# Siama Matuzungidi

Congolese composer / acoustic guitarist / mbira and balafon player with a spirited singing style

## AWARDS/HONORS:

- 2018: MSAB Community Partners grant
- 2016-17: Midwest Regional Council Next Step grant
- 2017: Joined COMPAS Roster of Teaching Artists
- 2016: MSAB Arts Learning grant
- 2015-6: MSAB Artist Initiative grant

(concert and teach library workshops in Grand Marais) (original children's CD: "The Land of Yangalele") (teach African singing and spontaneous songwriting) (teach songwriting residency: Woodland Hills-Duluth) (original CD: "Rivers-from the Congo to the Mississippi")

- 2014-15 McKnight Fellowship for Performing Musicians
- 2009: African Global Roots Award

Musical styles:	Soukous, Rumba, Traditional Congolese Music and Central African blues
Languages:	Kikongo, Lingala, French, Swahili, English

# 2018 PROJECTS

- Celebrations and media for new original kids' CD, "The Land of Yangalele"
- Songwriting Workshops and Private Lessons
- Interactive African singing programs and Instrument Petting Zoo for kids and families
- Composing new thumb piano and balafon songs for CD recording session in May 2018
- Composed/recorded jingle for "Radioactive Kids" radio program
- Performances: 50+ MN libraries, Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Ordway/Flint Hill Family Fest, Pilgrimage Festival-Nashville, TN, school programs in Birmingham, AL, Riversong Festival-Hutchinson, Lanesboro Arts Festival, Channel 6, Cedar Cultural Center, Hook and Ladder, MSP Airport, In the Heart of the Beast Theater, Reif Center-Grand Rapids, Arrowhead Performance Theater-Grand Marais and many more

## **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- 2017: **TPT/PBS "Lowertown Line":** 30-minute special program featuring original songs, aired nationwide **Released original CD**: "The Land of Yangalele"
  - Artist's Residency to compose new music at Tofte Lake Center-Ely, MN Taught Songwriting/Singing Class at Huge Improv Theater, Minneapolis CD ("Rivers") chosen for MN Spin (Hennepin County Library digital streaming program) Key Performances: Minneapolis Institute of Art, Ordway/Flint Hills Family Fest, Global Market, Open Streets, several libraries, Women's March, Augsburg College, Parkway Theater, St. Paul Saints, Pantages Theater, Central Park-Red Wing, Off the Page-Winona, Bayfront Reggae Festival-Duluth, Selby Jazz Fest, several Twin Cities festivals and park events, Change Makers Ball, Tofte Lake Center-Ely and more Media Appearances: TPT/PBS, KFAI, KBEM, Baby Blue Arts
- 2016: Songwriting residency with young men of Woodland Hills Academy in Duluth Summer residency for Minneapolis Institute of Art's monthly Family Art Days Joined COMPAS' roster of teaching artists (singing and music-making programs for children) Released original CD ("Rivers-from the Congo to the Mississippi"): with a "Song of the Day" on The Current Composed music for an acrobatics routine with aerial and horses Key Performances: Como Conservatory, Lowertown Guitar Fest, Loring Folk Fest, Bedlam Theatre, Rhythm in Rice, Austin Art Works Fest, Pangea World Theatre, First Step Initiative, Ordway/Flint Hills Children's Fest, Z Puppet's event, Open Streets, Bridging Fest, Wee Wednesdays at Global Market, MacPhail Center for Music, Intermedia Arts, Banyan Community, Southside Nurturing Center Media Appearances & features: KFAI, KBEM, Songlines Magazine, MPR, WPR, BBC, Afropop Worldwide, WNYC, Star Tribune, The Current, KBEM, KFAI, Paradigms and more
- 2015: Met with 50 people whose role intersects with music, to learn how to proceed with new solo career Key Performances: Ordway/Flynt Hills Children's Fest, Children's Hospital, Open Streets, Target Field, Afrik TV, Midtown Farmer's Market, Global Market, Hosmer Library World Music, Patrick's Cabaret, International Fest-Worthington, Rhubarb Fest-Duluth, appearances on KFAI, MTN, Composer Quest
- 2014: Change Maker's Ball, Family Day at MIA, received McKnight Fellowship, launched solo career
- 2012: Guest appearance with Playing for Change at the Ordway Theatre for the Performing Arts
- 2011: National Folk Festival in Nashville-Samba Mapangala, Cedar Cultural Center-Nirmala Rajasekar, Brass Kings
- 2010: Musical Director for Mixed Blood Theatre's production, "Ruined"
- 2010: Cedar Cultural Center with Samba Mapangala
- 2007: Walker Arts Center performance with renowned Congolese choreographer Faustin Linyekula
- 1998: Winnipeg Folk Festival with Kanda Bongo Man

## US DISCOGRAPHY

Unreleased original songs

2017-18: Luzingu, Congo River, Bana Bafioti, Ngoya, Dunia, Yakulia, Mbube, Kuja Hapa

Self-titled releases featuring all original songs

- 2017: THE LAND OF YANGALELE Bakongo Chant (Welcome), Monkey Game, ABCD, It's So Easy to Make a Song, Ko Yimbi Ko, Sweet Water, Auntie's Song, When We're Free, Nalingi Bosembo, Bakongo Chant (Journey)
- 2016: RIVERS FROM THE CONGO TO THE MISSISSIPPI Jungle Zombie, Maisha Mazuri, Bolingo, Kueya, Malembe, Sisili, Yolanda, Ndombolo, Oyayeyo, Mpevo, Mombasa, Yele Yele
- 2012: SOUKOUS Africa, Mangale, Fifi, Yele, Sisili, Mombasa, Malembe, Babakala, Kweya, Mpimpa

## **AFRICA DISCOGRAPHY**

The following is a partial list of recorded songs featuring Siama on guitar with Siama's original songs in **bold**. Each entry in this list begins with the recording artist name followed by song title(s).

IBEBA SYSTEM - Fifi, Kathy, Majale Arthur, Dunia Hakuna Bingwa

CAVACHA - Bomoto, Bakota, Mavasi

L'ORCHESTRE KOMBE KOMBE - Mimi, Nyako-Nzanzi, Saba Saba, Sau-Sauda, Souzy Body, Shanty Shanty

LOVY LONGOMBA - Pitie, Mete, Lomama, Annie, Elee, Etali Yomoko, Tika Na Lela

- JIMMY MONIMAMBO (aka Moni Mambo) with SHIKA SHIKA **Sisili**, **Fifi**, **Ma Lily**, **Bomoto**, **Rebeca**, Amba, Bibi Tamaa, Balula, Cherie Lala, Diana, Diabanza Daina Akinyi, Fumata, Hadija, Inyo, Kanindo, Kende Nayo Makopa, Massa, Mati, Muana Nkoyi, Ndaya, Nakoleba, Nyako Ber, Shika Ahika, Tina, Tika Na Lela, Zainabu
- SAMBA MAPANGALA with VIRUNGA Kweya, Betty, Fonceca, Losako Mabiala, Mansita
- MORENO BATAMBA with MOJA ONE Nyacho, Sister Pili, Dunia Ni Duara, Bibi Harusi, Mwana Dada, Kua Mali, Urembo Si Hoja, Mali Kwa Mali, Pili Mswahili, Vidonge Sitaki, Mapenzi Ya Shida, Biasha, Wanitoa Mapenzi, Angela, Vituko Majengo, Bibi Harusi, Mapenzi ya Mshumaa, Mali kwa Mali, Manimba, Sister She, Situtaki Tena, Sitaki Mambo, Tusijuane, Wakati Umefika, Wakeza Watu, Kaka Punguza Wivu, Mapenzi Mali
- SAMMY KASULE Kuku penda (Kuusudu), Pesa Kuja, Zongolo
- GEORGE KALOMBO & VIVA MAKALE Mandola Lobanzo, Bibi Mdogo, Akamba, Bikumbakumba, Mwana Manyema, Tshanti, Safari, Kulu Koko, Mbongo ni Pesa, Mama Nala

#### **PERFORMANCE** (*Partial list of bands/collaborators*)

#### In DR Congo, Uganda, Zambia, Kenya, Dubai & Japan:

Dona Mobeti with Cavasha, George Kalambo with Viva Makale, Kanda Bongo Man with Bela Mambo, Ibeba System, L'orchestre Kombe, Lovy Longomba, Moni Mambo with Shika Shika, Tshala Muana, Samba Mapangala with Virunga

## In America & Canada:

Playing for Change, Larry Long, JD Steele, Nirmala Rajasekar, Tim Sparks, Tenzin Ngawang, Mike Munson, Kanda Bongo Man, Samba Mapangala, Faustin Linyekula, Brass Kings, Shangoya, Socaholix, Cyril Psul, Marimba Africa, Siama's Afrobilly, Siama's Congo Roots, Siama's World Quartet, Papa Siama with Auntie Dallas