

REVIEW OF "WHEN VOICES MEET SOUNDTRACK" BY  
GURUJAS KHALSA / WHITE SUN 2016 NEW AGE GRAMMY AWARD WINNER ON  
[AMAZON.com](https://www.amazon.com/When-Voices-Meet-Soundtrack-Sharon/dp/B0176L80SE/ref=cm_cr-mr-title)

[https://www.amazon.com/When-Voices-Meet-Soundtrack-Sharon/dp/B0176L80SE/  
ref=cm\\_cr-mr-title](https://www.amazon.com/When-Voices-Meet-Soundtrack-Sharon/dp/B0176L80SE/ref=cm_cr-mr-title)

*5.0 out of 5 stars*

**Important work at a crucial time**

By [White Sun](#) on October 15, 2016

"When Voices Meet" is a compelling and joyful documentary that looks at the work of Sharon Katz and Nonhlanhla Wanda, the creators of the Peace Train, a 500 member multiracial choir and band that toured Apartheid era South Africa. Katz and Wanda, with the shared belief that the power of music could unite a racially divided country, created a choir of children and young adults to sing songs of unity. They successfully toured South Africa in the time following Nelson Mandela's release from prison, when tensions were high and persons of different races were not allowed to spend time together.

In addition to encouraging racial unity, Katz considered the project to be a music therapy program to transform the self-belief of the children into one of strength and dignity. The movie includes reflections of adults who were once choir members discussing the positive effects the choir had on their lives. Many of the choir members were living in extreme poverty and their work with the choir transformed their lives, many of them becoming teachers and professional musicians.

The songs combine the native sounds of South Africa with the modern sounds of that era to create a unique upbeat sound. The lyrics are multi-lingual using English and other languages common in South Africa. The words are cheerful and full of positive affirmations.

When touring, the Peace Train was joined on the road by famous luminaries of the time Ladysmith Black Mambazo. The

choir was recognized internationally as a powerful conflict resolving force and they toured the US and they were invited to the Middle East

“Ukukhula Namhlanje” (Let There Be Peace Today) is my favorite track with sweet, plaintive voices of children asking for peace and a deep grooving bass line that reminds me of Earth, Wind and Fire. It captures the revolutionary nature of this entire project led by Katz (a White woman) and Wanda (a Black woman) who broke boundaries by joining forces, sharing a vision beyond the time of Apartheid, and harmonizing voices of all races in South Africa in songs of hope and freedom. Differences alchemized to create a powerful impact.

With “When Voices Meet”, the movie and its soundtrack tell the moving tale of how sounds sung from the heart can move the consciousness of nations. I am beyond grateful to bear witness. Our entire planet is benefitting from this work as it continues to resonate.