



RELEASED

15/01/16

“BAABA MAAL OPENED HIS MOUTH AND BEAUTIFUL PEARLS AND LILIES AND SONGBIRDS CAME FLYING OUT. IT WAS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS I’VE EVER SEEN”.

MICHAEL STIPE

THE TRAVELLER
BAABA MAAL

THE TRAVELLER

Baaba Maal, the Senegalese master-musician and cultural warrior, has an electrifying new sound and exhilarating studio album.

The Traveller, Baaba's eleventh album, is scheduled for release in January 2016, a mixture of roots African sounds and cutting-edge western electro elements.

The Traveller was recorded in London and Senegal; in making the record Baaba Maal has collaborated with Johan Hugo from The Very Best. The Very Best's two albums were genre-shattering, bright meshes of Afropop and electro; Hugo has also worked with M.I.A, Coldplay, and Amadou and Marian, among many others.

'Baaba is an amazing guy: he's seen it all and done it all,' says Hugo. 'He's heavily involved in amazing projects all over the world that help people, so he's a very inspiring person to be around and work with. It was just an honor to be able to have so much fun together and make music.'

'I am so inspired by The Traveller,' says Baaba Maal. 'Working with Johan I feel we have achieved a perfect blend of sensibilities drawn not only from Africa and Europe but from all over the globe: I feel The Traveller defines how the planet looks at this time from the point-of-view of Senegal, Africa's most westerly country. And despite problems in many places, that view is extremely positive and inspiring.'

Complementing the record Baaba has a tight new road-band, a trio, a departure from his previous larger line-ups, that will express the fresh sound, soulful truth and pulsating excitement of his latest innovative music.

A number of keynote headline concerts are scheduled. These include a performance in December 2015 at the Blues du Fleuve, the festival Baaba Maal has established in his home town of Podor, on the river Senegal.

PRESS

TELEVISION | 2009

“GREAT MELODIES, WONDERFUL RHYTHMS, SOUNDS FANTASTIC” **MOJO**

“THE FUTURE IS CALLING” **OBSERVER MUSIC MONTHLY**

“A WORLD MUSIC SUPERSTAR... ESSENTIAL PURCHASE” **MUSIC OMH**

“TELEVISION HAS A LICENSE TO THRILL” **DAILY MIRROR**

“TELEVISION SUCCESSFULLY REACHES OUT TOWARDS WESTERN EARS WITHOUT SACRIFICING INTEGRITY” **Q MAGAZINE**

“THE WORLD IS A RICHER PLACE WITH BAABA MAAL'S MUSIC” **THE SUN**

“SO COOLLY 21ST CENTURY. A SUBLIME, FULLY REALISED SUCCESS” **THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY**

“SEXY, FUNKY AND YET IMMENSELY WARM AND INVITING, THIS RELEASE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED” **DAILY EXPRESS**

“A BRAVE, UNEXPECTED SET THAT VEERS BETWEEN BRILLIANT EXTREMES” **THE GUARDIAN**

“TELEVISION FINDS BAABA MAAL EXPANDING HIS MUSICAL HORIZONS BEYOND HIS NATIVE INFLUENCES, REACHING FRESH RAPPROCHEMENTS WITH WESTERN MODES.” **THE INDEPENDENT**

MISSING YOU | 2001

“MR. MAAL'S MUSIC REASSERTS ITSELF IN BURSTS OF SPEEDY DRUMMING AND VOCAL LINES THAT REACH FOR THE HEAVENS...” **THE NEW YORK TIMES**

“LUSTROUS AND SPELLBINDING”. “AN ATMOSPHERIC BLAST FROM THE MOTHERLAND” **THE OBSERVER**

“A DAZZLING ACOUSTIC ALBUM, AND BAABA MAAL AT HIS BEST” **Q MAGAZINE**

“SIMULTANEOUSLY TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY, THIS IS A TOWERING WORK OF ART” **MUSIC WEEK**

“INTIMATE, POWERFUL AND MAJESTIC” **MOJO**

“MAGICAL, WITH MAAL'S INTENSE VOICE SOARING PASSIONATELY OVER THE HYPNOTIC INTERPLAY OF HIS GROUP” **THE TIMES**

“UNDISPUTED MASTER” **WALLPAPER**



TIMELINE



1996

CONCERT AT WEMBLEY ARENA WITH SANTANA

2001

GRAMMY NOMINATED FOR THE MISSING YOU ALBUM

SOUTH AFRICA MANDELA FREEDOM CONCERT, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON

HOLLYWOOD BOWL, LOS ANGELES

2002

SANG THE SENEGALESE NATIONAL ANTHEM AT THE OPENING MATCH OF THE FIFA WORLD CUP FINALS IN SEOUL, KOREA. FRANCE VS SENEGAL

2003

APPOINTED AN AMBASSADOR FOR NELSON MANDELA'S 46664 PROJECT, HELPING TO FIGHT THE GLOBAL HIV AIDS EPIDEMIC AND PERFORMED THE NELSON MANDELA 46664 CONCERT, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

APPOINTED AS YOUTH EMISSARY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

2004

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE CONCERT SPEKTRUM, OSLO, NORWAY (SANG FOR DR WANGARI MAATHAI THE KENYAN ENVIROMENTAL CAMPAIGNER WHO WON THE PEACE PRIZE THAT YEAR)

2005

LECTURES AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, SOAS AND THE HAY FESTIVAL

HEADLINE CONCERTS AT AFRICA REMIX FESTIVAL, ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, LONDON, GLASTONBURY AND LEADS OFF THE MAKE POVERTY HISTORY MARCH AT THE G8 PROTEST IN EDINBURGH

HEADLINES THE BBC PROMS CONCERT, THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL, LONDON

2006

ESTABLISHES THE NOW ANNUAL BLUES DU FLEUVE 3 DAY FESTIVAL IN PODOR, FOUTA, NORTHERN SENEGAL

2007

PLAYS AT THE AFRICAN UNION HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT IN ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA, PERFORMS AT LIVE EARTH CONCERT, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

2008

HEADLINE CONCERTS AT BESTIVAL, ISLE OF WIGHT, HAY FESTIVAL, CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA, FELEBRATION AT THE SHRINE IN LAGOS, NIGERIA

2009

HEADLINES THE AFRICAN SOUL REBELS TOUR, UK

GUEST ON DESERT ISLAND DISCS, BBC RADIO 4

2010

PERFORMED AT THE FIFA WORLD CUP FINALS IN SOWETO, SOUTH AFRICA

HEADLINED BONNAROO CONCERT, TENNESSEE

2012

APPOINTED AS GLOBAL AMBASSADOR FOR OXFAM

2013

CO-FOUNDED AFRICA UTOPIA WITH SOUTHBANK, HELD ANNUALLY SINCE

PRESS LINKS

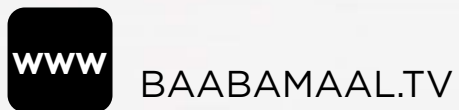
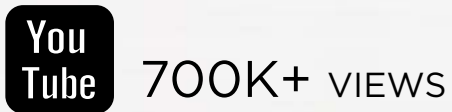
ASTONISHING SPIRIT AS BAABA MAAL GETS ALBERT HALL DANCING
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WHEN BAABA MAAL PERFORMS, YOU SEE SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY,
ALMOST SUPERNATURAL - THE WILL AND POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD
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TELEVISION REVIEW - THE INDEPENDENT
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BAABA MAAL ON AFRICA EXPRESS
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SOCIAL



VIDEOS



TELEVISION VIDEO



BAABA SINGS FOR NELSON MANDELA

