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West African Drumming Dance Ensemble

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*Music Department
Illinois State University*

*Illinois State University
West African Drumming
Dance Ensemble (WADDE)
BiaJo Dance Theater*

in

*African Dance: A Celebration of the Human Form
Director: Oforiwaa Aduonum*



Hayden Auditorium
Sunday Evening
November 5, 2000
7:00 p.m.

The thirty-ninth program of the 2000-2001 Season.

PROGRAM

Notes

Drum Call

BiaJo and WADDE

Kpanlogo

BiaJo

Ghanaian traditional

Sofa

BiaJo and WADDE

Guinean traditional

Coucou

WADDE

Guinean traditional

Fanga

BiaJo

Liberia traditional

Nkunim (Victory)

Abena Oforiwaa

Ghanaian traditional

Sinte

BiaJo and WADDE

Guinean traditional

Audience Participation

Aku Sika (honoring the Arms)

BiaJo and WADDE

Oforiwaa Aduonum

Soli

Christina Calbert

Guinean traditional

Sisi Pa

BiaJo

Oforiwaa Aduonum

Ehurusi (celebrating the human form)

BiaJo and WADDE

Oforiwaa Aduonum



- *Drum calls* or libations proceed most events in Africa.
- *Kpanlogo* is a recreational dance by the Ga of Ghana.
- *Sofa* is a hunting dance from Guinea.
- *Coucou* is another celebration dance from Guinea. It is performed at harvest, festivals, weddings, and other happy occasions.
- *Fanga* is don to welcome dignitaries in Liberia.
- *Nkunim* is an Akan victory dance which re-enacts and commemorates the Akan victory over the British army in the late 19th century.
- *Sinte* is a dance from the Nalu of Guinea; it is performed by mothers after their sons have successfully completed the circumcision ritual. Circumcision is a rite of passage event that symbolizes the transition from boyhood to manhood.
- *Aku Sika* was inspired by a story of a young girl who lost her right arm. It was choreographed and performed here to celebrate the arms.
- *Soli* is a traditional rhythm which announces the initiation for boys around the 13-15 year age group. Initiation or circumcision ceremonies mark the transition from boyhood to manhood.
- *Sisi Pa* was choreographed to honor and celebrate the pelvis and the beauty and power of the female form—the locus of femininity and fertility.
- *Ehurusi* choreographed to celebrate the human form.
- The Akan and Ga are two ethnic groups in Ghana.
- *BiaJo* means **Come** (Bia - Igbo language of Nigeria) **Dance** (Jo - Yoruba and Ga languages of Nigeria and Ghana, respectively). BiaJo Dance Theatre is a cultural arts group, formed to preserve and celebrate the drum and dance traditions of the African experience. Formed in 2000 at Illinois State University, the group is comprised of ISU students and members of the Bloomington Normal Community.

BiaJo Dance Theater Community and WADDE Personnel

Oforiwa Aduonum, Artistic Director

Kayode Ajayi, *drummer*
Gary Moore, *drummer*
Abena Aduonum
Shundalyn Allen
Michelle Brown
Christina Calbert
Danielle Cochran, *drummer*
Jescelia Durr
Clarence Evans, *drummer*
Kinah Handley
Tucora Henry
Michelle Hines
Teresa Jones
Jenea Leonard
Danielle Lewis
Divine Lewis
Ebony Lewis
Shanté Nelson

Laura Flores
Jamilla Garcia
Candice Halbert
Charmin McCullough

Carola Quinones
Jaylah Roberts
Kisha Roberts
Tamara Stanley
Mark Stojak, *drummer*
Keisha Walker

The Musical Instruments

Dawuro/Atoke
Nnawuta/Gankogui
Torowa/Axatse
Gyamadudu/Brekete
Djembe
Djundjun
Donno/Adodo

Single bell
Double bell
Gourd rattle
Cylindrical bass drum
Goblet Shaped drum
Double headed cylindrical shaped drum
Hourglass-shaped drum

*We would like to express our appreciation to all who helped
make this performance a success.*

Aseda Pii -- Thank You So Very Much

Dedication: To the Humanity That Binds Us All

Send Comments to: okaduon@ilstu.edu

BiaJo and WADDE
C/o Dr. O. Aduonum
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Illinois State University
Normal, IL 61790