10-17-2011

Concert: African Drumming and Dance Ensemble

African Drumming and Dance Ensemble

Baruch Whitehead

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African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
Baruch Whitehead, Director
Sulley Imoro, Special Guest
Shelia Royster, Soloist

Ford Hall
Monday, October 17, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Program

Dance of the Calabash
African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
Nigerian

Takai
Ithaca Seminar Worlds of Music Class
Dagomba, Northern Ghana

Agbegkor
African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
Ewe, War Dance

Fume Fume
African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
Ritual and spiritual dance of the Ga people of Southern Ghana

Bo BoBo
Ithaca Seminar Worlds of Music Class
Ewe, Northern Ghana

Bamaya
African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
Dagomba, Northern Ghana

Oh Happy Day
Edwin Hawkins/arr. B. Whitehead
Shelia Royster, (Detroit, Michigan) soloist
Ithaca College Modern Dance Class
African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
Ithaca Seminar Worlds of Music Class
Biographies

Special Guest

Mr. Sulley Imoro began learning African drumming and dance from his father when he was eight years old. His father, also a popular dancer, was known throughout Ghana. Sulley was eager to follow in his father’s footsteps. “Anytime in the village when we didn’t have entertainment, Father would bring the drums out and play,” he said. “Sometimes we didn’t have light in the village, and if the moon was bright, we would come together and play and dance.” Since that time, Sulley has become a renowned performer and teacher of traditional Dagomba drum, dance, and song. Currently, Sulley (pronounced "soo'-lay") is the director and founder of the Mbangba Cultural Troupe of Ashemie and the Degara Bewaa Culture group of Tamale, and is an instructor for the dance ensemble at the University of Ghana at Legon. For more than 20 years Sulley has taught African drumming and dance classes in Ghana and at American colleges, and has performed throughout Africa, Europe, and the United States. In Ghana, whenever there is a high-profile visitor, including former United States President Bill Clinton, the Ambassador calls Imoro and his ensemble to dance in front of crowds that can reach into the thousands.

Ghana 2012- each summer Ithaca Students have the unique opportunity to travel to Ghana to study with Sulley. The trip is scheduled from May 28- June 15, 2012. Contact Dr. Baruch J. Whitehead bwhitehead@ithaca.edu if you’re interested.
Personnel

African Drumming and Dance Class

Dana Arbaugh          Ilana Miller
Jeremy Betterley     Jenny Moore
Ledon Black           Adeline Nieto
Megan Carrick         Jamie Ocheske
Danielle Carrier      Kelsey Paquin
Amy Czuhanich         Andrea Perrone
Camille Dunham        Adam Perry
Timothy Eyring         Sallie Robinson
Katherine Gould       Andrew Sak
Jennifer Greenleaf    Kelly Sheehan
Alexandra Haines      Lauren Smith
Heather Hill          Katherine Sullivan
Devan Johnson         Samantha Underwood
Lucas Matheson        Samuel Verneuille
Katharine McShane     Lisa Wenhold

Ithaca Seminar Worlds of Music

Silvio Acevedo         Kelly Frisch
Akhtar Rawald          Abbie Hutchinson
Nicolas (Nico) Athanasatos Benjamin Kennedy
Chole Baron            Gabriel Lefferts
Christine Benway      Benjamin Lesser
Daniel Berman         Angela Miranda
Katelyn Carpenter     Adam Monzella
Alexandria Corn        Malia Pressey-Murray
Max Davis              Oliver Swanson
Kayla Dudden           Kim VanDenBerg
Joshua Edrich