

EMANCIPATION GUESTS 2008

THE BEAUTIFUL AFRICAN SONGSTRESS KAISSA, TAKES THE EMANCIPATION STAGE ON THURSDAY JULY 31ST ALONGSIDE LEBO M, ELLA ANDALL AND BROTHER RESISTANCE.



"Beautiful music, beautiful voice, great band! Saw her at a small concert a few weeks ago. Spoke with her afterwards she was just as dynamic, honest, and impressive then as she was on stage."

All the comments about Kaïssa convey a similar idea, an African beauty with a great voice. Kaïssa from the Cameroon will join Lebo M and his distinguished cast for Lebo M in Concert the premier International Concert for Emancipation 2008, scheduled for **Thursday 31st July 2008**.

The musical cast will include Pianist/Composer/Arranger John di Martino who has performed everywhere from Carnegie Hall to the Peoples Republic of China, and Bassist, Emanuel "Chulo" Gatewood has performed with Chaka Khan, Maxwell, Hugh Masakela, Miriam Makeba, Mos Def, Regina Carter, Harry Belafonte, Savion Glover, Jennifer Holliday, and many others.



Our own Caribbean songstress Ella Andall and her full band will command the stage, as well as Brother Resistance and the Network Riddum Band and The Continuum Dance Project featuring the works of Sonja Dumas, this concert will be a tremendous collection of beauty, power and African spirit. A true expression of African art presented through music, dance, praise singing and costumed performances called ukuGiya.



ABOUT KAÏSSA - When an original voice rises up, music lovers are moved to listen. Kaïssa is motivating a fast-growing audience, connecting people through her soaring vocal talents and the irresistible African-inspired rhythms of her songs. Kaïssa's voice is a unique instrument – an electric mix of character and clarity, strength and fragility, total control and unbridled joy. Besides captivating audiences, her peers have taken notice as well, winning her a steady stream of work around the world with luminary artists such as: Manu Dibango, Papa Wemba, Salif Keita, Jean-Michel Jarre,

COLTHRUST PR LTD.

Public Relations, Tourism Promotions & Event Management
Suite 102, Maritime Centre, 29, Tenth Street, Barataria
P/F: 674-2555, c: 310-1608, e: roxanne@colthrustpr.com

Cesaria Evora, Sekouba Bambino, Martha Wash, Paul Simon and Diana Ross to name a few.

Born in Cameroon and raised in Paris, Kaïssa is now New York-based, surrounded by a group of world-class musicians that are building on her vision. Her debut album, LOOKING THERE was released in March 2004 by Sony Music South Africa and received rave reviews for its highly engaging vocals and pulsating African/Western rhythmic backdrops. Success breeds success, and LOOKING THERE has led Kaïssa to the next level, with featured slots on three Putumayo compilations including GLOBAL SOUL, WORLD REGGAE and WOMEN OF AFRICA. Her riveting performance at the XVI Africa Festival in Würzburg Germany in May, 2004 led critics to dub her "...one of the future great voices of Africa".

Behind the beauty, however, there is always a message, with Kaïssa's poignant lyrics talking frankly about the human condition, speaking out against war and injustice, and calling gloriously to her native Cameroon for its love of life and the human spirit. With a steady calendar of live appearances scheduled and a new album in the works, this unforgettable artist continues to expand her sphere. Rest assured, Kaïssa's voice is original, and it is being heard.

ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1991/1992: French and European tour with CharElie Couture, followed by recording of SOUVENIRS LIVE (EMI)
- 1991: Weekly TV shows (France Channel 3) SALUT MANU hosted by Manu Dibango
- 1992-1993: Salif Keita World Tour and recording of L'ENFANT LION (Island)
- 1992-1994: Member of Manu Dibango's SOUL MAKOSSA GANG
- 1993: Recorded backing and lead voices on Manu Dibango's album WAKAFRIKA (Warner)
- 1993-1994: Manu Dibango World Tour
- 1994: Recording of CHRONIQUES DE L'AFRIQUE SAUVAGE Original Soundtrack (TV-France 3), featuring the song MALAIKA, and Cesaria Evora's CABO VERDE
- 1995: Performances with Jean Michel Jarre: Eiffel Tower-French Revolution Anniversary; 50th Anniversary of UNESCO-concert and live TV broadcasts
- Solo feature in TV (Canal France International) program AFRICAN ARTISTS SUPPORTING AIDS RESEARCH, among Wasis Diop, Ray Lema, Lokua Kanza, Papa Wemba, and others
- Paris recording sessions for Walt Disney cartoons
- Recording of LE PROPRE DE L'HOMME Original Soundtrack (TV-France 2) and its feature song CHLOE
- 1996: Kaïssa's Quintet performances at the Latitudes Jazz Club, Paris
- Papa Wemba European and African Tour
- Salif Keita Brazilian Tour
- Appearances with Salif Keita and Papa Wemba at the WOMAD Festival in England
- 1998: Writing lyrics and recording the song COME on Martha Wash' album THE COLLECTION (BMG), NYC Town Hall performance with Martha Wash

MEDIA CONTACT FOR THE EMANCIPATION SUPPORT COMMITTEE

COLTHRUST PR LTD.

Public Relations, Tourism Promotions & Event Management
Suite 102, Maritime Centre, 29, Tenth Street, Barataria
P/F: 674-2555, c: 310-1608, e: roxanne@colthrustpr.com

- Recording of Andre Manga album MOTHER RHYTHM (Narada)
- Performances with Salif Keita at AFRICA FÊTE/Central Park Summer Stage and at the Nelson Mandela Birthday Concerts, Durban/Johannesburg, South Africa
- Performance at Bonnie Young/Donna Karan Event benefiting Trade For Aid Organization
- 1999: Performance with Diana Ross on Oprah Winfrey TV Show
- 2000: Performances with her band in various New York venues, recording sessions
- 2001: Kaïssa wins the best African Female Vocalist Award from US African Eye Magazine
- 2001/2002: Recording of Kaïssa's first solo album
- 2003: Appearances on Putumayo compilation GLOBAL SOUL and Jazzhole's CIRCLE OF THE SUN
- 2004: Sony Music South Africa releasing LOOKING THERE, Kaïssa's first solo album
- Appearances on Putumayo compilations WORLD REGGAE (Feb) and WOMEN OF AFRICA (April)
- Appearance at the XVI Africa Festival in Würzburg, Germany
- 2005: Performance at the inaugural Mosaic Festival in Singapore alongside Susheela Raman, Youssou N'Dour, Shirley Horne, and others
- Performance at the Nuits d'Afrique Festival in Montreal, Canada
- Various performances in New York City
- 2006: Performance at the JAZZ KANTATA concert in Cracow, Poland alongside Dino Saluzzi, Lee Konitz and top Polish jazz instrumentalists and vocalists
- Appearance at the New York SCHOMBURG CENTER'S 80th Anniversary Gala honoring legendary figures of art and culture, Chinua Achebe, Maya Angelou, Aimé Césaire and Harry Belafonte among others
- Appearance at Kalalu World Music Festival in St. Lucia, West Indies
- 2007: Kaïssa appears on Putumayo compilation WOMEN OF THE WORLD ACOUSTIC
- Featured performance at the Volvo For Life Awards in NYC
- Kaïssa co-hosting Top-10 Video Countdown on MTV Puerto Rico
- Performances at International Folk Art Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
- Concert in Lima, Peru
- 2008: Appearing with Paul Simon at his UNDER AFRICAN SKIES series of shows at the Brooklyn Academy of Music
- Kaïssa's track LONON featured on Putumayo compilation AFRICAN DREAMLAND