World Music Percussion Ensemble
Hafiz Shabazz, director

Songs of Change: The music of Fela Kuti,
Bob Marley and Cheikh Lô

Funded in part by the William D. 1905 and Besse M. Blatner Fund No. 1, the Bruce Webb Eaken 1926 Memorial Fund and Hopkins Center Performance Fund No. 2.
Program

Jeunesse Sénégal
Cheikh Lô, Senegal
Who the Cap Fit
Aston and Carlton Barrett, Jamaica
Zombie
Fela Kuti, Nigeria
Redemption Song
Bob Marley, Jamaica
Softly as a Morning Sunrise
Sigmund Romberg and Oscar Hammerstein II,
version by Charles Lloyd, US
Is this Love
Bob Marley
Water Get No Enemy
Fela Kuti
Sabar
Traditional dance music, Senegal
Gumbe
Recreational dance rhythm, Senegal
Dansa
Celebration rhythm, Mali
Get Up, Stand Up
Bob Marley and the Wailers, version
by Malcolm’s Locks, St. Lucia

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Anthony Cantile C drumset
Jasmine Collins ’21 vocals
Jack Dunn ’21 marimba
Robert Freitas C djun djun and hand percussion
Solomon Flores C Hand percussion
Tom Morrow C Percussion
Zoe Sands ’18 vocals
Andrew Siegel ’19 percussion
Nicholas Valenzuela ’18 percussion

Additional band members:
Ron Smith saxophone
Rafael Flores guitar and tres
Jon Weeks flute and saxophone, arranger
Rudi Weeks bass
Abe Sanchez piano

C=Community Member
Program Notes

Our concert tonight consists of music from Nigeria, West Africa—songs inspired by social justice—and Jamaica, the land of reggae and Bob Marley. There is a message in the music, a message that speaks to humanity and for the need to protect and respect the rights of others. The concert also includes music from Senegal’s Cheikh Lô, with a word for the youth.

All the artists whose music we present tonight have similar beliefs and have written music to reflect those thoughts and realities. Cheikh Lô was born in 1955 in Bobo Dioulasso, outside of Burkina Faso. He worked as a recording session musician and, when he lived in Paris, played for a time with Afro pop star Papa Wemba. He later developed a relationship with Senegalese superstar singer and composer Youssou N’Dour. Cheikh has a message for the youth of Senegal, to be proud and to stand up for their homeland.

It is almost impossible to overstate the impact and importance of Fela Ransome Kuti, or just Fela, as the global musical village more commonly knows him. Born on October 15, 1938, he died on August 2, 1997, and was a producer, arranger, musician and political radical. As a musical, social, political voice he is on par with Bob Marley and speaks for the people. Fela fueled and invigorated the politically charged atmosphere of Nigeria with musical ideas of change and the need to address the lack of human rights and justice for the poor and vulnerable.

Jamaican singer, musician and songwriter Bob Marley served as a world ambassador for reggae music and sold more than 20 million records throughout his career—making him the first international superstar to emerge from the so-called Third World. He was born on February 6, 1945, in St Ann Parish, Jamaica; in 1963, he and his friends formed the Wailing Whalers and began to take the music world by storm. He died at age 36 in Miami, Florida, on May 11, 1981.

About the Artists

Hafiz Shabazz director is an ethnomusicologist, percussionist, performer and lecturer. He teaches courses on improvisation and non-Western music. He has studied at the University of Ghana, the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil, and in Cuba with master drummers and folklorists. He has performed with Max Roach, Lionel Hampton, Julius Hemphill and Alhaji Bia Konte, Master Cora and Griot of Gambia, West Africa. Shabazz toured for many years with Wind and Thunder, a group devoted to improvisational jazz and non-Western music. He has toured France, the Caribbean and extensively throughout Canada and the United States. He has taught at the University of California at Berkeley and Duke University, and has lectured in over 500 schools and universities. He is an initiated member of the Ancestral Shrine of the Ashanti Nation in Ghana, has authored articles for the Black Music Research Journal, and was a consultant with John Chernoff in the writing of African Rhythms and African Sensibilities.
Upcoming Events

Barbary Coast Jazz Ensemble
Taylor Ho Bynum, director
Fri • February 24 • 8 pm
Eight innovative guest artists join the Coast for a concert of contemporary big band music, including Bynum originals.

Daymé Arocena
Thu • April 12 • 7 pm
Dazzling young Havanian sings Afro-Cuban music suffused with jazz, soul and funk.

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