

## SALIF SANOU "LASSO" - Biography



Lasso, whose full name is Salif Sanou, was born in 1980 in West Africa and is a versatile high calibre musician.

He was born in a Bwaba village named Konkuy-Boho in the Kossi province of northwestern Burkina Faso. His family had a long history of producing griots, and he grew up in a world where music and speech were the core of life. That's how he discovered at a young age his gifts for several traditional instruments—djembe, tamani, balafon, singing, and the Fula flute (tambin or sereendu).

Rare are today's musicians who can play this ancestral mystical flute. Lasso is one. He dared pick up the flute one day, and it spoke.

He makes his own flutes. He knows how to choose the tree he will transform into an incredibly well-tuned sound stick. To produce a sound that balances our senses, the Fula flute needs a good soul, a good breath, a song and good words.

This is what Lasso provides: a moment of balances within the chaos of normality.

Eight years ago, Lasso was referred to Canada as a professional musician by the Musée de la Musique de Ouagadougou.

Since his arrival, Lasso has been travelling the country, playing and making friends. He has played along several well-known artists, taken part in large-scale events and has earned a reputation as a tenacious musician.

In 2006, he was selected by Toronto's Royal Conservatory as a member of the New Canadian Global Music Orchestra, and he is currently touring with the ensemble across Canada.

"Obèso," composed by Lasso, is on their first album, which came out in the winter of 2018.

Lasso has a soft spot for FRAMM, his original music sextet. Known in Montreal and across Quebec with this Lasso & Sini-Kan band, he is also a member of Farafikeb, which offers a wonderful mix of traditional music from Africa and Quebec.

A spokesperson for Inverness's Fête Africaine, he is an active community member.

## Recordings

- Duo de Trois, Luc Boivin, Michel Cyr, Norman Lachapelle (Funambule 2017)
- New Canadian Global Music Orchestra (2017)
- Gotta Lago (Carnet de route, 2014)
- Izra & Éléte (Uncontrollables, 2013)
- Wesly (Liberté dans le noir, 2012)
- Charly Yapou (Zion expérience, 2012)
- Aboulaye Koné & Bolo Kan (Afo Gné, 2010)
- Duny-yaam (2008)

## Other professional experience

- Djembe teacher and accompanist
- Percussionist for African-dance classes in Montreal, Québec City and Ouagadougou
- Senior musician, Musée de la musique de Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- Musician for a play with theatre troupe La Parole (Burkina Faso) and the Théâtre de l'Autre (Québec City)
- Musician/facilitator with groupe Iolonouma à L'Auberge de Ouagadougou
- Making of traditional instruments (djembe, tamani, tam-tam, doum-doum, bara, kembélé, n'goni, balafon, flutes)

## Collaborations

Colleagues enjoy Lasso's professionalism and musical sense. Participating in local and international artists' shows, tours and recordings is an important part of his work as a musician.

### Accompanist and/or guest artist:

- |                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Élage Diouf                         | ▪ Kady Diarra      |
| ▪ Just-Wôan                           | ▪ Les frères Diouf |
| ▪ Wesli Band                          | ▪ Groupe Africana  |
| ▪ Duo de Trois                        | ▪ Gotta Lago       |
| ▪ Kalabante                           | ▪ Djembé Québec    |
| ▪ Dramane Koné                        | ▪ Charly Yapou     |
| ▪ Aboulaye Koné & Bolo Kan            | ▪ Samajam          |
| ▪ Zal Cissoko                         | ▪ Lamogoya         |
| ▪ Mansa Cissoko                       | ▪ Oumou Soumaré    |
| ▪ Moustafa Kouyaté & Romain Malagnoux |                    |

## Tours

- Since 2006: Across Canada with Toronto's New Canadian Global Music Orchestra.
- 2015: In Colombia with Romain Malagnoux for the show "Les Frontières Imaginaires."
- 2014: In Quebec with Moustafa Kouyaté and Romain Malagnoux for the album "Les Frontières Imaginaires."
- 2010-2014: In Canada with the theatre show "Baobab."



## BOOKING

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