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## Theatrical tribute for Westgate victims staged in Nairobi



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2014 - 00:00 -- BY ELLY GITAU

TODAY'S the second day at the Michael Joseph Centre, Nairobi, where the presentation of the 'Stories From The Mall' – a theatrical tribute to the victims of the Westgate Mall terrorist attack – is going down.

According to the organisers, Mugambi Nthiga and the Gladwell Theatre Company, the collection of staged readings, stories and poems, seeks at encouraging audiences to think, process and discuss the events one year after the devastating attack.

“We conceived this staging because little has been done to artistically address and commemorate the Westgate attack, much less the several that have followed. We hope for an honorable tribute to those we lost, and a memorable theatrical think?piece for those who attend. Our debut performance at the Storymoja Hay Festival was described as '[inspiring] a



Patricia Kihoro.

sense of personal responsibility and reflection' and 'provoking thoughts, emotion and reflection,'" says Mugambi.

Curated and directed by Mugambi, the staging features performances by Mkamzee Mwatela, Aleya Kassam, Dr. Julisa Rowe, Brian Ogola and Mumbi Kaigwa. Former Tusker Project Fame contestant, actress and singer Patricia Kihoro is among the music performers, as Joshua Obaga and Sharon Nderitu do the art installations. Filmmaker Arjun Kohli presents filmed interviews with survivors of the attack.



Mkamzee Mwatela.

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A huge display of solidarity with the West Gate attack victims; through great lines from renowned poets like Neal Hall, Teju Cole, Wambui wa Mwangi, among many others.

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