

2 Shows Celebrating Some of the Best African and Latin Music and Dance at the Fringe



Africa Live! African Pick of the Fringe

Zambra! Latin Pick of the Fringe

Following sold out shows in 2014 and responding to audience comments that their only complaint was that there was no room to dance in the packed New Town Theatre, *Africa Live!* is back in 2015, in a brand new venue, with lots of space to sit and listen or get up and shake your thing. It's joined by *Zambra!* – which will bring together some of the best Latin American and Spanish musicians and dancers at the Fringe.

Africa Live! is a whistle-stop tour of some of the best African music at the Edinburgh Fringe, with a different lineup of special guests each night. Spinetingling vocals, exuberant Afrobeats, mbalax, jiti rhythms and much more, drawn from round the Fringe and round the world.

Africa Live! is again headlined by popular Fringe performers **Samba Sene and Diwan** (Senegal) on 14 Aug, and **Rise Kagona** (Zimbabwe), original member of the legendary Bhundu Boys, and his Jit Jive Band, on 21 Aug.

Rise Kagona is a guitar hero to many on two continents! The BBC's Andy Kershaw cites him as having changed his life, and John Peel famously broke down in tears the first time he saw The Bhundu Boys perform live. In Zimbabwe, Rise transferred traditional Jiti rhythms to guitar, and his band toured the world extensively in the 1980s and 1990s. He is now based in Edinburgh and it's a pleasure and honour to include him in *Africa Live!* **Samba Sene & Diwan** is a diverse international collection of musicians, led by charismatic Senegalese singer Samba Sene, who was mentored by Senegalese music legend Baaba Maal. Diwan's music is an exuberant fusion of original funky mbalax / Afrobeat grooves, with undercurrents of ska, rock and Senegalese soul.

Zambra! follows the same pattern as *Africa Live!* with a headline act (The Boteco Trio) from Scotland that has its roots elsewhere, combined with several guest acts drawn from around the Fringe.

The Boteco Trio is a multi-talented group of musicians whose vast Brazilian repertoire draws from samba, bossa nova, baião, choro, and MPB, led by the massively talented and engaging **Mario Caribé** on vocals, guitar, cavaco & bass. Originally from Sao Paulo, Brazil, Mario moved to Scotland to study, and is now the go-to double bass player in Scotland for a huge number of musicians including Tommy Smith, Carole Kidd, Bobby Watson, Joe Locke, Valery Ponomarev and Fringe favourite Camille O'Sullivan. **Brian Molley** (saxes, clarinet & flute) and **Stuart Brown** (drums & percussion) are also highly respected musicians in their own right, who have worked in London's West End, on Broadway, with David Byrne and Tom Jones, to pick just a few highlights. Together they are a formidable force of rhythm.

Zambra! means party – and that's what we intend to do! Audience dancing is very much encouraged.

Both *Africa Live!* and *Zambra!* can be found in the gorgeous setting of new Fringe venue **Central Hall** (run by the Just Festival), which has ample space to accommodate both those who want to sit and listen and those who get swept up by the rhythms and want to dance.

There will be 3 or 4 guest slots, in addition to the headline each night – still to be discovered African and Latin American/Spanish gems from around the Fringe. (Produced by Scary Biscuits Promotions)

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, press tickets, CDs, MP3s etc, please call Morag Neil on 0771 288 0965 (email info@scarybiscuits.com)

Africa Live!
Fri 14 Aug – headline **Samba Sene & Diwan**
Fri 21 Aug – headline **Rise Kagona Jit Jive Band**
20.30 (22.30) £15/(£13)

Zambra!
Sat 22 Aug – headline **The Boteco Trio**
20.30 (22.30) £15/(£13)



Just Festival at Central Hall (venue 295) 2 West Tollcross, EH3 9BP Fringe Box Office 0131 226 0000

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