

SHIKISHA

SHIKISHA

ZULU
DRUMMING
DANCING
& SINGING



SHIKISHA ARTS

2 BATH STREET
LONDON E.C.1

Patronage awarded by
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SHIKISHA at RIVERSIDE STUDIOS

Tuesday 15th July
Wednesday 16th July

SET 1 8.40pm-9.00pm

A variety of South African drumming and folk songs.

The South African Miners' dance-"THE GUMBOOT DANCE"-

SET 2 9.20pm-9.40pm

A selection of South African dance and song:including traditional, Street and modern dance.

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"3 ZULU WOMEN FROM SOUTH AFRICA, SINGING AND DANCING LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE! TRADITIONAL ZULU DANCES AND CHANTS PLUS STREET DANCES FROM DURBAN AND ORIGINAL SONGS SET TO AFRO-POP BACKING".

From the Zulu word meaning "Belt it out, sing and dance like you've never sang and danced before", SHIKISHA was formed in 1981 by JULIA MATHUNJWA and BETTY BOO HLELA and later joined by MALAISHA FRANCIS.

A powerful union of voice and movement, these three performers have exited audiences from Belgium to Austria, Tunisia to Nigeria. With their exhilarating Zulu chants and dances, their natural talents are a perfect vehicle for music whose rhythms gave birth to Jazz and Rhythm and Blues.

"MBAQANGA is one of Africa's hardest dance sounds. It has heavyweight bass lines, vibrant vocals and treble guitars that hit the top of the dial and stay there.....
.....only one band so far has given MBAQANGA the attention it deserves. SHIKISHA who mix electric sounds with traditional dances from the Shanghan, Sotho and Zulu peoples".

BLUES & SOUL: September 1985

SHIKISHA is.....

BETTY BOO HLELA

Born in Durban. From a very early age her greatest ambition was to become a professional dancer. After leaving school she started dancing with a famous local group ISIMANJE MANJE which toured most provinces in Southern Africa. She went to Johannesburg in 1974 and after auditioning for IPI TOMBI successfully she was offered the part of dancer. When the show came to London BETTY then teamed up with JULIA in the formation of SHIKISHA.

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JULIA MATHUNJWA

Born in Durban. After leaving School she trained as a model and entered several beauty contests winning five of them. In 1973 she joined a production of UMABATHA (Zulu version fo Macbeth) as a singer and dancer. In 1974 she received an offer to be a model for Pam Shepston in the BLACK AND WHITE IS BEAUTIFUL fashion show that toured Europe. In late 1974 she joined IPI TOMBI and since 1975 has lived in London working in West End theatres until 1981 when she formed SHIKISHA with BETTY.

MALAISHA FRANCIS

Born in Birmingham but returned to parents home St Lucia as a child. As a young girl her interest in dance was strong and she became proficient in Afro-Caribbean dance. In 1981 she returned to England where she studied Contemporary dance eventually joining Carl Campbell's DANCE CO 7. Further dance experience has included Jazz and Modern dance. MALAISHA became a member of SHIKISHA in December 1985.

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SHIKISHA ARTS

Recently established as an Arts project SHIKISHA offer classes in the following at their Bath Street Studio:

- African beadwork jewellery
- African drumming
- African singing
- African dancing

For Further Information

SHIKISHA ARTS,
First Floor,
2, Bath Street,
London EC1

Nearest tube:OLD STREET (Northern Line)

Tel: 01 253 1226

SHIKISHA ARTS wishes to acknowledge the financial assistance of Greater London Arts and the London Boroughs of Hackney and Southwark.

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