APPENDIX A

SOPHIATOWN – Thandi Klaasen

Thandi Klaasen’s song Sophiatown is perhaps the greatest musical ode to that era and place. The velvet-smooth contralto, the easy swing and the finger-snapping syncopation are carried by the real melancholy of the song. The story of broken lives and homes snuffed out by a brutal state is sung with acute sensitivity.

[Source: <https://mg.co.za/article/2017-01-20-00-thandi-klaasen-defying-tragedy-to-do-it-her-way>]

See the people standing in the doorway
See the bright lights on a summer night
I can hear the music from Fattie's Bar
  I can see my past passing by.

  I had no chance to say goodbye to romance
  I had no time to leave it all behind
It was the place I knew where my dreams came true
  Until they broke it down Sophiatown.

I can see shebeens up in Good street
I can hear the wind before the storm
I can see police on a winter night
Breaking down the place where I was born.

  I had no chance to say goodbye to romance
  I had no time to leave it all behind
It was the place I knew where my dreams came true
  Until they broke it down Sophiatown.

  It was the place I knew
  Where my dreams came true
  Until they broke it down …

  I had no chance to say goodbye to romance
  I had no time to leave it all behind
It was the place I knew where my dreams came true
  Until they broke it down Sophiatown.

Until they broke it down, until they broke it down
  Until they broke it down Sophiatown.