



ZIMBABWEAN COMEDIAN QUITE POSSIBLY BREAKS THE WORLD RECORD

ZIMBABWEAN funny man Carl Joshua Ncube believes he has broken the world record for the most stand up performances in seven days – but is awaiting official confirmation from Guinness World Records.

Ncube planned to perform 35 shows in 35 different venues in Zimbabwe and South Africa, but only managed 31, after a few venues let him down at the last minute. This was, however, still enough to break the existing Guinness World Record, set by Australian comedian Mark Murphy in 2007, when he performed 30 stand-up gigs in a week.

Ncube finished up in Victoria Falls on Tuesday, with his biggest show – which was an hour long, whereas all of the others were 30 minutes - at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge’s amphitheatre. Part of the proceeds from this performance will go to the Victoria Falls Anti-Poaching Unit.

Africa Albida Tourism group operations manager Andy Conn said: “The show was great, everyone there really enjoyed it. We, at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, were proud to be a part of this Guinness World Record event.”

Ncube said: “The show I did at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge equalled the world record, as it was number 30, and then I did another gig after that which broke the record.”

“I bring light to conservation issues because many black people think it’s a “white thing”. I’d like to encourage black people to think about their environment more, and not look at animals as food only – they also provide the picturesque African setting, and play a big role in attracting tourists.”

He was “ecstatic” at possibly breaking the world record, but in all of his planning, he had forgotten to factor in how he might celebrate. Ncube is due to perform in Uganda this week, and has decided to take a few days off there to holiday, and on his return to Zimbabwe, plans to spend a week in Victoria Falls “zoning out”.

Ncube’s gruelling schedule will see him performing in Cape Town and Johannesburg in September and October, ahead of a 30-day tour of Asia in November and December.

He will compile his evidence for Guinness World Records, which included videos of his performances and press clippings, and await confirmation from the authority. He was unsure of how long this process would take.

Guinness World Record’s rules include each performance being given before a paying audience in receipt of printed tickets, in a recognised venue, and each gig being at least 30 minutes long.

Victoria Falls Safari Lodge is the flagship property of Africa Albida Tourism, a Zimbabwe-owned hospitality group, which operates lodges, hotels and restaurants in Victoria Falls, and Chobe, Botswana.

IMAGES: Comedian Carl Joshua Ncube performing at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge on Tuesday night.

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