

Curriculum Vitea

Abdoulaye Dieng (aka Laye Ananas)

Ambassador of culture for Senegal; creator/manager of *Lions Of Africa*; teacher and choreographer of traditional african dance and percussion.

Collaborations

Performances with Youssou N'Dour, Ismael Lo, Coumba Gaolo Seck, Senemali and Nene Cheri. Worked with Germain Jackson, Jackson dancers and Carlos Santana.

Achievements

Nominated as advisor to the mayor of Dakar.

Rewarded and congratulated by Senegal President and Minister of Culture.

Named official ambassador of senegalese culture in Holland, after becoming an official citizen of The Netherlands.

Participated in Abdoulaye Wade's presidential victory, in his 1999 election campaign.

Supporting and recruiting artists in Senegal/Africa.

Teaching traditional african dance, acrobatics and percussion.

Forming Lions of Africa.

Successfully carrying Lions of Africa across Europe for the past 16 years.

Performing and welcoming royal and political figures to Senegal, with Lions of Africa (now official greeters for ceremonial welcomes).

These authority figures include:

-Mohammed VI, Morocco

-President George W. Bush, United States

-President Yahya A.J.J. Jammeh, Gambia

Invitations to all important festivals, opening ceremonies, and celebratory events in Senegal.

Renown festival performances and workshops the globe.

Tours and performances outside Africa

Gambia, Mauretania, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Tunis, Algeria, Mali, Burkina Faso in 2000.

Belgium tour, 2001, after special invite by Bureau Pimpernel (2000).

The Netherlands, 2002-2003, after a Bidiw Productions invite, Amsterdam.

Oreol Festival, The Netherlands, 2004.

Odoorn Cioff Festival, The Netherlands, 2005.

Arhus Festival, Denmark.

European Festival Paderborn, Germany, 2007.

Mela Festival, Norway, 2007.

Rencontres de Folklores Internationales, Switzerland, 2007.

Arhus Festival and various festival tour, Denmark, 2007.

Current & up-coming projects

Workshops in Germany, November 2007.

Black Dance Festival, Austria, November 2007.

Mikolajki Folkowe Lublin, Poland, December 2007.

Tentative Scandinavian tour, 2008.

Canadian festival tour, summer 2008.