



IBRAHIMA CISSOKHO  
*Liberté*

Ibrahima Cissokho was born in Senegal, into a family of griots (storytellers from West Africa) and the tradition of the kora (a stringed instrument from the same region). Always attracted by this musical knowledge, he learned from his father, but with the determined idea of taking it away from traditional rhythms. Influenced by the musical genre developed mainly in his country and in The Gambia, the Mbalax, in Cissokho's work the kora converges with rock, funk and jazz, among others.

In 2008 he decided to settle in France, from where he develops his Afro-Rock Mandingo. In Mandingo, Wolof, English and French he speaks about universal themes, related to love, solidarity, ancestors, education and unemployment, among others. In 2016, the artist released his album *Yanfu*, and in 2020 he publishes his work *Liberté*, by NarRator Records.

Ibrahima is accompanied by his band Mandingue Foly, which consists of Abdou Rakhmane Fall on bass, Jérôme Bartolomeo on saxophone, Ousmane Seydi on percussion, and Pham Trong-Hieu on drums. With them he has taken his style marked by tradition and contemporaneity to different places in the world, such as Austria, Spain and Hungary, as well as, of course, France and Senegal.

The artist has performed on important stages like Théâtre de l'Oulle (Avignon), Fête de la Musique (Lyon), the City of Lyon, the Gadagne Museum (Lyon), Théâtre Astrée (Lyon), Amphi Opéra (Lyon), Théâtre Sylvia Monfort (Saint-Brice), and Aristide Briand Hall (Saint-Chamond), among others. He has also participated in festivals and meetings, including Nuit des Griots at the Cité de la Musique (Marseille), Babel Jazz and Babel Sound Balaton Festival and Artist Residency (Hungary), Avignon Festival (Paris), Rihino Jazz Festival (Vienna), International African Music Exhibition (Dakar), Afro Soul Festival (Lyon).

In addition, Cissokho has been part of a musical theatre company that toured Europe several times, and had an outstanding participation in the TV program X Factor on the French music channel W9.

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