



West African Highlife Ensemble

Maputo Mensah, director

7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 13, 2019
Grusin Music Hall
Imig Music Building



College of Music
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

CU ★ PRESENTS

Program

Traditional Drumming

Kpatsa

Kpatsa is a dance of the Ga-Adangme people in Southern Ghana. Mythology says that Ga-Adangme hunters first learned it from the dwarfs. In modern society, it is performed at many different types of gathering, including those of leaders, visits by important figures and holiday celebrations.

Highlife

Meda Gbefa

Jerry Hanson and the Ramblers Dance Band

Meda Gbefa is a Highlife song that brings people together to celebrate community.

Akpeteshie

This song is a good example of the pure Highlife style. You can hear the upbeat bell pattern drive the ensemble. The lyrics are a sort of public service announcement: “Drinking and driving is not good. If you are drinking, don’t drive, because safety is important.” The song also provides an excellent opportunity to get up and dance!

Dance the Body Music

Osibisa

This is music meant to make you feel so happy.

Baa sumo me

This is a hit highlife song by Kojo Antwi that is about missing the one you love. The lyrics translate to: “Come and love me. Since you have gone, I keep thinking about you when i go to bed at night. When i wake up in the morning, there are a lot of tears that have filled my pillow. So please come and love me. Since you have gone, there has been no moon to show me a path to walk on. When the sun shines, it makes me feel like it’s raining. So what is happening to me now? I will throw the stars to you to show you how much I love you. I miss you so dearly so please come back and love me.”

Medzago

Agboti Yawo

This song is about a lover who has done wrong and is asking for forgiveness.

Oblayuko

Oblayuko is a song about a friend of mine who is in a hurry to go and have fun. I was sleeping when my friend came and invited me to Tema (club) to eat, drink and dance. She is beautiful and outgoing and was in a hurry to go to Tema. I ask why she is in a hurry and she says, “I’m in a hurry to go and have fun.”

Personnel

West African Highlife Ensemble

Jonny Jyemo and Ransom Christofferson, drum set

Grant Mueller

Brennen Oliver

Benji Robinson

JP Sillick

Upcoming performances

📍 Ticketed events 📺 Live broadcast at cupresents.org

Sunday, April 14

Japanese Ensemble 📍

2 p.m., Grusin Music Hall

University Singers and

University Choir 📍

7:30 p.m., Grusin Music Hall

Tuesday, April 16

Latin Jazz Percussion Ensemble 📍

7:30 p.m., Grusin Music Hall

Wednesday, April 17

Symphonic Band and Concert Band 📍

7:30 p.m., Macky Auditorium

Thursday, April 18

Wind Symphony 📍

7:30 p.m., Macky Auditorium

Saturday, April 20

Boulder Laptop Orchestra (BLOrk) 📍

Songs of Space

7 p.m., Fiske Planetarium

Tuesday, April 23

Campus Orchestra 📍

7:30 p.m., Macky Auditorium

Wednesday, April 24

Concert Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble II 📍

7:30 p.m., Macky Auditorium

April 25-28

Eklund Opera Program:

The Turn of the Screw 📍

An opera by Benjamin Britten

7:30 p.m., Music Theatre

Tuesday, April 30

CU Symphony Orchestra 📍

7:30 p.m., Macky Auditorium

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