been some of Africa’s foremost scholars, artists and religious and political leaders, including: Njabulo Ndebele, Zakes Mda, Chinua Achebe, Ngugi wa Thiong’o, Nelson Mandela, Mamphela Ramphele, Desmond Tutu, Thabo Mbeki, Trevor Manuel, and Tito Mboweni. Pulitzer-prize winning author Professor Alice Walker delivered the 2011 Lecture.

**ENDS**

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