

Series unlocks SA's hidden history

FROM 9 pm tomorrow on SABC2, viewers can watch a four-part series, *Rainbow Makers — A Tribute Series*.

The series, produced by the African Oral History Archive includes the award-winning documentary *Plot for Peace*, which was screened at the Durban International Film Festival in July.

Mandy Jacobson, an Emmy award-winning film-maker for the archive, told *Weekend Witness*: "Much of our history was politically sensitive, or subversive; some of it has remained hidden, even forgotten.

"So AOH was created as a global effort to record and showcase the continent's acclaimed or unknown history makers, giving unprecedented access to all those who were at the heart of events that shaped South Africa's modern history ...

"The *Rainbow Makers* pays tribute to some of the champions that led the way towards the 20 years of South African democracy we enjoy today."

Tomorrow night's show is *A Tribute to the Frontline States*. Presented by Shaka Sisulu, grandson of Walter and Albertina Sisulu, this portrait recognises the role played by countries on the borders of SA in the fight for democracy.

It also shows how three generations of Sisulus came to be re-unioned after living apart, in exile, for three decades.

On September 21 is *Ten Year Tightrope: Rebels with a Cause*, the story of a small band of men, many of them leaders of the former National Party government, who turned their backs on their history, traditions and belief systems.

Narrated by actress Gretha Fox, whose own history is intertwined, the film reveals the personal histories and behind the



Jean Yves Ollivier meets Nelson Mandela. The Frenchman reveals his role in SA's history in *Plot for Peace* on SABC2.

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scenes stories of Roelf Meyer, Sampie Treblanche, Leon Wessels, Pik Botha, Barend du Plessis, and Frederik van Zyl Slabbert.

Plot for Peace can be seen on September 28. Working in the shadows between the Marxist and apartheid regimes of Angola and South Africa, French businessman Jean-Yves Ollivier reveals the untold story of how he helped broker changes that shook a nation.

The final film, on October 5, is *The Foreign Minister*, which tells the tale of the longest serving Foreign Minister in the world, Pik Botha.

Another must-see this weekend is *Drop Dead Diva* on Sony Entertainment Television.

In season three, Jane has to plan her former fiancé's wedding, and must fight court cases ranging from breast implant surgery gone horribly wrong to a death row inmate trying to go straight. The show airs on Sundays at 8.30 pm.

BBC Knowledge is screening *Death Camp Treblinka: Survivor Stories* at 5 pm today.

Treblinka was created by the Nazis to eliminate the huge captive Jewish population in occupied Poland and beyond.

In a frenzy of mass murder lasting less than two years, as many as 900 000 Jewish men, women and children were murdered in this tiny camp hidden deep in the woods.

Fans of *The Only Way Is Essex* will be delighted to know that season seven is airing on BBC Lifestyle at 10 pm tomorrow.

The extroverts of Essex return for a seventh series without Lauren Goodger, who bade a tearful farewell in August.

Rumour has it that Chloe, Lydia and Tom may soon follow suit, while wedding bells are set to ring for Joey and Sam. Naturally, there are no guarantees in this alternative universe where "scripted reality" is filmed just days before broadcast.

Last, but not least, viewers should watch *21 Icons South Africa* at 8.27 pm on SABC3 tomorrow night. This week's show focuses on acclaimed musician Pops Mohamed.

— Arts Editor.