

## Biography Ladji Kanté

Ladji (Aboubacar) Kanté are born in Ivory Coast, originated from Guinea Conakry. Born in a Griot family. The mother, Manafing Sylla, was one of the famous singers in West Africa, till she died. The father, Youssouf Kanté is a great singer, composer and Guitar Player in a very traditional west African manding griot style also mixed with modern inputs.

Since 2012 Ladji lives in Austria and teach his traditions & culture. He is an international musician & artist.

Ladji is an exceptional musician. Singer, Songwriter and a new style of the traditional westafrican music (afro-beat, afro-jazz, afro-blues). With his "interactive Shows and his culture-mixed bands (Wontanara Orchester, Feel Africa Band) he works with Europeans & Africans mixed.

For some years now, he has conducted workshops with adults of all ages, 50 plus, children and people with disabilities.

### Professionals:

- 2006 Foundation of the first band in Mali "Stageurs Djembekan"
- Organization of drumming camps with students from Canada and France
- Center Cultural Francas Bamako "Festival de Hip Hop, Reggae & Tradition"
- 3-month tour with the world-famous choir "Komba Svra Koita"
- 1998: Drummer in the animation-movie "Kirikou – et la sociere", with Youssou N´Dour
- 2009 Arrangement as a musician & actor "New Africa Theater Association" in Stockholm
- 2010 one of the musical director | Football WM South Africa for the song "give me freedom, give me fire"
- Founder of the band "Manding Kan"
- Performances with Jimmy Dlodlu & Salif Keita
- Projects with children
- Projects with HIV patients
- 2011 production of his CD "La Voix du Manding"
- 2012 Co-founder of the association and the band "African Spirit - Rhythm for Life"
- 2013 Start from his Foundation: Ladji Kanté & Sylla Manafing childrens care (orphans house project)
- 2014 Independent artist and musician in Salzburg
- Foundation of the "Ladji Kanté & Sylla Manafing childrens care" in Salzburg
- 2014 Founder of the band "Ladji Kanté & Feel Africa Band" – culture mixed project
- Various concerts with the international artist Mahmadou Diabate
- Workshops and concerts in Taiwan, Singapore, South Africa, Canada & Croatia
- Concerts on the "Open Spirit - New Spirit for the world" – [inter]active Shows
- 2016 Founder of the Band: Wontanara Orchestra
- Currently mastering his 2nd album

