

## AFRO COUTURE

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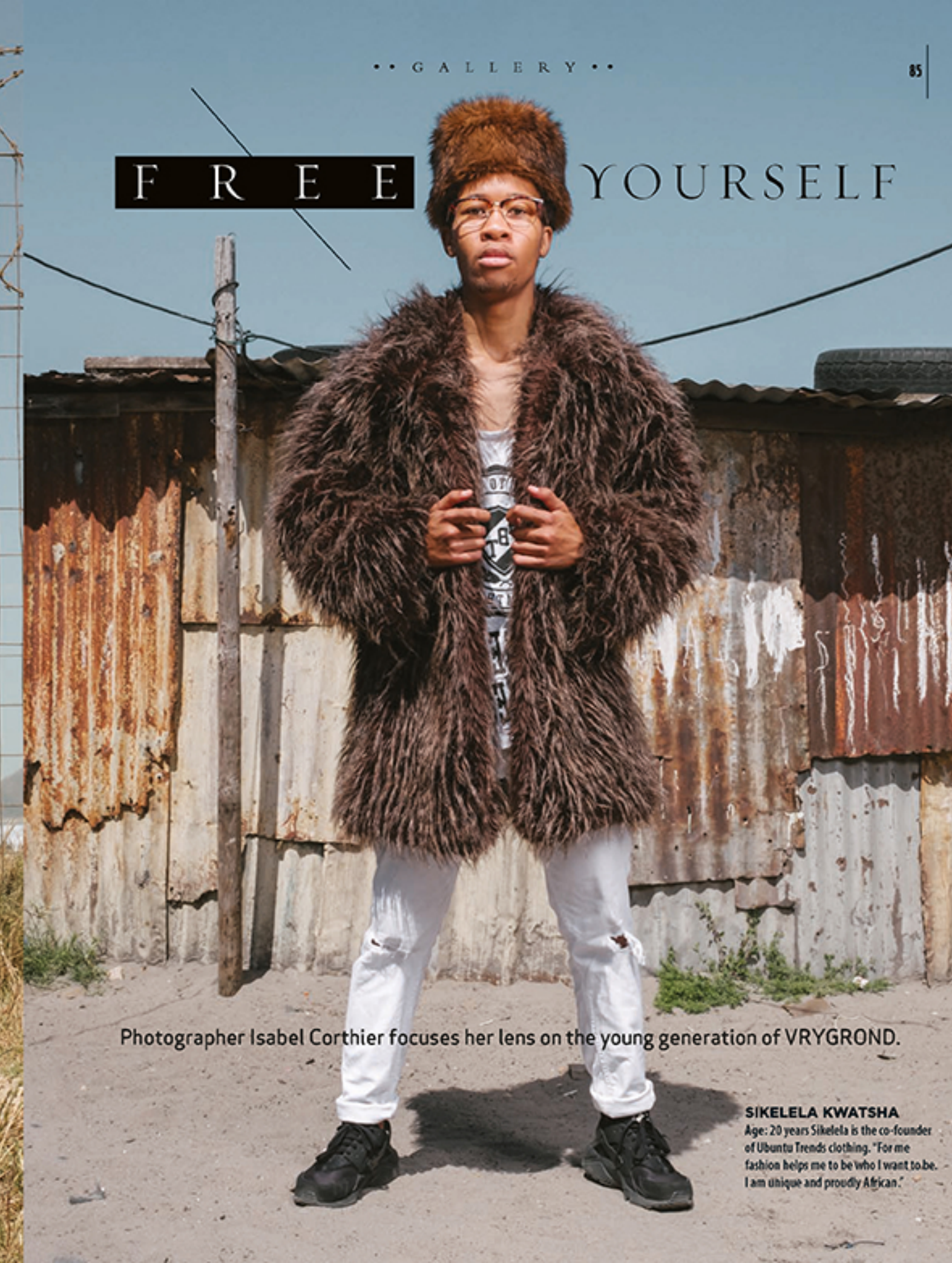
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The young generation of VRYGROND, one of the oldest townships of the Western Cape, is living by Nelson Mandela's principles of "Free yourself - Free others - Serve every day". By developing their talents, they are lifting themselves up and have become role models for the youngsters in their community.

**AVELA MAGAGASI**  
Age: 28 years  
Avela makes beaded jewellery and is also a clothing designer. She has started a netball team to give youngsters something healthy and constructive to do in their spare time.



## FREE YOURSELF

Photographer Isabel Corthier focuses her lens on the young generation of VRYGROND.

**SIKELELA KWATSHA**  
Age: 28 years  
Sikelela is the co-founder of Ubuntu Trends clothing. "For me fashion helps me to be who I want to be. I am unique and proudly African."



**LINAMANDLA DELIWE**  
Age: 25 years  
For five years he ran the Computer Lab, where he taught computer and presentation skills to help young people find employment. He shares his expertise at Vrygrond Young Minds club.



**FREDDY JAYY NYEZI**  
Age: 18 years  
Freddy discovered his passion for dancing and acting through an organisation in Vrygrond called Assitej. He became a youth ambassador organising dance to keep kids away from drugs and alcohol.



**LITHA SAM-SAM**  
Age: 19 years  
Litha got creative in repairing his favourite pair of trousers with different fabric. The idea of Ubuntu Trends, a clothing brand that he and some friends started this year, is based on this principle: re-use and re-think, while being proudly African.



**FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHER**  
"Although these young people play an important role in the community, their talents and achievements often stay under the radar. Through these photographs, I hope to let them briefly stand on a stage that rises up from the unpolished background of the township. Each is strong, proud, and self-confident in a unique and authentic way. They are the future of South Africa and they are making a change."  
- Isabel Corthier

**HOLUKHANYO ZIBAYA**  
Age: 21 years  
Holukhanyo is first soprano in the Uxeni Art School choir as well as Voices of Africa, a group that promotes the spirit of "One Africa". She encourages the youth to start singing to keep them busy and away from the streets.