



Media Release

Kings of Lesotho - The Royal Succession Story: Immersive VR Experience Brings Basotho Royal History to Life

A ground-breaking virtual reality (VR) experience charting nearly two centuries of Basotho history is set to give audiences a first-of-its-kind experience of the Kingdom of Lesotho's story - not by reading about it, but by stepping inside it.

Kings of Lesotho - The Royal Succession Story is an immersive 360-degree VR experience that takes viewers on a cinematic journey through the history of the Basotho nation, from the founding of the kingdom by King Moshoeshoe I in 1824 to the reign of the current monarch, His Majesty King Letsie III, the ninth in the royal succession. This VR experience will be launched at the Royal Palace Banquet Hall in Maseru, Lesotho, on Thursday 17 September, with Their Majesties King Letsie III and members of the Royal Family, and invited guests. Thereafter, the experience will be open to the public to experience at the Alliance Française de Maseru (AFM), AFM Library, as well as through a series of free touring exhibitions at selected locations around the country.

Through 360-degree storytelling, spatial sound, archival references, traditional music, and historically inspired landscapes, the experience transports audiences into the living memory of Lesotho.

"The core of the story begins atop Thaba-Bosiu Mountain, where an historic village, the stronghold of King Moshoeshoe I and the birthplace of the Basotho nation, is brought to life through everyday activities, oral storytelling, music, and historical narration. From there, audiences travel through significant royal sites and beautiful landscapes across Lesotho, including Menkhoaneng, Matsieng, Likhoele, Mokhotlong, Kome Caves, Katse Dam, 'Maletsunyane Falls, Makeneng, Phamong, and Makoanyane Square in Maseru. The journey introduces the life and contribution of each monarch in the royal succession while experiencing the country's natural beauty and cultural identity.

Kings of Lesotho is created in collaboration between the Royal Archives, Museum and Information Centre, in collaboration with MP Multimedia Pty Ltd, a dynamic creative-media company based in Lesotho that specialises in advanced multimedia production, digital storytelling, immersive visual experiences, and innovative content creation, with the Royal





Archives providing the historical archival material and MP Multimedia developing and producing the virtual reality experience.

"This project has given us the chance to place our nation's history in front of audiences in a way that has never been possible before, using technology to honour our heritage rather than replace it," says the artistic team's Project Lead, Mokhethi Phohlo, of MP Multimedia Pty Ltd, "We hope every Mosotho who steps into this experience walks away with a deeper connection to where we come from."

"The Royal Archives exists to safeguard the history and heritage of royalty and chieftainship in Lesotho for generations to come. Collaborating with MP Multimedia has allowed us to take those stories out from behind glass and archive boxes, and into a format that speaks to audiences today, while remaining grounded in the historical record. Importantly, the experience can also travel, allowing this history to reach people beyond the archive itself," says Maneo Ralebitso, Project Lead, of the Royal Archives.

Kings of Lesotho is one of six immersive works developed through *Futures_Past: Amplifying Memory with Immersive Technologies*, an initiative of the Embassy of France in South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi and the [French Institute of South Africa](#) (IFAS), in partnership with [Electric South](#), with funding from the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Futures_Past began in July 2025 and will run until March 2027 at venues in South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi. The project has brought together artist teams from the countries of six selected archives across South Africa, Lesotho, and Malawi, pairing each team with an archive to co-create an immersive digital work exploring the stories held within its collection. Together, the projects explore how immersive technologies can open new ways of encountering and sharing Southern African histories.

"Kings of Lesotho is a powerful example of what *Futures_Past* set out to achieve: giving archives new life through the hands of local artists and technologists. Seeing this project reach the point of a launch at the Royal Palace, with the King and Royal Household present, is a testament to what is possible when heritage institutions and creative industries work hand in hand," says Jean Spiri, Director of IFAS.

Electric South, Ingrid Kopp says, "Working with this project has been a privilege. It shows how immersive technology, when approached with care, can deepen rather than dilute our





relationship with history. ***Kings of Lesotho*** is not just about looking back at the royal succession; it is about giving audiences, particularly young Basotho, a new way to feel part of that story."

Kings of Lesotho is the second of six *Futures_Past* exhibitions and immersive experiences opening across South Africa, Lesotho and Malawi between September and December 2026.

The Official Launch, by invitation only, takes place on Thursday, 17 September 2026, at the Royal Palace Banquet Hall, Maseru. The launch will mark the formal introduction of the completed immersive experience before it opens to the wider public.

The exhibition will be available free to the public from 23 September to 4 December 2026 at the Alliance Française de Maseru (AFM), AFM Library. In addition to the main exhibition at AFM, the project will also undertake a series of free touring exhibitions at selected locations around the country.

Follow [the Royal Archives, Museum and Information Centre](#) on Facebook and [@mpmultimedia](#) on Instagram for upcoming touring dates and locations, and to find out where you can experience *Kings of Lesotho – The Royal Succession Story*.

For further information on Kings of Lesotho, view their [website](#), and for the wider Futures_Past programme, visit <https://www.futurespast.co.za/>

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Note to editors:

About the [Royal Archives, Museum and Information Centre](#)

Royal Archives, Museum and Information Centre, in short, Royal Archives and Museum (RAM), is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) that was established and legally registered in 2008. It is administered on behalf of the Royal family by a ten-member Board of Trustees who are experts in the fields of Archives, Anthropology, Archaeology, Architecture, Cultural Heritage, and History.

This centre was opened to the public in November 2012. It preserves the heritage relating to the Royalty and Chieftainship in Lesotho. It is located in Matsieng, in a restored historic building that was previously used as the offices of the Queen Regent 'Mantšebo Seeiso from the late 1940s to 1960 and later by King Moshoeshoe II between 1960 and 1965. Matsieng, the national royal heritage site, is the Basotho nation's second home, after Thaba-Bosiu. It is located approximately forty-five kilometres South of the capital, Maseru, and adjacent to the Royal residence.

About [MP Multimedia Pty Ltd](#)

MP Multimedia is a dynamic creative-media company based in Lesotho, specialising in advanced multimedia production, digital storytelling, immersive visual experiences, and innovative content creation. Founded by Mr Mokhethi Phohlo, MP Multimedia's vision is the development of cutting-edge VR immersive creations that blend technology, culture, and storytelling to create engaging and interactive experiences for audiences across Africa and beyond. Through creativity, innovation, and a passion for digital transformation, MP Multimedia continues to position itself as a forward-thinking leader in the multimedia and immersive technology industry.

The creative team behind the brand: **Mr Mokhethi Phohlo (founder, Creator and Director), Mr Phillip Leteka (Co-Director), Ms Itumeleng Sekhamane (Producer), Mrs Moleboheng Khothatso (Trainee Assistant Producer) and Mr Telmo dos Reis (Technologist).**

About the [French Institute of South Africa \(IFAS\)](#)

The French Institute of South Africa, the cultural arm of the French Embassy, has supported creative cooperation between South Africa, France, and the continent since 1995. IFAS has played a key role in initiatives safeguarding memory and advancing access to historical resources, including the digitisation of the Rivonia Trial tapes and collaboration with the Morija Museum & Archives in Lesotho.





About [Electric South](#)

Electric South is a Cape Town-based non-profit building a robust storytelling ecosystem in Africa through immersive and interactive technologies. The organisation supports African artists and technologists through mentorship, workshops, labs, project funding, research, and field-building initiatives. Electric South-supported projects have been showcased internationally at Sundance, Venice, and IDFA DocLab.

The project is further supported by **Alliance Française de Maseru** as the principal public exhibition venue and by **Sky Alpha HD** as the publicity and media partner. The Ministry of Tourism, Sports, Arts and Culture (MTSAC) has provided support towards the Launch and has incorporated it in the 2026 National Calendar of Events, aimed at commemorating the 60th Independence Anniversary in Lesotho.

*Together, these partners have contributed to bringing this significant cultural and educational experience to the public. **KINGS OF LESOTHO – FUTURES_PAST** is an educational and cultural project dedicated to preserving and presenting Basotho history for present and future generations through technology, historical research, visual storytelling and immersive experiences.*

