


**EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL**

Kalakuta Republik

—
**Faso Danse Théâtre /
Serge Aimé Coulibaly**

Please ensure that all mobile phones and electronic devices are switched off, or put on silent.

8, 10, 11 August 8.00pm
9, 10 August 2.00pm

THE LYCEUM

The performance lasts
approximately 1 hour 30 minutes
with one interval

Part of **You Are Here**

Supported by

**Institut français
du Royaume-Uni**

as part of *FranceDance UK*
2019, a UK-wide festival of
contemporary Dance presented
by the Institut français du
Royaume-Uni

FRANCEDANCE UK



**Government
of Flanders**

Kalakuta Republik

Faso Danse Théâtre / Serge Aimé Coulibaly

Concept & Choreography
Creation & Interpretation

Serge Aimé Coulibaly
Adonis Nebié, Marion Alzieu, Sayouba Signé,
Serge Aimé Coulibaly / Jean-Robert
Koudogbo Kiki, Ahmed Soura, Ida Faho,
Antonia Naouele

Video
Musical Creation
Additional Music
Dramaturgy
Assistant to the Choreographer
Scenography & Costumes
Lighting
Technical Direction
Production
Executive Producer

Eve Martin
Ivan Talbot
Fela Kuti
Sara Vanderieck
Sayouba Signé
Catherine Cosme
Hermann Coulibaly
Sam Serruys
Faso Danse Théâtre & Halles de Schaerbeek
Halles de Schaerbeek

Contact & Touring

Frans Brood Productions
www.fransbrood.com
Faso Danse Théâtre
www.fasodansetheatre.com

Co-Production

Maison de la Danse (Lyon), Torinodanza (Turin), Le Manège - Scène nationale de Maubeuge, Le Tarmac
- La scène internationale francophone (Paris), Les Théâtres de la ville de Luxembourg, Ankata (Bobo
Dioulasso), Les Récréâtrales (Ouagadougou), Festival Africologne (Cologne), De Grote Post (Ostend).
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Fela Kuti

– A source of inspiration

*I just want to do my part and leave...
Not for what they're going to remember
you for, but for what you believe in as
a man.* **Fela Anikulapo Kuti**

Fela stood for a refusal of ignorance, imbecility, confinement, cynicism and abdication: his controversial choices in life; his music which, far from lulling us to sleep, on the contrary, awakens citizens' consciousness; his innovative thinking; and his festive and profound way of delivering his vision.

The spokesman for a whole generation, making the stage a platform, imprisoned many times for his satirical and sharp political positioning, Fela was truly a model of commitment to his country and to his art.

The music of Fela takes you on a trip. Compositions of up to thirty minutes' duration, both simple and complex in structure, reflect both its roots in African soil, and the influences of the jazz clubs of London: this is Afrobeat. Fela Kuti's music is not just a search for personal artistic expression, it's also the flagship of his conception of Africa, the emotional synthesis of his political thought. His

music is his weapon. A great openness to the world, a vigorous commitment in the lyrics, this music is a rich and deep inspiration for Serge Aimé Coulibaly. Fela is a unique artist: an immense desire for freedom, a sulphurous life, a political consciousness engraved in his body and an absolutely original musicality born of the mix of Africa and the West.

The years spent in London and then in the United States gave him the necessary distance to an understanding of the African continent and the part it was really playing on the global political chessboard. A visionary, his ideas and his art are today of a radical modernity and come in total resonance with the actuality of 2017.

...when I was first put in jail, the name of my prison cell was 'Kalakuta', and Republic? I wanted to identify myself with someone who didn't agree with the Federal Republic of Nigeria...I was in non-agreement. **Fela Anikulapo Kuti**

Fela Anikulapo Kuti was the starting point of this choreographic creation. The character fascinates and seduces, his music remains some of the most

popular in the world. For Serge Aimé Coulibaly he is a source of inspiration, the summary of how an artist must be in the African context to address the role and place of the artist in society today, to speak of our humanity in a world that changes so quickly.

The personality of Fela, his political commitment to Nigeria – a country whose richly coveted subsoil contrasts with the galloping misery of its people – and the living modernity of

his work are ideal starting points for a broader questioning.

What is the place of the artist today in society? What responsibility does the artist have who, through his creations, has inspired a committed following? How, in a world that changes quickly and generates fear and withdrawal, will consciences open up to differences?

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Gaëlle Bertillon is an author and frequent collaborator of Serge Aimé Coulibaly.