

Press kit · percussion, dance and acrobatics

Mama Afrika

A collective from Dakar that has become one of the most vivid African groups working in Germany.

Formed
Dakar, 1987

Based in
Köln, Germany

On stage
Percussion, dance, acrobatics, voices

Own festival
MitAfrika, since 2005

Biography

Mama Afrika *le Village* is a percussion group founded in Dakar in 1987, and for years now one of the most vivid African groups working in Germany. The collective brings together percussionists, dancers, acrobats and singers.

The repertoire rests on the exploding rhythms of the sabar and djembé drums, set against the sharp phrases of the small tama hourglass drum and the harmonic sound of balafon and kora. The musicians hold to the rich traditions of their part of Africa and are masters of their instruments — something they have proved across a great many concerts.

Together they win over an audience with performances that belong to no one else, without ever losing sight of what the work is for: the intercultural exchange that builds mutual respect and understanding. A life without music is unimaginable to them. In Africa, music means life.

On stage

Sabar · Djembé · Tama · Balafon · Kora · Dance · Acrobatics · Voices

Selected engagements

1997	Weltkindertag, Köln, with WDR
2000	The African Project — WDR Big Band, Kölner Philharmonie; Expo 2000, Hannover
2001	Tour of Poland
2002	Tour of Japan
2003	Karneval tour and Höhner anniversary, Kölnarena; Rockin Roncalli Show

2004	Gemeinsam für Afrika — UNICEF, Zeche Zollverein, Kölnmesse, Arena Düsseldorf
2005	First MitAfrika Festival, three days — their own event; Weltjugendtag with ARD
2012	Afrikarevue “NGOON” — autumn tour of nineteen cities
2014	Tenth MitAfrika Festival; Summerjam
2015	Afrika Festival Würzburg
2023	Seventeenth MitAfrika Festival, Schokoladenmuseum Köln

Live & for programmers

What you book

A collective, sized to the stage: percussion, dance and acrobatics, from a small ensemble to a full revue.

Travel

Based in Köln, so German and neighbouring dates travel by road, with no visas needed inside Schengen.

Technical

A technical sheet is prepared per formation, once the size of the group is agreed.

Photos













Listen & watch

Website

mama-afrika.de

Booking

For festivals, concerts and collaborations, get in touch:

Tour agent

Mamafrika Productions

Tour manager

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