



Evening Concert Series

2013–2014 Season

Helen M. Hosmer Hall

Sunday, November 24, 7:30 PM

West African Drum and Dance Ensemble **Julie Hunter, director**

Martin Kwaku Kwaakye Obeng,
Guest Instructor and Artist

Kpatsa (Traditional)

Shayoo Le
Kpatsa Kpatsa Le Samba

Kpatsa is music and dance of the Ga-Adangme ethnic group of southern coastal Ghana, and is popular as a form of entertainment at funerals and festivals. It has historically been performed as a coming-of-age dance for girls prior to marriage. It is said that this style of music originated among dwarfs, and that the off-kilter and low-to-the-ground dancing reflects the movements of dwarfs. Instrumentation includes *nonota* (iron double bell), *toke* (boat-shaped bell), *shakeshe* (gourd rattle), *mi* (lead hand drum), *sogo* (large stick drum), *kidi* (medium stick drum), and *kagan* (small stick drum).

Oprenten Solo

Martin K. Obeng

Martin Kwaku Kwaakye Obeng
Katherine Doe
Julie Hunter
Liam Kingsley
Christine Pando
Elizabeth Parkes
Sean Shibata

Kpanlogo (Traditional)

Kayie Me Maame Ee
Ose Aye
Salam Malekum
Cho Boi
Ante Ayelevi

Kpanlogo is a Ga recreational genre from southern Ghana typically played at funerals, festivals, and parties. It developed in the 1950s during Ghana's independence period. The song lyrics and dance movements embody the lifestyle of urban West African youth. Instrumentation includes *mi* (hand drums), *nonota* (double iron bell), *shakeshe* (gourd shaker), *dodampo* (small iron bell), and *tamalin* (frame drums). The audience is encouraged to join us at the end for this dance.

Martin Kwaku Kwaakye Obeng has visited and worked with the ensemble several times during the semester. He is a well-renowned drummer, composer, dancer, and educator originally from Ghana who has worked internationally for the past 30 years. He began drumming at the age of five, and by seventeen he was appointed Royal Court Drummer to the high chief of the Aburi-Akuapim region of the Eastern Region of Ghana. He toured as a drummer and dancer with Ghana's National Arts Council Folkloric Company, and later moved to the United States where he has continued to perform traditional music of West Africa, in addition to jazz, Latin music, reggae, and different fusions of these styles. He teaches at Brown University, and has shared the stage with such luminaries as Max Roach, Roy Hargrove, Randy Weston, Anthony Braxton, Gideon Alorwoyie, and Obo Addy.

Ensemble Performers

John Alecci
Bridgid Bergin
Erin Bonner
Katherine Doe
Amanda Fortgang
Liam Kingsley
Christine Pando
Elizabeth Parkes
Anri Sasaki
Sean Shibata
Brent Spreter
Mitchell Vanier
Kathryn Waters

Additional Guests

Karen Davila
Hannah Dunker
ZiAsia Jefferys
Daniel Laskaris
Israel Payero
Zaire Portier
Jasmine Ruiz
Aidan Talbot
Phyllis Taylor
Shane Vennee

Special Thanks

Dean Michael Sitton, Kirk Severtson, Nelly Case, Martin Obeng, Yaw Atiso,
Elizabeth Parkes, Lorelei Murdie, Kathleen Jandreau, Karen Miller,
Jason Hunter, Linda and David Hunter, Crane Student Association and
Department of Music Theory, History and Composition.

In order to ensure a pleasant concert experience for both performers and audience, please refrain from:

- Entering or leaving during the performance.
- Bringing food or drink into the concert hall.
- Taking flash photographs.
- Using electronic devices (please completely turn off any devices that make sounds or have glowing screens).

Children who are able to sit quietly during the performance are welcome to our concerts.

Audio/video recording of performances is strictly prohibited without permission of the performers!

Thank you!

In Case of Fire Emergency

Leave the building immediately by walking to the nearest safe exit. Once outside, please move fifty feet away from the building and safely away from emergency traffic. Do not return to the building until authorities indicate that it is safe to do so.