

Joseph Kunnuji is a musician, (ethno)musicologist, composer and trumpeter. His music fuses Yoruba and Ogu musical idioms (from West Africa) and contemporary transcontinental musical elements. With members from diverse musical backgrounds, Kunnuji's band re-interprets his musical heritage with jazz, gospel, pop and soul elements while drawing extensively from modern South African harmonic sensibilities to create a transcendental style with broad accessibility. His research interests centre on marginal musical practices and the reimagining of African musical heritage. He is currently Senior Lecturer in ethnomusicology at the Odeion School of Music.

Radio and television provided Sam Ibeh with resources for learning various rhythmic patterns. He relocated to Lagos State where Rayy Jehovi taught him the rudiments of drumming and reading notated music. He has since worked with iconic Nigerian musicians, including Sammie Okposo, Tee Mac Omatshola Iseli, Onyeka Owenu, Lagbaja, Daniel Wilson, Orits Wiliki, Sunny Neji, Mike, Ron Kenoly, Marvin Winans, Donnie McClurkin and Bishop McClendon. He performs in various African, European, American and Asian cities. In South Africa, he has played with Mbuso Khoza, McCoy Mrubata, Simphiwe Dana, Themba Mkhize, Zoe Modiga, Selaelo Selota, with whom he recorded the album *Lapeng Laka*. He has also worked with Judith Sephuma. His debut album, titled *Grateful*, was released in September 2013.

Chadleigh Gowar was winner of the 2021 Standard Bank Gold Ovation Award and the 2020 Standard Bank Silver Ovation Award. He has now been playing the bass professionally for about a decade and specialises in jazz and gospel genres. He is the current bass player for Kyknet's "Koortjies met Jonathan Rubain", producing a successful Season 1 and a special Christmas edition, "Kersfees en Koortjies". Chadleigh has shared the stage with various musicians, including Yvonne Chaka Chaka, Don Vino, Jarrad Ricketts and the Ward Brothers. He has performed at notable festivals such as the National Arts Festival "Vfringe", the Jazzathon, Jazz on the Rocks "Tietiesbaai" and Jazz Op Die Berg "Taal Monument".

Lonwabo Diba Mafani's teachers include Nishlyn Ramanna, Kingsley Buitendag, and Annali Smith. In 2014 he was selected as the pianist for the Standard Bank National B Band and was re-selected in 2015. Lonwabo played with the late Bra Hugh Masekela. He won the Fine Music Radio Bursary Trust Awards competition for jazz (2019). He has performed on the following albums: The Unity Band album called *Fabric* (2019); McCoy Mrubata album called *Brasskap session Vol.3* (2019); Jo Kunnuji *Experiment and Gogoke* (2019) and Mandisi Dyantyis' album *Cwaka* (2021). He has worked with Lulama Gaulana, Hugh Masekela, McCoy Mrubata, Herbie Tsoaeli, Gareth Walwyn.

Sylvester Aklamavo completed affiliated online certificates in jazz improvisation and music business from the Berklee College of Music. He worked professionally in the Juju and Fuji music, High-life, Maskandi, Reggae, Gospel, Funk, Jazz and Rock genres. He has performed with Bob James, Salif keita, Femi kuti, K1 The Ultimate, Alvin Slaughter, Israel Houghton, Abraham Laboriel, Harvey Mason, King Sunny Ade, Jide Chord, Lionel Loueke, Hugh Masekela, Jimmy Dlodlu and Lawi. He launched his first guitar book titled *The Fretboardist – Complete Mastery of The Guitar Fretboard*.

## **PROGRAMME**

Gogoke band (established 2015): *Awa dagbe*

Fela Kuti (1938–1997): *Lady*

Sagbohan Daniolou (Born 1951): *A mon noude*

Bheki Mseleku (1955–2008): *Nantes Inkhulilekho*

Oumou Sangere (Born 0968): *Mousolou*

Hugh Masekela (1939–2018): *Nomali*

Oliver Mtukutzi (1952–2019): *Neria*

Caiphus Semenya (Born 1939): *Ndi-phendule*

Jo Kunnuji (Born 1981): *Ekaabo*

Angelique Kidjo (Born 1960): *Sedjedo*

Ogu traditional song: *Wayi jegbe*