

baaba maal

One of the true stars to rise from the African continent, Senegalese master musician Baaba Maal has been making music for the world to enjoy for nearly two decades. With releases ranging from contemporary Afropop to expressions of time-honored African music, his projects have received resounding critical acclaim worldwide. The blending of electronic dance elements and the timeless tradition of West African music in his new multilingual release, *Television*, make the record a groundbreaking successor to 2001's Grammy-nominated *Missing You*.

The eight songs on *Television* are the result of collaborations with various musicians, most notably singer Sabina Sciubba and keyboardist Didi Gutman of New York's Brazilian Girls, who blend electronica with a variety of eclectic styles. Working on the song 'Tindo', in which guidance is meted out to Senegalese children about their future responsibilities, Baaba Maal found that Sabina's responses, sung in Italian, accurately mirrored his own lyrics: "I see language as an instrument. Sabina told me that she could just feel the meaning of the words that I was singing. This is the power of music - it can give you advice even if you do not understand the language."

Renowned for his fiery performances by fusing funk, rock and blues with the beats and melodies of West Africa, Baaba Maal has earned critical acclaim, and he has continually reinforced his role as a seminal artist in the world music arena. With constant touring he has honed and enriched an already phenomenal stage show - an explosion of sound, singing and dancing. Touring nearly every continent, the overwhelming universal response to his energetic live performances has been utter awe.

Aside from being a remarkable musician, Baaba Maal is also socially conscious and represents the United Nations Development Program as a spokesman on the issue of HIV/Aids in Africa. He has been featured on both *Red Hot* and *Gershwin* and the release, *Red Hot and Riot* a tribute to Fela Kuti - both projects were put together by the HIV/Aids awareness campaign group, the Red Hot Organization.

Baaba Maal is a legendary artist and spokesperson for Africa - a focused force of honest passion, both simple and complex, chilled and intense, traditional and contemporary. He is a citizen of the third world who has carved out a place for himself in the first world. Baaba Maal can speak and sing to and for Africa with unprecedented authority.

"The music they made...was magnificent: hypnotic and galvanizing, uplifting and visceral."

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Maal is a marvelous performer to watch..."

VARIETY

"Baaba Maal is one of the finest singers in the world."

THE GUARDIAN

"Simultaneously traditional and contemporary, this is a towering work of art".

MUSIC WEEK



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