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Andy Brown

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Andy Brown was a Zimbabwean singer, songwriter and guitarist who led the band he formed, [The Storm](#). He was also a key member of the [Ilanga](#) band along with [Busi Ncube](#), [Don Gumbo](#) and [Cde Chinx](#). Brown was popularly known for his hits *Tichangoshaina*, *Mapurisa* and *Ndoita Zindoga Ini*. He was also a supporter of the [ZANU-PF](#) political party during the time of the controversial land reform exercise, popularly known as the [Third Chimurenga](#).

Musician

Andy Brown



Andy Brown

Born

Cadia Shoko

(1962-03-15)March 15, 1962

[Harare, Zimbabwe](#)

Died

March 16, 2012(2012-03-16) (aged 50)

[Parienyatwa](#)

Cause of death

Pneumonia

Resting place

Mudavhanu Village, [Mberengwa](#)

Education

[Founders High School](#)

Occupation

- Singer
- Songwriter

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- Guitarist

Years active	1980s - 2012
Known for	Singing
Home town	Mberengwa
Political party	Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF)
Spouse(s)	Nadine Brown
Children	Ammara Brown , Devona, Shahla, Alexander, Chengeto Brown , Chiedza, Ushe, Jason, Andy Brown Junior and Alzaeed
Parent(s)	Zvondiwe Ncube

Background

Andy Brown was born Cadia Shoko on March 15, 1962 in [Mberengwa](#) to a German father and a Zimbabwean mother, Zvondiwe Ncube and went to school at Chavengwa Primary School and Mavorondo Secondary School. Brown's family relocated to [Bulawayo](#) and he was thus forced to finish his secondary school education at [Founders High School](#). Andy Brown was once married to [Chiwoniso Maraire](#). At the time of his death, he was married to Nadine Brown. He had ten children from his different marriages Devona, [Ammara](#), Shala, Alexander, Chengeto, Chiedza, Ushe, Jason, Andy Brown Junior and Alzaeed.^[1]

Education

He attended Founders High School in Bulawayo for his secondary education.

Career

Brown started singing at a tender age. It is allegedly reported that whilst he was at Founders High School, he bunked classes to play his guitar.^[1] After leaving school he had a brief stint with [Ebony Shiek](#) before teaming up with [Gabriel Green](#) with whom he formed the group [Pisces](#) in 1980.^[2]

Andy relocated to [Harare](#) where he formed the group Grabb with [Rozalla Miller](#) and [Boykie Moore](#) but the group disintegrated when Rozalla moved to England in 1984. The following year Brown worked with the [Rusike Brothers](#) but this was to last for a short period. From working with the Rusike Brothers, he worked teamed up with [Don Gumbo](#) and [Brian Paul](#) in 1986 to form [Ilanga](#). Some members of Ilanga included, [Busi Ncube](#), [Don Gumbo](#), [Munya Brown](#), Chinx Chingaira, [Keith Farquarson](#), [Adam Chisvo](#) and [Gibson Mangena](#).^[1] Despite being one of the best groups in the country in the late 1980s, the group was short-lived.

Brown left Ilanga in 1988 to form his own group [The Storm](#). He, however, relocated to South Africa where he joined the group [We Three](#) and penned all the songs for one of their albums. Whilst in South Africa, he also played as a session musician for several musicians amongst them was the famous reggae

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star, Jambo. In 1995, he returned back to [Zimbabwe](#) and on his return he recorded the album *Gondwanaland* which became a hit with such songs as *Tichangoshaina* and *Zindoga*.^[1] Andy Brown was also part of the [More Fire Crew](#) which recorded several [Chimurenga](#) songs some of which included a cover version of the song "Mbuya nehanda kufa vachitaura".

By 1997, his group, The Storm, consisted of [Sam Mataure](#) (who was the drummer), [Ian Hillman](#) (bass guitarist), [Adam Chisvo](#) (mbira/percussions), [Keith Farquarson](#) (keyboardist), [Chiwoniso Maraire](#) (vocals/mbira/percussions), [Mwendi Chibindi](#) (background vocals), and [Paddy Moyo](#), the manager.^[1] In June 1997 Andy successfully launched his sixth album, *Tigere*. All the tracks on this album maintained a prominent traditional rhythm.

Political Orientation

The political affiliation of Andy Brown has not been a contested issue, he was over the years linked to [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front](#) (ZANU PF) with much of the speculation being generated from the nature of his songs such as "Chigaro Chamambo" and also through his role in the music group "More Fire Crew". Prior to that, he had also shown a keen interest in political issues through songs such as "Botha" in which he spoke about the Apartheid regime in colonial South Africa. He also composed other tracks with a political flavour such as "Tongogara" and "Chigaro Chamambo".^[3] Between 2000 and 2012 Andy's rise to stardom was hindered by his decision to get involved in politics^[1] as he publicly supported ZANU PF's [Third Chimurenga](#).

Discography

1. 1989 The Storm
2. 1990 Chimvuramabhwe
3. 1991 Feed Me
4. 1995 Gondwanaland
5. 1996 Let The Children
6. 1997 Tigere
7. 1998 Harare
8. 1999 Hondo YeSadza
9. 2001 Tongogara
10. 2003 Passage of Time
11. 2005 Chiedza
12. Retrospective.^[4]

Awards

Andy Brown died without receiving an award in his life. However, in 2017 the Masvingo Music Awards announced that Andy Brown was going to be awarded a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award at the awards' fourth edition on Saturday the 1st of April 2017.^[5]

Trivia

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His song, *Tomato Sauce* charted at number 5 on South Africa's Radio Metro a week after being played on air in South Africa.^[1]

About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

To join the Pindula community of editors, please go to <https://contribute.pindula.co.zw?> or just get in touch with us on **WhatsApp: +263 77 770 7852**.

References

1. ? ^{1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6} Fred Zindi, [Remembering Andy Brown](#), *The Herald*, Published: March 17, 2014, Retrieved: 18 March 2014
2. ? Wonder Guchu, [\[1\]](#), "Intimacy with zim musicians", Published:22 Sep 2011, Retrieved:23 June 2014"
3. ? Mthulisi Mathuthu, [\[2\]](#), "New Zimbabwe", Published: Apr 2012, Retrieved:23 June 2014"
4. ? , [Andy Brown](#), "World Music Central", ;,Retrived:18 June 2014"
5. ? ["Posthumous honour for Andy Brown"](#). The NewsDay. March 30, 2017.