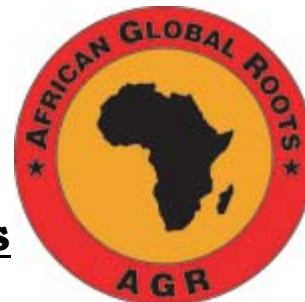


African Global Roots'
First Annual
African Arts Festival



Sponsors, Partners and Performers

African News Journal, Bashe Said

- www.anjnews.com

Mshale News

- www.mshale.com

Joe Waruimbo (Soljams Entertainment) - DJ

- waruimbo@gmail.com



M.anifest

www.myspace.com/manifestations

M.anifest is a rapidly rising Hip-Hop artist born in Accra, Ghana and resident in Minneapolis. Voted CityPages Songwriter of the year (2008), M.anifest has captivated the attention of music fans and critics alike with a powerful mélange of aesthetically relevant music with an enchanting quality of social mindfulness. He has been described as an artist with “an incredible gift” (the run off groove) who possesses “ the kind of assured, joyful, ruminative voice that made Mos Def into Hollywood's favorite conscious-rap star.” (City Pages).

His widely embraced and critically acclaimed 2007 debut, "manifestations," earned him high praise and a good number of top albums of the year honors and mentions. The Star Tribune, named manifestations as one of the top 5 albums of 2007, and asks “What's a rapper from Ghana who's as smart as Talib Kweli and as funky as Kanye West doing in Minnesota?” He has that rare accessible yet uncompromising sound to his music with the ability to effortlessly mold his transnational experience into amazing songs – classic sounding songs with skillful and literate lyrics over African inspired rhythms and melodies.



Hayor Bibimma

Francis Kofi: Artistic Director/Choreographer/Drummer/Dancer

Hayor Bibimma Dance Company is a Twin Cities based West African dance group specialized in traditional West African drumming, dance and storytelling. Hayor Bibimma's aim is to increase public participation in traditional African performing arts, enhance cultural awareness, and ease public accessibility to the richness of African heritage. The establishment of this company invariably ensures the survival of certain traditional African dances, the symbolic meaning of movements, as well as the accompanying music, songs, stories, and their cultural significance. With conscientious attention to styles and presentation, Hayor Bibimma will perpetuate tradition and infuse it with a contemporary twist, weaving a tapestry of cultural richness. This genre appeals to the curious, and the connected and kindred spirits of all ages. Thus the company is aptly named “Hayor Bibimma” which means “bringing the masses of Mother Africa together.”

www.hayorbibimmadance.org



Utamaduniwear

Representative: Eva Githina

Utamaduni is the Kiswahili word for “tradition” it is often used to refer to culture and tradition. Africa’s traditional culture has been forgotten in so many ways and the purpose of Utamaduni wear is to revive African fashion and style in a very unique way by merging today’s ever changing trends with traditional fabrics, accessories, and essence.

www.utamaduniwear.com



BothDol Fashion**Nyamal B. Dol (designer and founder)**

BothDol Fashion is to create different varieties of styles and trends of all individuals....styles that stand out and are different. BothDol Fashion is a world of fashion affecting other backgrounds and cultures, not just American or African. When it comes to culture, BothDol fashion will bring out the positive of both cultures. Nyamal is an inspiring designer and a model based on the love she has for the fashion industry. As an inspiring designer and a model, it never hurts to take a chance, so she learned to never be afraid of the world around her.

www.bothdolfashion.com

**T.R. Mayes**

www.myspace.com/trmayes

**Helmie Teketay (Left) & Lidiya Alem (Right)**

Helmie & Lidya are proud Ethiopians who currently live in St.Cloud, Minnesota where they are working on achieving their degrees in Biomedical Science and Psychology respectively. Dancing and performing is one of their passions. They have danced together for more than 3 years and like to describe their dance as diverse, energizing and inspiring. Besides representing their beautiful Ethiopian dance culture, they also perform North African, West African and Hip Hop dance cultures.

**Shadia Ouma - Bellydancer**

www.fireofdance.com

Shadia is a featured soloist, accomplished dance teacher, of middle eastern, african, and flamenco dance. She is the artistic director and choreographer of Raks Bedawi, and a leather designer (www.artemisleathers.com).

**Damion Rhudd - Poet and Spoken Word Artist**

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Damion's poems emotively mirror the struggles of inner-city living, poverty, and upward mobility. His perspective is deeply influence by traditional forms of Jamaican folk and reggae music, which were the primary means of expression that the Africans who were taken to Jamaica had. He presents his poem in *dub*; a form of spoken word that is typically interwoven with the songs of voices and drums. His undulating tales seek to balance the simple with the complex, as he attempts to explain the journey that West Africans have taken from the coast of Ghana, through the shores of Jamaica, and into the United States. Buju Banton, and Muta Baruka are frequently quoted or sung throughout his pieces so "tek a walk wid Damion, him ave sumting fi seh."

**Jumoke Famuyide****▪ Simply Gorgeous By JFam**

Our company is based on the belief that our customers' needs are of the utmost importance. Our entire team is committed to meeting those needs. As a result, a high percentage of our business is from repeat customers and referrals. Our woodin accessories are made with high quality African materials and jewelries are specially put together by JFam herself to make your look unique. www.simplygorgeousstore.com

**Gradieh**

24 year old licensed professional cosmetologist with God given talent. She has been doing hair for 5 years and make up for 1 year. She currently works in Brooklyn Park at PHEME Hair Design.