



UNIVERSITY OF  
**KWAZULU-NATAL**™  
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## **DURBAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

23 March 2018

Dear Alumni and friends,

### **UKZN Alumnus and Award-winning Architect – Rod Choromanski – talks on the design and purpose of the uMkhumbane Cultural and Heritage Museum in Cato Manor, Durban**

UKZN alumnus Rod Choromanski scooped the coveted "Best new building in Africa" award late in 2017, during the inaugural Africa Architecture Awards, for his design of the uMkhumbane Cultural and Heritage Museum in Cato Manor, Durban.

The prestigious awards attracted 307 entries from 32 countries, with uMkhumbane Museum being the only South African entry in the "built" category. The awards aim to recognise and reward projects from around the continent and seeks to celebrate design excellence, honour established architects and encourage emerging and future designers.

The eThekweni Municipality together with the Cato Manor Development Association (CMDA) identified Cato Manor as an ideal location to develop the "uMkhumbane Cultural Place" in order to preserve the area's rich cultural and political history and stimulate innovation. According to Choromanski, it provides the opportunity for contemporary culture and powerful heritage to converge at a node, serving as a tool for social and ecological regeneration.

As part of a broader urban strategy, the site seeks to activate and network various cultural nodes within the community of Cato Manor and the surrounding areas, through community involvement, local artists and leaders.

Choromanski will explain what went into the actual design, the building of uMkhumbane and the purpose for which the structure is intended. A tour of uMkhumbane will take place later in 2018. ***Credit: The wording of this invitation was adapted from the article by: Melissa Mungroo. Photographs: Prakash Bhika***

Join us for what promises to be a most inspiring and informative evening with wine, juice, snacks and good- company afterwards!

**DATE :** Monday, 7 May 2018  
**TIME :** 17h00 for 17h30  
**VENUE:** Murray Lecture Theatre, (Centenary Building, opposite the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre entrance) Howard College Campus, Durban  
**COST :** R50 per person (payable on arrival)  
**RSVP :** By Monday, 30 April 2018 to Nomcebo Msweli on 031 260 2016 or email: [mswelin@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mswelin@ukzn.ac.za)

**Robin Ralfe**  
Chairman Durban Alumni Association

