Look Back, Dance Forward: Tales of Home | Congo/Mozambique

A two-evening program with works by Faustin Linyekula (Democratic Republic of Congo) and Panaibra Gabriel Canda (Mozambique)

Curated and produced by MAPP International Productions and presented in partnership with The Africa Contemporary Arts Consortium

Friday, November 21, 2014
Le Cargo
Created, choreographed and performed by Faustin Linyekula

Saturday, November 22, 2014
Time and Spaces: The Marrabenta Solos
Created and choreographed by Panaibra Gabriel Canda
Composer & Musician Jorge Domingos
Performed by Panaibra Gabriel Canda & Jorge Domingos

Technical Director Tim Cryan
Company Manager Virginie Dupray

Le Cargo is approximately 1 hour with no intermission.

Time and Spaces: The Marrabenta Solos is approximately 1 hour 10 minutes with no intermission.

Join the artists for a conversation with the audience following each performance.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Dancer and choreographer Faustin Linyekula, lives and works in Kisangani (Democratic Republic of Congo). After studying literature and drama in Kisangani, Linyekula moved to Nairobi in 1993 where, in 1997, he founded the Gaara Company, Kenya’s first contemporary dance company. Upon his return to the Congo in 2001, Linyekula created Studios Kabako — a space dedicated to the creation of dance, visual and theatre works — and a training and research support center, where he has since created more than ten dance-theatre pieces with the company.

Some of Linyekula’s more recent creations include Pour en finir avec Bérénice (2010), an adaptation of Jean Racine’s piece previously staged for the Comédie Française in Paris; Le Cargo (2011), his first solo, for which he was artistic director, choreographer and performer; and Drums and Digging, a piece choreographed for seven performers that toured Europe in 2013. In 2009 he choreographed, directed and performed more more more… future, which toured Europe and Africa extensively, and which was brought to the U.S. by MAPP International Productions. more more more… future won a 2012 Bessie Award for New York Dance & Performance. In 2012, Linyekula was one of six choreographers in New York’s Museum of Modern Art’s series, Some sweet day, performing a specially commissioned project, What Is Black Music Anyway… Self-Portraits. Other collaborations include a duet performed and choreographed with Raimung Hoghe (Sans-titre, 2009) and a piece he choreographed for 25 dancers with the Ballet de Lorraine in Nancy, La Création du monde 1923-2012.

Beyond being recognized as a respected performer, choreographer and artistic director across Europe, Africa and the United States, Linyekula is deemed an innovative thinker of nonprofit arts leadership and creative and artistic place-making in Africa, leading conversations with peers and emerging artists about their creative trajectories and how these may have impacted or healed their respective communities. Linyekula frequently teaches in Africa, Europe (Impulstanz, CNDC Angers and PARTS) and has taught in the United States (University of Florida-Gainesville, University of Arizona-Tempe). He is an Associate Artist of the KVS Theater in Brussels and a founding member of the Akademie der Künste der Welt in Cologne, Germany. In 2007, Linyekula received the Principal Award of the Prince

FUNDING CREDITS

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Le Cargo is produced by Studios Kabako (Democratic Republic of Congo), and is a co-production with Centre national de la danse (Pantin, France). Support was also provided by the DRAC Ile-de-France/French Ministry of Culture and Communication.

Time and Spaces: The Marrabenta Solos is produced by CulturArte (Maputo, Mozambique), and is a co-production of the Sylt Quelle Cultural Award for Southern Africa 2009, the Goethe Institut (Johannesburg, South Africa) and North Fourth Art Center (Albuquerque, NM).
Canda has won awards and created works that have been presented in the U.S., Africa, Europe and Latin America. In 2006 he won second prize at the African choreographic meeting in Paris for *inside of me another island*. In 2008 he garnered a ZKB Patronage Prize in Zurich, Switzerland for *Mafalala2*. Canda also won the Sylt Quelle Cultural Award for *Time and Spaces: The Marrabenta Solos*.

**Jorge Domingos** is a Mozambican guitarist, born in Maputo, who is part of the generation of musicians who emigrated to South Africa during the civil war in Mozambique in the 1980s. Domingos started his artistic career on bass guitar, then moved to guitar. In 1995 he joined with Gito Baloí’s solo project, playing on international tours and on Gito’s album, *Nakuranda*, as solo guitarist under the artistic name, “George Sunday.” After the death of Gito Baloí in 2004, Domingos moved back to Mozambique. With the help of Chico Antonio and Jorge Gove, he integrated into the music scene. In 2007 Domingos played with Chico’s band at the Francophonie Festival in France; in 2008 Domingos recorded his first DVD, *Marrabenta Rio*; and in 2010 he was invited to join Panaíbra Gabriel Canda as instrumentalist and performer on *Time and Spaces: The Marrabenta Solos*. As a musician, Domingos is influenced by rock and marrabenta, a passion his father Joao Domingos encouraged as a marrabenta singer in the 1980s. From these influences he created a marrabenta-rock style that he continues to develop and explore.

**Tim Cryan** is a New York-based lighting designer whose work has been seen throughout the United States and Europe. Specializing in dance and theatre, Cryan has had the opportunity to collaborate with a variety of artists and companies including East River Commedia (*The Magnificent Cuckold*, and *The Disappearing Woman*), Fiasco Theatre Company (*Cymbeline* and *Twelfth Night*), Nora Chipaumire (*Manifesto*), Steven Petronio (*Quiver*), Martha Graham Dance Company (*Visions from the House of Areus*), Javier Antonio González (*Las minutos de Martí*), Eiko & Koma (*Cambodian Stories Revisited*) and Danspace Project, to name a few. He is a resident lighting designer for Fusionworks Dance Company in Providence, Rhode Island and is an adjunct faculty member for Long Island University’s Dance Department. Cryan has an MFA in lighting design from New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts.
opportunities that nurture conversation and exchange that allow for organic connections to evolve. Between 2004 and 2014, Consortium members have conducted 31 research trips to 19 countries; sponsored 27 U.S. and North American tours introducing African artists to audiences; hosted 27 creative residencies that gave African artists creative time with U.S.-based artists and exposure to the U.S. performing arts field; created, commissioned and supported seven films and essays that re-envision the framework of cultural inscription to effectively introduce artists’ innovative practices to audiences, students and others; conducted 14 reports to the field including meeting in North America, Europe and Africa; and invested more than $3 million in projects and events to date. www.africaartsconsortium.org.

STUDIOS KABAKO
Founded in 2001 by Faustin Linyekula, Studios Kabako is a dance and theatre space as well as a center for training, exchange and creation. Linyekula oversees all of its programs, creates new dance-theatre work for the performing entity of Studios Kabako (which tours internationally), and educates young emerging artists in their craft of dance, music and theatre. Since 2007 Studios Kabako has resettled in Kisangani, and has opened up its activities to new fields including film, video and music. In Kisangani, Studios Kabako delivers regular artistic, technical and administrative workshops, while producing and touring works of other artists, choreographers, actors, musicians and filmmakers. In 2015, Studios Kabako will also open a 4,200-square-foot arts center in Simi Simi (near the Congo River) that will act as a residency and laboratory art center for artists and performers.

In addition to the dance-theatre pieces created and performed by Linyekula, Studios Kabako produces and fosters the debuts of young Congolese artists (three to four projects each year), including Djodjo Kazadi, Papy Ebotani, Dinozord, Moturi Kebaya, Dorine Mokha; musicians Alesh, Pasnas, Flame Kapaya, Trésor Mawece; and film-director Dieudo Hamadi.

MAPP INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTIONS
MAPP International Productions is a nonprofit producer of challenging new works by contemporary performing artists whose projects raise critical consciousness and motivate social change. It is a singular organization that supports all phases of an artist’s creative process, from concept and production to premiere and touring, while also engaging audiences in the issues behind the art. Through this heightened focus, MAPP supports an evolving and elite cadre of creators whose work ignites communities worldwide. Since its founding in 1994, MAPP International has produced 33 acclaimed multidisciplinary performing arts projects created and performed by more than 300 artists and toured to 42 U.S. states and 16 countries. MAPP International has introduced the U.S. public to artists from 25 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia and the Caribbean. www.mappinternational.org.

THE AFRICA CONTEMPORARY ARTS CONSORTIUM
Founded in 2004, The Africa Contemporary Arts Consortium is a landmark program designed to initiate, develop and sustain a dynamic exchange of arts and ideas between artists, arts organizations and public communities throughout the United States and the African continent. The Consortium is dedicated to working with African artists who are interpreting contemporary life through traditional, popular and/or contemporary forms with programs rooted in experiential opportunities that nurture dialogue and exchange, allowing for organic connections to evolve. A partnership of 13 organizations across the United States and eight organization/artist affiliates based in Africa, the Consortium’s programs are rooted in experimental
CULTURARTE

Based in Maputo, Mozambique and led by Panaíbra Gabriel Canda, CulturArte is an independent service organization for choreographers, dancers, independent dance companies and other artists dedicated to the creation of new artistic languages and open to current artistic tendencies on a global scale. Established in 1998, CulturArte — through its Center for the Development of Contemporary Art and Dance — aims to position itself on a regional scale as a southern African choreographic development institute. Its mission is to foster and train young artists and managers, pursue artistic partnerships and collaborations for contemporary performance across the southern African region and initiate dialogue, artist exchanges and the presentation of new concepts. In addition to working with a growing community of contemporary artists in Mozambique, CulturArte has collaborated with several artists throughout the African continent including Boyzie Cekwana, Seló Pesa (South Africa), Ariiti Andriamoratseresy (Madagascar) and Faustin Linyekula/Studios Kabako (Democratic Republic of Congo), as well as with European companies, e.g., from France, Portugal, Belgium and Switzerland.

CulturArte is also a founding organization of Pamoja, a pan-African network serving dance, theatre and music artists across the continent with production resources, rehearsal space and educational opportunities. Along with Studios Kabako (Democratic Republic of Congo), and Andrea Ouamba’s 1er Temps Association (Senegal), Pamoja facilitates networking and collaborative relationships and offers creative residencies for artists in all stages of their careers.