



TRIBUTE TO KWELA BANDS

SUNDAY, JUNE 19 • 2:00 – 3:00 PM
BUSEY-MILLS READING ROOM

FEATURING

WONGANI KATUNDU (voice and guitar)

RICK DEJA (sax, guitar, voice)

with guest artist

ANDY MILLER (percussion)

Join us for a tribute to Kwela bands—the upbeat street music of southern Africa that features Malawian guitar, sax jive (jazz), and pennywhistle. Our very special guest performers will draw on this lively, rhythmic musical tradition, made popular in the southern African mining circuits of the 1950s, but still a strong influence on current popular music.

This performance is part of an International Sister Cities project linking Urbana with Zomba, Malawi. Come enjoy great music and learn more about this partnership. Cosponsored by the Urbana-Zomba Sister Cities Committee, the UIUC Center for African Studies, and the UIUC Office of the Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement.

Andy Miller is a Master's student in percussion performance at U of I. He will be studying in Columbia this fall through the support of a Fulbright grant.

Wongani Katundu holds an MA in ethnomusicology from Indiana University, and is a specialist on the history of Malawian guitar styles, Malawian traditional music, and music education in Malawi. Wongani has worked extensively with Malawi's first recording artist, the legendary "Black" Paseli, and has himself played in Oslo and Helsinki.

Rick Deja is a PhD student in ethnomusicology at U of I. He has been researching popular music and the recording industry in Malawi and the southern African region. Rick has worked as a performer, audio engineer, and producer in Malawi.



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