

Lola Aroun at home with Henry Bonsu



Henry Bonsu, 32, is the presenter of *The Big Bonsu Show*, which is aired live 5 nights a week on BBC London Live. With studio guests including Frank Dobson, Trevor Phillips, Steve Norris, Margaret Hodge, Patti Boulaye, Lee Jasper, Luther Blisset, Chris Eubank, as well as community leaders, poets, writers and other artistes. His programme has established itself as the programme that the big internationals go to when they visit the UK. Henry is well known in the media and in the past has written for the *Voice*, *Manchester Evening News* and the *Independent*. Henry has also worked with the BBC programme *Public Eye*, *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicolas Witchel and Jill Dando. *The Today Programme*, *World at 1pm*, *BBC Westminster*, *Black Britain* as well as *GLR* until he went into presenting. Well we want to find out more about this media man who lives alone in a flat which is part of a very large house in South East London (sorry girls I cannot disclose his address I could get into serious trouble).

30 seconds after ringing the intercom to his bachelor flat a massive

heavy white door is opened (well there is no chance of him ever being burgled) and I am greeted by the man himself and shown towards the room which we will focus on and which Henry calls his safe haven, a medium sized living room which reminds me of the inside of Gina Yashere's home.

Henry brings my attention to the wooden oak floor and the boob he made when he was trying to sand it which ended up with Henry, due to impatience, accidentally taking a good sized chunk from it. It did, however, give it a touch of character. The floor was an expensive one, solid with a rich burnt ebony colour to it.

The wall colour of warm orange flame dominated the room and the contrast of the blue-purple Indian mirror which was the centre of one wall enhanced this. His wall space consisted of several interesting items. I found a little pink inflatable alien between the top of two walls. This alien kept things in order and watched over things insisted Henry. Another wall shared its space with a colourful textile picture given to him as a gift

from an ex girlfriend while another wall was decorated with a beautiful purple/blue embroidered fabric. I found Henry very funny and down to earth especially when he began to feel shame at the amount of dust that had settled on his giant TV and started to clean the dust off of it we were in fits of laughter. His trophies sat on top of the TV, 2 of which, I noticed were EMMA Awards. If I could keep anything from Henry's flat it would be his 2 Malabar Sofa beds which are draped with an attractive heavy dark fabric. They are very deep and when I get home from a late programme I just want to relax in a nice big sofa bed. The black hi-tech hi-fi, and black fold up, Ikea chairs further add to the mood and enhance the colour scheme. I found some amazing pieces of sculpture which came from Ghana & Kenya but what stood out was his fez which came from the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul. His flat is the type of flat that is airy with minimal clutter apart from his many

newspapers which are stuck in a very tall pile (and which Henry insists was reduced by half because he knew I was visiting), there is everything from the *Observer*, *The Guardian*, *The New Nation*, *The Journal*, *The Sun*, *The Mail* etc. The rear of Henry's flat overlooks a massive park which he says is heaven to look out on to on an early autumn morning or summers evening. Well, unfortunately the time came when I had to leave the company of this brilliant media man but in next month's issue of *Aspire* we will again, be visiting the interior of another celebrity home.