Faculty Recital with Tendai Muparutsa

featuring

Afro-Centric

Tendai Muparutsa
guitar, lead vocals, mbira, percussion

Zivanai Zi Masango
lead guitar, backing vocals, percussion

Ben Isaacs
bass guitar, percussion

Jon Paul George
drums

Afro-Centric will be announcing their selections from the stage.

Saturday, March 14, 2015
8:00 p.m.
Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

No photography or recording without permission.
Please turn off or mute cell phones, audible pagers, etc.

See music.williams.edu for full details and to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

Upcoming Events:

Sun Mar 15 3:00pm André-Michel Schub, piano - Visiting Artist Series
Mon Mar 16 4:15pm Piano Master Class with André-Michel Schub
Wed Mar 18 12:15pm MIDWEEKMUSIC
Thu Mar 19 7:00pm Williams Brass Ensemble: “Brass Bash”
Tue Apr 7 4:15pm Violin Master Class: Gryphon Trio
Tue Apr 7 4:15pm Piano Master Class: Gryphon Trio
Tue Apr 7 4:15pm Cello Master Class: Gryphon Trio
Tue Apr 7 8:00pm Gryphon Trio - Visiting Artist Series
Thu Apr 9 4:15pm Master Class with Anthony De Mare, piano
Fri Apr 10 8:00pm Anthony De Mare & the Liaisons Project - Visiting Artist Series
Sat Apr 11 8:00pm The Nile Project - Visiting Artist Series
Tue Apr 14 4:15pm 1960 Lecture with Prof. David Lang
Wed Apr 15 12:15pm MIDWEEKMUSIC in the Chapel
Fri Apr 17 8:00pm Wallace Roney Quintet - Visiting Artist Series
Sat Apr 18 8:00pm Williams Percussion Ensemble

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Tendai Muparutsa

Tendai Muparutsa is an internationally known performer, music educator, ethnomusicologist and bandleader. He participates in a multitude of Zimbabwean and African music circles in North America, and collaborates with musicians and instructors from all over Africa. His work encompasses everything from performing with afro-pop groups to teaching at African music camps to directing mbira, marimba and dance ensembles. His high energy, humor and passion for sharing African music delight audiences and students alike. Tendai co-directs Kusika and the Zambezi Marimba Band.

Tendai’s research has been diverse and his passions are many. He has explored, through both academic study and personal experience, the following: the music of Southern Africa; general music education with an emphasis on multicultural philosophy; popular music; jazz history; music and gender; African and African-American music collaborations in diasporas; and African choral music styles and how they interact with North American styles. His enthusiasm for cross-cultural music experiences results in many rich and exciting collaborative projects.

Tendai Muparutsa graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Zimbabwe in 2004, and graduated from the University of Idaho with a Masters in Music Education in 2008. He recently completed his Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology at the University of Alberta, Canada. While still in Zimbabwe, he taught at both elementary schools and at the university level. In North America, he has presented his research at major ethnomusicology and educational conferences such as ICTM and Washington Music Educators Conference.

Jonny Jyemo

Jonny Jyemo Jonny’s drumming is a fixture in Colorado’s world music scene. He has played with musicians from all over the world and is known for his chameleon-like ability to adapt to the specific style of any musical situation. Best known for his work in the musical styles that encourage dancing- Salsa, Reggae, Funk, Samba, and of course, African, Jonny is right at home on the drumset keeping the beat for Tendai.

ProfessorSlap aka Ben Isaacs

Bassist, Percussionist, Guitarist, Composer, Arranger, Recording Engineer, Producer: ProfessorSlap has been playing music his whole life. Starting with violin at age 7, he went through trumpet, guitar, piano, voice, clarinet and saxophone during his youth. When 19, he was introduced to West African percussion. This started a passionate connection with hand percussion that has grown and expanded for the last 27 years. He also started playing bass at that same time, and has been working bumping the low end in many different styles, from American Funk, Rock, Jazz, Hip-hop and R&B to working with many African artists from many different countries on the African Continent. He has taught and still teaches private and group lessons for both adults and children, performing from large venues to living rooms, from school assemblies to festivals. For him, music is a language that has no boundaries, and he plays with his full heart and soul behind every note expressed. Ben Isaacs went to Humboldt State University and comes from San Francisco, CA.

Zivanai Zi Masango

Zivanai Masango is a “musicians’ musician.” Although he is primarily one of the most exciting Southern African guitarists, his work as a songwriter, arranger, producer/engineer, music educator and multi-instrumentalist has garnered for him a lot of respect even amongst some of the world’s leading musicians. He has played on some of the world’s most prestigious stages from The Hollywood Bowl to The Blue Note and everything in between, playing with such a wide array of acclaimed artists and bands as Oliver Mtukudzi, Thomas Mapfumo, Playing For Change Band, Giovanni Hidalgo, The String Cheese Incident, The Motet, Alvin Slaughter, Bushman and many others. Recently, he has embarked on a solo recording career that is quickly establishing him as one of the torchbearers of African and World Music into the future. Just like his guitar playing, Zivanai’s work as a recording artist and band leader disregards categorization and reflects the various influences that have shaped him into the maverick musician he is today.