

MORRIS ISAACSON CENTRE FOR MUSIC



Founded by MIAGI + Cape Gate

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

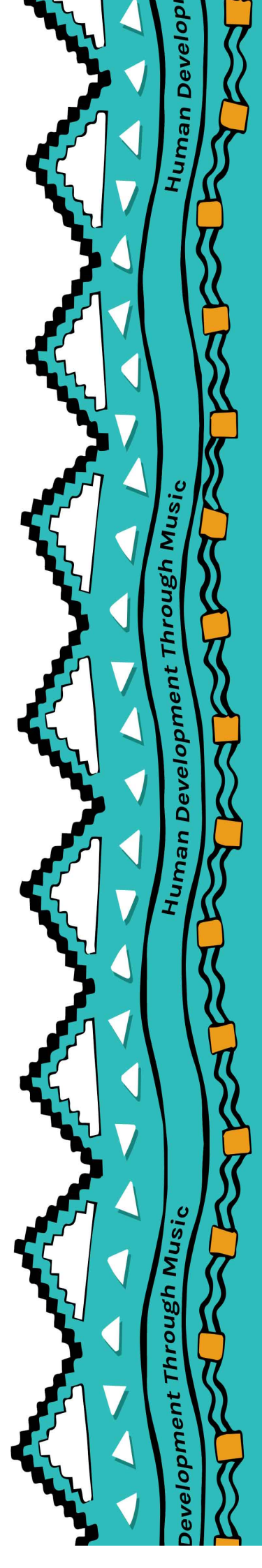


TABLE OF CONTENTS

ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS	3
MISSION & VISION.....	3
DIRECTORS INTRODUCTION.....	4
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	4
FUNDING & SUPPORT	6
CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS.....	6
SUCCESS STORIES	8
THE TEAM	9
KEEPING STANDARDS AT THEIR HIGHEST.....	11
ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE	12
ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE CENTRE	15
PARTNERSHIPS	17
MARKETING.....	18

ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

Organisation's name: Morris Isaacson Centre for Music
Company Registration Number: 2009/010066/08
Registration type: A Section 21 Company – not for gain
Tax Number: 9619/113/16/1
PBO Reference No: 930031852

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Central Western Jabavu
Soweto
1809

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Jabulani Mall
1867

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MISSION & VISION

Mission

To drive human development using the tool of music education. This is done through our early childhood development programme, our one-on-one teaching and our ensemble lessons.

Vision

To become the best music education facility in Soweto, Johannesburg, by producing dynamic musicians who are leaders in their communities.

DIRECTORS INTRODUCTION



2018 saw many changes at the Centre. I joined the Centre in the position of Director October 2018 after having spent some time reviewing the Centre's activities and inner workings. The Centre spent a lot of 2018 reviewing its strategic goals with the intention of stream lining its operations and determining its focus. The Centre's Board decided to re-brand the Centre to the Morris Isaacson Centre of Music and launched its new image at the beginning of 2019. This rebranding exercise allowed the Centre to review and work on its website, launch a Facebook and Instagram account and develop better email communications with friends and parents.

Our children also had a very busy year. One of the main highlights was the month of November which saw our Pennywhistle ensemble perform for the First Lady of Germany, the German President and our own President Ramaposa at three separate events. The Centre was honored to be included and our children out did themselves with their poise and performances. We would like to thank MIAGI for their introductions into these events and the Pennywhistle ensemble teacher, Sibusiso Lerole, for his hard work with this group. His dedication shows through at every performance.

We are looking forward to strengthening our presence in Soweto and building stronger community engagements. Our main focus for 2019 is to develop a better and more resilient funding pool that will allow the Centre to sustain the amazing work being done.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hallatt'.

Sara Hallatt
Director
Morris Isaacson Centre for Music (MICM)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The MICM is a joint collaboration between the late, philanthropist and Cape Gate chairman Mendel Kaplan and Robert Brooks (CEO of MIAGI – Music is a Great Investment). In 2008, Mendel Kaplan, agreed to fund the construction of a purpose built music centre on the premises of the Morris Isaacson High School in Soweto through his foundation, the Kaplan Kuschlick Foundation. The Cape Gate MIAGI Centre for Music (CMCM) building, the first of its kind in any South African township was inaugurated in May 2011. Full operations started at the beginning of 2012. In 2018, the Centre decided to re-brand itself and is now called the Morris Isaacson Centre for Music (MICM).

The Centre provides music education to 112 children between the ages of 7-19 from the surrounding community with an early childhood development programme that works with 170 children in 4 local creches and primary schools in the area.

The benefits, to society and to the individual, of access to music education and training are well documented. Studies have demonstrated that when music education is made available, there are tangible results in terms of lower crime rates, less drug abuse and in general far better academic and social performance among schoolchildren. Music can trigger beneficial psycho-physic mechanisms that cannot be induced by any other activity as effectively.

Activities

- The Centre has 11 studios, a library, a media room and a concert hall with a grand piano, that can seat up to 320 people. It also has a well equipped kitchen where meals can be prepared for the children as well as a catering facility for conferences and events.
- There are currently 112 students at the Centre, each receiving practical, theory, choir and ensemble tuition. Each child is provided with an instrument for the duration of their studies.
- Children are drawn from the surrounding community and initially participate in an audition in order to be accepted into the Centre
- Our 16 teachers teach piano, guitar, violin, viola, cello, drumkit, djembe, flute, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, double bass, trombone, electric guitar, electric bass, clarinet, pennywhistle and music theory. Each student receives an individual 30-minute lesson as well as an hour of instrument specific ensemble rehearsal, choir and theory tuition weekly.
- We also teach 170+ Early Childhood Development students at 3 local crèches and 2 primary schools. Classes teach basic theory and practical music through African song and instrument making.
- Our teachers use MICM created syllabi for Djembe, Pennywhistle and Early Childhood Development which is being taught alongside the Royal Schools and Trinity Rock & Pop syllabi.
- Our Arco project, in partnership with Birmingham Conservatoire in the UK, provides 24 senior students with additional individual and ensemble tuition via the internet in our state-of-the-art media room.
- We regularly host international visiting artists who perform for and work with our students.
- Parents contribute R400 annually towards their children's music education but we also offer 14 bursaries to poor students.

FUNDING & SUPPORT

Over the years we have received funding from a number of different sources including private individuals and government. Without these donations, we would be unable to continue this important work.



Rupert Foundation



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SOUTH AFRICA**



CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

We are extremely proud of our student's achievements and are working hard to encourage participation in activities outside of the Centre.



Congratulations to Andiswa Booï, Thoriso Motlhasedi, Inam Manqina, Tshegofatso Mfazi for being invited to audition for the National School of the Arts. We will be holding thumbs for them!



Congratulations to Kwanda Buthelezi for receiving a gold award in the novice category at the National Harp Festival in September.

YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

This year's youth day celebration was combined with our first ever prize giving. The intention was to use this event to encourage those who are working hard at their studies while incentivizing children who are not working hard enough. The parents were invited to celebrate their children's successes and see how far they had come. The event was well attended and fun was had by all!



2018-YEAR END FUNCTION



On the 8th December 2018, MICM invited the parents and the public to attend our year-end concert. MICM teachers and learners worked together presenting a new set of collaborative performance pieces for the audience to enjoy. The concert included mixed ensemble groups along with teacher participation. We would like to thank the teachers and especially Dee Weale for their hard work in making this event a huge success. The event was very well attended by parents, family and friends and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

SUCCESS STORIES



Lesedi Phage - Drumkit

Lesedi is a senior drum kit student, having begun his studies in 2013 with Herman Rosslee and now studying with Warren Knocker. He was the first of our students to audition for the National School of the Arts where he has been a role-model for several other MICM students to follow in his footsteps. He has shown natural talent and steady commitment to the drum-kit, and has passing exams with distinction. From early in his time at MICM Lesedi been a regular feature of our stage, offering accompaniment to several of our ensembles, becoming a driving force in our performances. He was part of the masterclass at MICM with the legendary drummer Queen Cora Coleman from the USA.

Mbali Phato – Violin

Mbali is 13 years old and studies violin at MICM under Kabelo Monnathebe. She is a member of the Arco project through which she has additional lessons with Claudia Dhenke and was invited to the UK in 2017 to be part of the Cecil Aronowitz International Viola Competition and Festival and to attend the famous Chethams Music School for a week. During this trip she not only had several performance opportunities, but also had lessons and masterclasses from some of the world's foremost teachers and performers. Mbali was recently appointed as the Leader of the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra Intermediate Strings. Mbali lives in Soweto and has emerged as one of the centre's most promising talents, passing her theory and practical examinations with merit and distinction.



Njabulo Nxumalo – Double Bass



18 year old Njabulo Nxumalo was once of our very first students, and he lives within sight of MICM. He was a violin student with Olga Maraba before changing instruments to become MICM's first double bass student in 2018. He currently studies with Daliwonga Tshangela and with Aisling Reilly through the Arco project and visited the UK to perform in 2017 as a special guest of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire at the Cecil Aronowitz International Viola Competition and Festival. Njabulo already has significant achievements as a double bass player, having been invited to Cape Town to be part of the South African National Youth Orchestra double bass course, and successfully auditioning to become double bassist with the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra.

THE TEAM

Director: Sara Hallatt



In April 2018 Sara Hallatt joined the Administration Staff. Sara Hallatt started her career in below the line marketing in 2003 with blackmagic communications after completing her BADA at WITS. Since then she has produced events locally and internationally including the Opening & Closing Ceremonies of the Confederations Cup '09 and the FIFA World Cup '10 for the VWV Group. In 2011 Sara left VWV to take up the Directorship of one of SA's foremost visual arts NGO's, the Fordsburg Artists' Studios, more fondly known as the Bag Factory. In 2015 Sara completed her Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management and was awarded the Mandela Washington Fellowship to Northwestern University in Chicago to study business and entrepreneurship.

Director of Music: Chris Bishop

Chris Bishop was born in the UK. He holds a BA in Music and a MA in Music Performance (Horn) from the University of Southampton, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Horn from the Trinity College of Music (now Trinity Laban). Chris was appointed Associate-Principal Horn with the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra and moved to South Africa in 2007. His career includes ballet, opera and recording work, and has also afforded opportunities to perform with artists such as Gregory Porter and Nas. As an educator Chris has built up a wealth of experience as a teacher and ensemble coach. Since 2013 he has been the Director of Music at the Morris Isaacson Centre for Music in Soweto. He lives in Johannesburg with his wife, TV and Radio Broadcaster Rozanne McKenzie, and their two children.



Centre Administrator: Lungile Zaphi



In October 2018, Lungile Zaphi joined the Administration Staff. Lungile Zaphi is a self-taught photographer based in Soweto. She completed her B.Com degree in Human Resources Management at the University of South Africa in March 2019. She is an experienced Arts Administrator, having worked at the Bag Factory Artists' Studios for 3 years and in 2018 she took part in a seven-month residency programme as a Public Sector Liaison Officer in Saint Emillion, France. Her practice is invested in artistic project management, organizational financial management, human development and social documentary photography.

Teachers

There are currently 16 teachers at the Centre who are all well trained and independently practising musicians as well as being teachers at the Centre.

TEACHERS



Bheki Hlatswayo - Choir Master



Daliwonga Tshangela - Cello



Denzil Weale - Piano



Ferdinand Rautenbach - Theory



Kabelo Monnathebe - Violin



Keenan Ahrends - Guitar



Khanyi Mtethwa - Woodwind



Lesang Phake - Theory



Neli Tshangela - ECD Theory



Olga Maraba - Violin



Siboniso Tshabangu - Djembe



Sibusiso Lerole - Pennywhistle



Tisetso Mashishi - Viola



Tsakani Mpapele - Brass



Zanele Ndlovu - ECD Theory

Changes in teachers

In 2018, two new teachers joined the Centre as we expanded our brass teaching and added woodwinds to the menu.



Khanyisile Mthetwa joins the Centre as our new woodwind teacher. Khanyisile is considered one of the leading new young artists in South Africa. In 2018 she won a Standard Bank Ovation Award; an award given only to the best of the best up and coming artists by the National arts festival. She has been described as 'a symbol of hope' by ArtSmart news. She has played as the principal flute of the Eastern Cape Philharmonic, Free State symphony orchestra, Chamber orchestra of South Africa and recently The Johannesburg Philharmonic orchestra. She was the winner of both classical and jazz categories at the Unisa competition and was awarded the overall winner and Unisa foundation prize.

Khanyisile was born in Soweto. She attended high school at the National school of the arts. She went on to study at the University of Pretoria and finished her Masters at Nice Conservatoire in France and in 2017 she became Trinity College of London Fellow. Khanyisile was appointed as the flute lecturer at Wits University in 2017 and also currently lectures in chamber music. In 2018 Khanyisile was selected to become a Yamaha-Global music artist.

Tsakani Mpapele joins the Centre as our new Brass Teacher. Tsakani started playing the trumpet in 2004 at the Salvation Army church. In 2006 he joined the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra playing in all the ensembles and eventually was promoted to Principal Trumpet. In 2010 he received a scholarship from the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra (JPO) Academy and in 2013 auditioned and joined the JPO professional as a cadet. He has a Unisa grade 6, Royal schools Grade 8 & Trinity College London Performance Diploma (ATCL). In February 2015 he joined the Mzansi Ensemble Victor Ntoni's Big Band and is currently a band member of Dr Caiphus Semenya and Letta Mbulu. He is also a freelance musician for Gauteng Chamber Orchestras and currently teaches brass instruments & brass ensembles in various schools. His passion is about teaching music, sharing all the knowledge and the techniques he accumulated.



With these two new additions to our teaching staff, it means that the Centre currently provides instruction in 15 different music instruments, as well as theory and choir. These are: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Pennywhistle, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Piano, Guitar, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Djembe, Drumkit

KEEPING STANDARDS AT THEIR HIGHEST

2018 was the first year that saw the Management Team introduce teacher appraisals. In order to ensure that our children are receiving the highest possible standard of teaching, our teachers undergo a twice annual teaching review. This allows us to see where the gaps are, source support for teachers or training if required.

The children also receive reports from their teacher

ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE

In addition to the approximately 24 000 hours of teaching annually, the Centre receives a number of guest musicians and visitors as well as hosting concerts and workshops for our children.

Musikgymnasim's performance & workshop

Thursday, 1st of March at **14:00**



ENTRANCE FREE! VERY SPECIAL GUESTS VISITING CMCM:
Concert with internationally renowned award winning youth



Special guest visitors from the award winning youth choir of Stockholm's Musikgymnasim, a secondary school in Sweden specialising in offering high quality music education. The performance, at the Centre, included an interactive workshop with the choir and their conductor Bengt Ollén, who is considered one of Sweden's best choral conductors.

Irish traditional music exchange

The group - Ceoltóirí Cnoc na Gaoithe - consists of 10 young, amateur musicians and hard-shoe step dancers from County Clare, Ireland. They are well known in traditional music circles and are of all-Ireland competition caliber. Their visit to the Centre was in the form of a musical exchange with the penny whistle and string students. The group features tin whistle and fiddle, comparable instruments played in a different style and as such made for a fun match with our pennywhistle and string ensembles. The Irish guests first performed a little of their traditional music for our students, then the students shared some traditional South African music including some Kwela. Our guests joined in with their performance and then our students played along on to Irish folk music whilst the dancers showed us their skills. Fun was had by all!



A visitor from Israel



Towards the end of November, Maestro Nir Brand visited the Centre and provided an intensive piano workshop for our young students. Maestro Nir Brand is a conductor of orchestras, a presenter at "Galatz" radio station, an educator with a love of classical music. In 2003, Brand founded the "Classikid" company, which educates students throughout Israel to love classical music while enhancing life skills.



Maestro Nir Brand was born in Be'er Sheva, where he completed his basic musical education, and later on was a student of the Mastero Prof. Mendy Rodan. He's the music director of the city Sderot and chairman of the Education Committee of the Arthur Rubinstein International Music Association (which holds the Rubinstein Competition). This visit was arranged in conjunction with the Israeli Embassy.

A visit from the German First Lady, Elke Büdenbender

On the 19th November 2018, the German First Lady, Elke Büdenbender paid a visit to the Centre to understand meet the children and understand the work that is being done at the Centre. It was an honor to receive her. She was especially interested in our early childhood development programme as the First Lady is a big proponent of education as a whole and recognises the importance of early childhood development.



Sounding Cities workshop

Sounding Cities is a collaborative project between musicians and visual artists exploring the cities of Johannesburg and Birmingham UK. New works were performed by exciting composers from both cities, alongside visual art and film. The project toured Johannesburg in August with concerts at The Centre for the Less Good Idea, Wits University, the Bioscope Theatre and wrapped up with a workshop at MICM.



Visiting Musicians
 Luke Newby, Clarinet
 Naomi Sullivan, Saxophone
 Clare Loveday, Composer
 Nandipha Mntambo, Visual Artist

Concerts at the Centre

The Soweto Jazz Explosion was a series of concerts organized by and held at the Centre. These spanned different artists and often included workshops for musicians. The aim of the series is to work on developing an audience going population in Soweto, encouraging a love and appreciation for jazz in the community.

FREE WORK SHOP WITH
 KHAYA MAHLANGU
 + NDUDUZO
 MAKHATHINI

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 2 - 5 PM
 SEATS LIMITED**

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 YOUR NAME + NUMBER
 to info@joziunsigned.co.za
 with subject: SJE_Workshop

SOWETO jazz explosion presents

INTERNATIONAL **Jazz Day**

NDUDUZO MAKHATHINI + JAZZ CATS

14:00 Cape Gate Miagi
 5635 Mthembu Street
 Jabavu, Soweto
 (Back entrance of Moriss Isaacson High)

R50 Cover Charge

For Bookings: 012-320 6154
edu@miagi.co.za

THE **SOWETO** jazz explosion presents

HALLES KOMET + THE COLLECTIVE WITH KHAYA MAHLANGU

14:00 CAPE GATE MIAGI CNTR.
 5635 Mthembu str. Jabavu; Soweto
 (Back Entrance of Moriss Isaacson High)

SUN, 9 SEP **R50** Cover Charge
info@miagi.co.za



ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE CENTRE

German National Day



On 11 October 2018, the Pennywhistle ensemble was invited to perform at the German Ambassador's house as part of their German National Day Celebrations. This was a wonderful event and always provides an opportunity to talk about the Centre and the great work that is being done here. The Children had a lovely time. We are extremely grateful for these opportunities and would like to thank MIAGI for including us in the event.

The Pennywhistle Ensemble perform for the German President



The Pennywhistle ensemble, through MIAGI, was invited to perform at the Apartheid Museum. Hosted by the Nelson Mandela Foundation, the German President addressed dignitaries and civil society, speaking to the legacy of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela and commenting on the renewed feeling of hope in the Country. The President was visiting the Country for the first time in 20 years. The visit concluded with the signing of investment and trade agreements between the two countries.

South African Jewish Board of Deputies



On Sunday 26 November, the Pennywhistle ensemble performed at the SAJBD Conference opening event. Apart from having the prestige of performing at this important event, it was also an opportunity for the children to perform for President Ramaposa who was the guest of honor.

MIAGI Youth Orchestra Performance

The Centre's children and parents were invited, as guests, to attend a performance of the MIAGI Youth Orchestra in Pretoria. We believe that these excursions are important for both our students and their parents, providing them with opportunities to better understand the full scope of their child's music education and to develop more dynamic audience base.

PARTNERSHIPS

NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT OUR LEARNERS & BUILD COMMUNITY



The Centre has begun a partnership with the [South African College for Applied Psychology](#) with the aim of providing support and pastoral care for our children. Two volunteers from the College provide after-school support in the form of discussions and workshops around specific topics, after school reading classes and one-on-one counseling sessions (if needed). So far, the volunteers have broached the subjects of homosexuality, alcohol abuse, parental

workshops and sexual abuse with the older children (students between the ages of 13-19). There will be a workshop on sexual abuse aimed at the parents in May. We hope that these will better prepare our children for the outside world and becoming an adult.

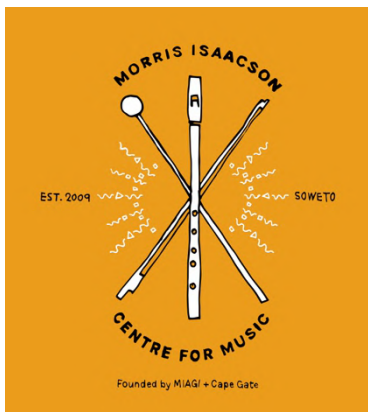


Soweto Small Business Network is the fastest growing business network in Soweto, passionate about promoting local business & creating affordable alternative working spaces & meeting rooms. Every Once a month, SBN host entrepreneurial meet and greet seminars at the Centre hosted by Kwanele Tshabalala. Tshabalala (34) has elevated himself from a store cleaner and mortar mixer for builders, to a local entrepreneurs' marketer. He manages a Facebook page, Soweto Business Network. The businesses advertise their services and items they sell on the fan page. The

page has about 70 000 fans. We have partnered with the Network by providing them space to host their monthly seminars and they in turn are helping us promote the Centre as a potential venue for hire in Soweto.

MARKETING

MICM - New Logo



The Cape Gate MIAGI Centre for Music (CMCM) has re-branding itself in celebration of its heritage. Located on the property of the famous Morris Isaacson High School, and in celebration it's 10 year since inception, the Centre has decided to re-brand itself to the Morris Isaacson Centre for Music (MICM). In March 2019, the Centre released its new identity. The children, board and staff were very excited about the new era that this name will bring.

Social media followers / likes

There has been a consistent increase on our followers on all MICM social pages. MICM opened its Facebook account in November 2018 and has reached 184 followers on Facebook, 47 followers on Instagram and 380 subscribers on MailChimp. In



In addition to these platforms, MICM sends out SMS' to parents about the Centre's activities. MICM is keeping all their followers up to date will all the activities happening at the Centre through updating and keeping their social media pages with interesting content.

Website

MICM is building a new website which will be launched in May / June 2019. This will provide an online presence for the Centre with its new look and feel.