

BO  
MUS



May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Kampala

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### 1. Executive Summary

*The following table intends to give a quick overview of your activities. Please also indicate the respective countries, e.g. “Total number of people reached: 1 K, 2 T, 1 U, 2 R, 1 B, 1 S”.*

Name of the Project	<b>Hakuna Kulala Music Incubator</b>
Name of the Organization	<b>Boutiq Foundation</b>
Organization is active since	<b>2015</b>
Number of People in the Organization	<b>8</b>
Project Duration	<b>10 months</b>
Any other Stakeholders involved?	<b>No</b>
EAC member states involved	<b>Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan</b>

Total Number of people reached	<b>100+ (beneficiaries) 1M+ (audience)</b>
Benefit for people reached	<b>Revenue, knowledge, space for expression, networks</b>
Number of events organized	<b>15</b>
Number of people participated in events	<b>15,000</b>
Benefit for people participating in events	<b>Experience Culture from East Africa that is less represented in the mainstream. Gain interest in Culture from around the region, and gain pride in the diversity of music that exists.</b>
Number of beneficiaries (Number for each EAC Country) (Number of Youth) (Number of Women)	<b>RWANDA: 12 UGANDA: 62 TANZANIA: 24 KENYA: 14 BURUNDI: 0 SOUTH SUDAN: 1 YOUTH: 92 WOMEN: 42</b>
Concrete impact on beneficiaries	<b>Beneficiaries have grown in their craft, picked up new skills and have a better vision of their future as artist. Many artists are generating considerable revenue, and more events are organized around them, creating a healthier ecosystem.</b>
Number of paying customers	<b>50,000</b>
Frequency & amount of purchase	<b>100 x 1000\$/show (average)</b>
Number of jobs created	<b>25</b>
Sort of jobs & income	<b>Artists - Performance fees, studio engineering, music sales, selling instrumentals. Artist managers – booking fees, commissions on contracts.</b>
Further activities planned?	<b>Continuation of the program, activate the newly build network into an operating tour circuit for east African artists. Continue to develop</b>

	<b>satellite studios and invite musicians from all over East Africa to come in residency.</b>
Financing secured for further operations?	<b>Partially</b>

**2. Introduction and Background**

Active since 2015, Boutiq Foundation has been at the forefront of supporting emerging artistic scenes across the East African region. From supporting the revival of traditional music to putting the international spotlight on endogenous electronic East African music scenes, to producing award winning films and organizing the leading music festival in the region, Boutiq has always gone the extra mile to support exciting East African talents. Since its inception the project was self-funded by the two co-founders, Arlen Dillsizian and Derrick Debru, with the occasional grant coming from the British Council. With the years the festival became recognized internationally

and regionally as the foremost showcase of music talents in the region, while the music that was produced from the Boutiq studios allowed many artists to take their their craft to the next level.

Throughout East Africa we find similar trends in the music industry, a strong commercial appeal often focused on music from the capital city or foreign music or copies of it. Throughout the region there's also a general tendency to disregard traditional music, especially the role it plays in contemporary music productions, but this trend has been reversing over the last years with producers looking at traditional music for inspiration. The economy of music hence does not favor unconventional or independent music productions, it also does not foster new genres nor does it leverage the wealth of traditional music that could influence contemporary productions. We've also found that throughout the region there are several underground collectives and scenes that all nurture the production of new sounds, but there is no outlet for them to release their music or to find representation beyond their borders. Through our annual Nyege Nyege Festival we have invited over 300 performers from all over the region and internationally, and the friendship that arises when all these artists meet for four days to exchange their stories and their music is the seed for strengthening a true East African identity. Our work over the last five years has earned us respect from artists from all over the region, and together we've been able to bring worldwide attention to the mix of amazing music and art that is being made in East Africa. We applied to the IIDEA grant to create a specific incubation process for East African musicians, with a record label as the platform for releasing cutting edge music, and support networks across the region with a permanent community studio and residential art space under the Hakuna Kulala studios and label. The project was launched officially at the Nyege Nyege Festival 2018 and has since flourished to results beyond our wildest expectations.

### **3. Objectives of the Project**

Through the Hakuna Kulala Music Production incubator, our aim was to support at least 120 young East African music producers at different levels of incubation, from training to production, from production to performance. Our aim was to create linkages between different East African music scenes, from electronic music of Northern Uganda connecting with Singeli music from Tanzania, or Metal bands from Kenya collaborating with Ugandan percussionists, or rappers from Kampala and Kigali collaborating together and creating important networks, friendships and artistic kindships.

#### 4. Did you collaborate with any other organizations?

*Please indicate all collaborations in the following format:*

Stone Town Records (Tanzania): DJ Workshops and performance by Hakuna Kulala artist in incubation  
Green Fairy Records (Rwanda): Artist collaborations  
Pamoja Records (Tanzania): Kampala residency, material support and collaborations.  
Sisso Records (Tanzania): Kampala residency, material support and collaborations.  
Singeli World (Tanzania): Support with bookings and visas and residencies  
Urban Gorilla Collective (Rwanda) : Event partner in Kigali  
Rwanda Arts Initiative (Rwanda): Hakuna Kulala showcase  
KQ Hub (Uganda): Joint events  
Point Blank University (UK): Donation of desktop computers and soundcards  
Native Instrument (Germany): Donation of controllers and effect triggers  
Ableton (Germany): Donation of software for all students  
East African Soul Train (Tanzania): One Hakuna Kulala producer giving workshops

#### 5. Report of the Project Activities

*What has been implemented as per the work plan agreed? Report on the different activities implemented, dates, venue, objectives, and number of participants, output and outcomes as well as results plus pictures. Please number the activities accordingly.*

**Activity 1 : Set up of production facilities and residency infrastructure**

Date: August – October 2018

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Music Incubator

Objective: Build up facilities necessary for artists to develop their talent.

Number of participants: 5

Output: Studio facilities build up to the best standards, as well as office space and classroom space.

Outcome: By working with artists in residence with 20+ years of experience in studio build, both the East African resident artists were able to share their knowledge of studios and acoustics, as well as the service provider, all together bringing the best and most affordable solution.

Results: Working Facilities.

Pictures:







## Activity 2: Provide East African producers with adequate production tools

Date: October 2018 – April 2019

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Music Incubator

Objective: Equip producers and artists in residence with adequate equipment and tools to perform at the highest level and offer them the best creative environment.

Number of participants: 7

Output: Purchase of all necessary equipment, including monitors, CDJs, microphones and instruments.

Outcome: After careful research and identifying the best prices and products, Hakuna Kulala has been able to maximize the money allocated by the grant, in addition to sourcing in kind support by Point Blank University, Native Instruments and Ableton.

Results: All artists perform to the best of their ability with professional tools provided by the incubator.

Pictures:









### Activity 3: Launch of the label “Hakuna Kulala” at Nyege Nyege Festival

Date: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Venue: Nile Discovery Beach

Objective: Officially launch the birth of the label

Number of participants: 600

Number of artists performing: 15

Output: Official launch of the label with a 12H showcase. First round of incubations presented to the wider public and presentation of the label and the logo. One press conference.

Outcome: Over 600 revellers enjoyed the 12-hour showcase of futuristic dance music from East Africa, the artists involved are able to gain in visibility and experience.

Results: Several prominent articles review the night of new music from East Africa. Slikback receives his first international bookings a few days after his performance.

Pictures:







#### Activity 4: Research Trip to Northern Uganda

Date: 14th February – 25<sup>th</sup> February

Venue: Various villages around Gulu and Kitgum

Objective: The objective of the trip was to record different traditions of Acholi Music as well as train Don zilla (our studio engineer) in how to set up recordings in the field.

Number of participants: 25

Output: Over 20 hours of recordings. One sound recordist trained and several troupes recorded for the first time. Key partnerships with cultural stakeholders in Northern Uganda, including representatives of the Acholi Kingdom.

Outcome: Ugandan producer Zilla and Leo P-layeng capable of running their own field recordings. The equipment purchased is now fully operational and different producers will now work with the recordings. Two of the troupes recorded were selected to perform at Nyege Nyege Festival.

Results: Over seven Traditional troupes recorded of their performance of various strains of Acholi traditional music. Bwola Group/ Ding Ding/ Labala/ Larakaraka/ Pudo Ribebe/ Wang Oo Group Sitting/Wang Oo Group Standing. Fully operational recording facilities and operators.







## Activity 5: Residency of Sisso Records

Date: March 2019

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective: Produce a new collaborative works, learn new production techniques

Number of participants: 5

Output: 5 days of recording session

Outcome: 1 album

Results: Producer Sisso learned new production techniques which he will take back to his studio in Dar Es Salaam. He also perfected his English and got to collaborate with several high quality artists. The final output of this record was released at the 'Mateso' Lp by Sisso released on May 30<sup>th</sup> to international acclaim.

Pictures:



Activity 6: Building performance networks: workshop and event with Stone Town Records (Zanzibar).

Date: April 2019

Venue: Stone Town Records, Zanzibar

Objective: Hold DJ Workshops, Studio production collaborations between Ugandan and Zanzibari producers. Built networks of performance venues.

Number of participants: 5

Output: DJ workshops. Live collaborations. Two Performances

Outcome: A stronger connection with Stone Town Records as a partner in the region, the opportunity for one of our artists and former production class student to teach and share skills. More young women are now engaged in the dj community of Zanzibar.

Results: 5 Young Zanzibari women got their first lesson in DJing. Three new tracks made.



## Activity 7: Design of Electronic Press Kits

Date: 07-04-2019 – 20-04-2019

Venue: Hakuna Kulala center

Objective: To teach everyone on the importance of an electronic press kit, and to get professional photography and layout done in order to approach the music market in a new way.

Number of participants: 12

Output: 12 Electronic Press kits

Outcome: We've worked with a designer and a trainee to combine hands on design and theoretical learning, all the artists came out of the process thinking about themselves, their music and their career in a different way, they understand the importance of self-branding.

Results: Thanks to the EPKs, the artists are now much more reactive when they are being approached, and they are setting new trends in professionalism in the region. They need to be constantly improved.

# Authentically plastic

Producer // DJ // Party Promoter

Experimental Dance  
Music from Uganda

## BIO

'Authentically Plastic' is an Artist, DJ & Producer based in Kampala, Uganda. Their genre-bending sets, both dark and playful, use Gqom, Vogue & Techno as a base for exploring other unknown sounds. Their music is influenced by anything from quasi-electronic Northern Ugandan rhythms, to early soul experiments, and live noise/industrial shows. They got their start playing at secretive queer parties in the city, which eventually led to their first festival gig at 'Nyega Nyega'. Since then, they have played in several venues around the city for parties like Malkia (Queen) & Beatiq Electronics, continuously exploring and reinventing their style. Authentically Plastic also curates a bi-monthly club night in Kampala called ANTI-MASS, which prioritizes femme, queer & experimental DJ's/artists. They describe ANTI-MASS as a "nomadic, femme, dance machine". The party attracts a diverse, dedicated crowd, and aims to be a propulsive space for sonic & cultural experimentation.

## ASIDE MUSIC

- Architect
- Graphics designer
- Model
- Visual artist

## CONTACT DETAILS

Personal  
+256796671677  
Alemchay@gmail.com  
Booking  
topixenyeganyega.com

## Cute facts

The name "Authentically Plastic" comes from my drag performance persona.

## PREVIOUSLY PLAYED

- Nyega Nyega Festival - Jinja - Sep 2018
- ANTI-MASS - Kampala - Dec 2018, Feb 2019
- Malkia II - Kampala - March 2019
- NRT Dungeon Rave - Kampala - March 2019
- ANTI-MASS - Kampala - April 2019
- JNGLEX Closing Party - Kampala - May 2019



## Social media



# CHRIS MAN

"Follow your HeArt"

LOGO



PICTURE



A portrait of Don Zilla Lion, a man with a beard and dreadlocks, wearing a dark patterned shirt and a red shawl. He is looking slightly to the left. The background is a blurred natural setting with green leaves and a blue sky.

# Don Zilla LION

PRODUCER AND DJ

**Style: Multi-dimensional**

## SHORT BIO

Don Zilla is a Ugandan producer and DJ who draws his inspiration from nature and always experiments new ways of evolving musically, be it electronic or acoustic.

## PERFORMANCES

- Nyeganyege festival
- Intimania festival
- Local underground shows

## CONTACT —

Personal  
+256701804128  
donzillaar1@gmail.com

Booking  
tapes@nyeganyege.com

## BIO

Don Zilla Lion is a Ugandan producer and DJ who describes his style of music as 'multi-dimensional' and for which he finds the inspiration in nature. He was taught music at a very young age and first started performing around 10 years old as a percussionist in a traditional music band.

He then grew up an autodidact and learned to play different acoustic instruments. He started performing professionally in 2003, playing traditional music and touring villages.

In 2016, he joined Hakuna Kulala and made his first steps as a producer and DJ.

## RELEASES

EP released in March 2019 under Hakuna Kulala

<https://hakunakulala.bandcamp.com/album/from-the-cave-to-the-world>

## Social Media





# **ECKO BAZZ**

## **Short Bio**

From singing in church to freestyling in rap battles Ecko Bazz is one of the champions of the underground Kampala hip hop scene.

## **Release/Links**

<https://hakunakulala.bandcamp.com/album/tuli-banyo>

<http://pan-african-music.com/en/ecko-bazz-hakuna-kulala/>



# PÖ

## SHORT BIO

Pö is a multidisciplinary artist, who has been involved in arts from a young age and in various countries. Her work ranges from haunting ambient vocal tracks to soul psychedelic/pop collaborations across countries.

# OYISSE

Afrotrop from DRC made in KLA

## BIOGRAPHY

Oyisse Nyamoga Romywald (OYISSE) is a young producer, beat maker, song writer and DJ from Congo Bukavu. He began his musical journey playing drums in church at age 8. With the support of his family he developed his passion over the years. In 2012, he moved to Uganda to pursue his studies, and got involved in the vibrant musical scene of Kampala. He recorded his first rap song in 2015 and later that year got introduced to music production, which he learned as an autodidact.

During his study years, he made it a habit to collaborate with and help fellow students getting involved in the music industry.

In 2018, he joined the Hakuna Kulala studios and since then has been working and collaborating with other residents, shaping his creativity and defining his sound. He is set out to fuse trap music with different African rhythms to converge them into a new musical aesthetic.

## PERSONAL INFO

Age: 22  
Country: Congo  
Style: AfroTrap

## ASIDE MUSIC

- Website designer
- Graphic designer
- Fashion Designer

## PREVIOUSLY PLAYED

- Hakuna Kulala parties
- Underground raves in Kampala

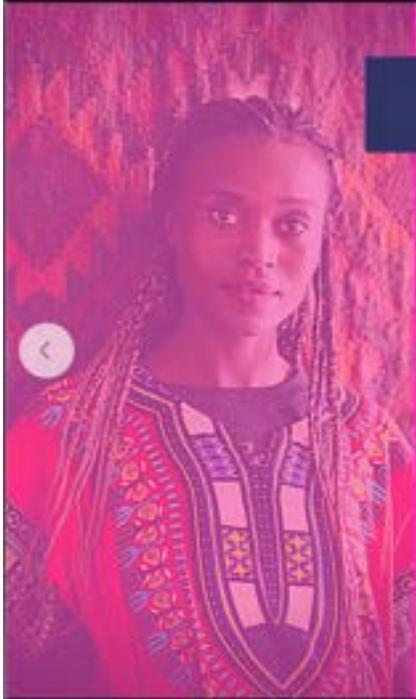
## CONTACTS

+256702102356  
romywaldrey@gmail.com  
romnyamoga39@gmail.com

## BOOKING

https://www.yogenyge.com





# CATU DIOSIS

## LOVE, FUN & ENERGY PON DI DANCEFLOOR

Journalist, fashion designer and core member of the Nyege Nyege Crew, Catu Diosis is a force to be reckoned with on the East African club scene.

Her Afro, bootyfriendly music and tendency to pick up the tempo and blend the genres are what have made her sauce so unique and sweat inducing...

Catu has played all over East Africa, including Nyege Nyege Festival in 2017 and 2018, while running her fashion brand Catwings and dj workshops for young women eager to join the game.

In 2018 Catu Diosis got into production, joining Hakama Kulala under the mentorship of [Ep](#) and Summer European Tour.



# SWORDMAN KITALA

RAGGAMUFFIN MC

Origin: Uganda  
Style: Dancehall



## BOOKING

[tupes@nyegekiyege.com](mailto:tupes@nyegekiyege.com)



## CONTACT

+256751420086  
[amanyafrankbkund@gmail.com](mailto:amanyafrankbkund@gmail.com)

## BIO

Amanya Frank aka Swordman Kitala is an MC and songwriter based in Kampala, Uganda. He began his career in the industry as a lyricist in the year 2000, lending his quill to many renown Ugandan artists as Rabadaba and Chameleon.

In 2001, he kicked off his dancehall career with the release of his first song, and hit, 'Mbalaga Bino'. He began performing in local shows and increasingly got bigger shows including the CBS radio festival.

After a few years of being a solo artist, he formed a band called Gaba Gaza which performed on many festivals around East Africa including the Nyege Nyege festival, Rost and Rhym festival, Reggae on the Nile and more.

He later broadened his horizons by joining the Kampala underground scene and created his own experimental dancehall music. Ever since he has been perfecting his craft through collaborating with Hakuna Kulala alongside other projects to be released soon.

## ASIDE FROM MUSIC

- Visual artist
- Craft artist

## PREVIOUSLY PLAYED

- Nyegekiyege festival
- Reggae on the Nile festival
- Mamba show (Kigali)
- Underground hip hop events in Kampala

# TCHONGO

M C

Age: 23  
Origin: Congo  
Style: AfroRap

## BIOGRAPHY

Tchongo Katchetche Chris (TCHONGO) is a 23 year old artist born and raised in Kinshasa, Congo. He began writing and singing in church choir at the age of 7. Later he joined a breakdancing crew and started rap battles at the age of 12. Freestyling these battles with inspirations like Eminem, Tchongo specialized in a very fast-paced style of rapping. Alongside this craft he manages to switch between flows every bar in a track which results in unequivocal epicness . during live performances.

In May 2018, Tchongo came to Uganda to explore new musical opportunities and joined the Hakuna Kulala collective.

He since has performed at Nyega Nyega festival in 2018, and is regularly performing in Kampala.



## BIOGRAPHY

Rey Sapientz is an MC, producer and DJ, known for his own music genre, "Congo Techno" blends which blends Congolese soukous with heavy electronic sounds.

Born and raised in the Democratic Republic of Congo, he first got in touch with the musical world in church choir.

By age 12 he started performing as a rapper for the "Independence day of Congo". In 2002 he formed a band with Jay Dragon aka Hallyson with whom he would rap on Congolese soukous and perform in local shows.

Rey was always involved with his community, and regularly organized writing workshops in youth centers.

In 2012 after completing his studies, he travelled to Uganda for a collaboration with various producers from Kampala.

As the war didn't make it possible for him to return to Congo, Rey Sapientz extended his stay in Uganda. Here he co-founded the Hakuna Kulala Label alongside Arlen Dibizian and Derek Debru.

In June 2017 he self taught music production and within a year, released his first EP "HAKUNA KULALA".

Currently he is the artist liaison within Hakuna Kulala and also gives Ableton workshops to emerging new producers of Kampala.



## PERFORMANCES

- Grand Tribunal/ Kisangani
- Sunia Music Competition
- Kisangani Vodacom Superstar
- Nyegenyege
- Bayimba
- Nyege Nyege
- Mbale Bubu
- Mbarara
- Kigali Rwanda
- Uganda France Friendship Week
- M'Isere festival
- Mamujal art

## ASIDE FROM MUSIC

- Painting
- Visual Artist

## RELEASE

<https://hakunakulala.bandcamp.com/>  
[@hakunakulala](https://www.instagram.com/hakunakulala)



### Activity 8: Production workshops

Date: 15-01-2019 – 15-06-2019

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Classroom

Objective: Teach total beginners the art of music production.

Number of participants: 10 (2 cohorts)

Output: High level production classes offered by highly skilled East African producers.

Outcome: Classes are taught and students show excellent results. 5 trained producers are now releasing their own music and its being played by their peers in the club. 5 more are still under training and have mastered the basics of production.

Results: All producers are now making music, and some are about to release their music on the label hakuna kulala and gaining in visibility. The music made from the production class are now being played by DJs, which is the greatest form of validation.

Pictures:





**Activity 9: Workshop: The business of music**

Date: 22/4/19

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective: Teach participants into the intricacies of the music business

Number of participants: 7

Output: 1 workshop on how to generate income through music

Outcome: Participants have a firm understanding of the different revenue streams in the music industry and how to tap into them.

Results: Artists are now making use of their knowledge when interacting with labels and distributors, and are also able to generate revenue.

Pictures:

# MUSIC INDUSTRY

WHERE THE HELL DOES THAT MONEY COME FROM?

## IT COMES FROM HERE

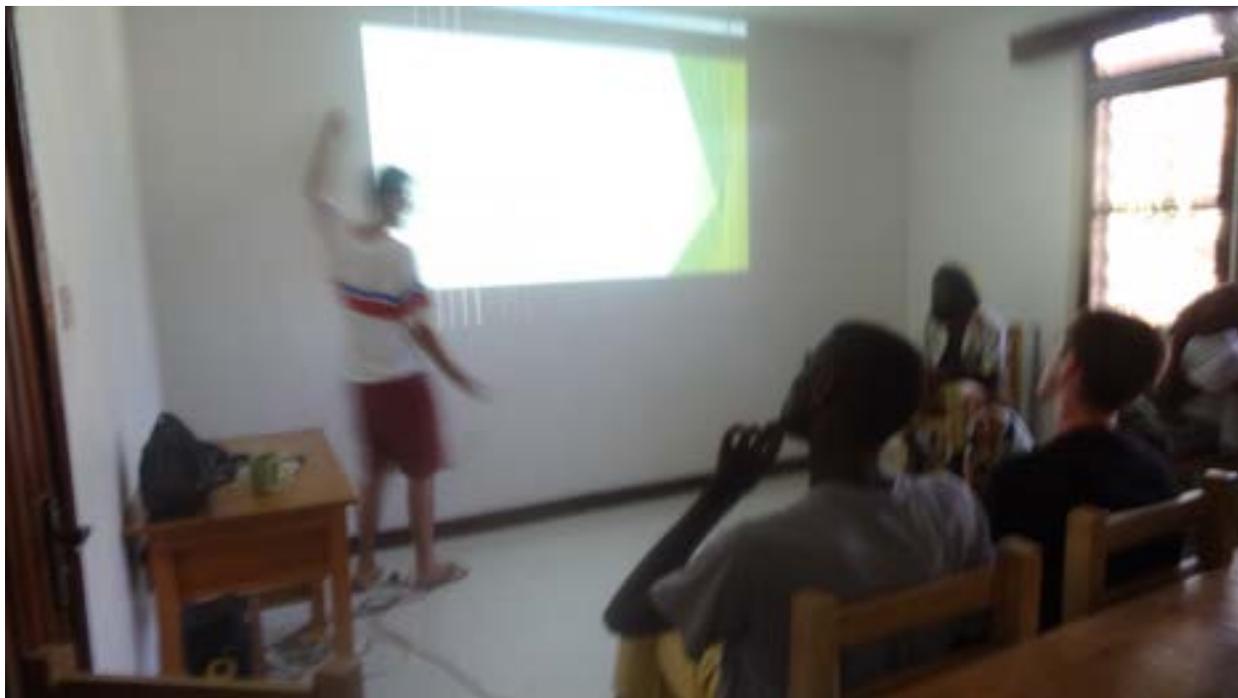
- ▶ LIVE SHOWS
- ▶ RECORD SALES
- ▶ SUBSIDIES
- ▶ PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND MECHANICAL RIGHTS
- ▶ SYNCs
- ▶ SPONSORING

# PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS AS A MUSICIAN

AND HOW TO MAKE MONEY OF IT

## What protection do you get?

- ▶ Right to reproduce (press your record on vinyl)
- ▶ Right to distribute copies of your work (sell that vinyl on the street)
- ▶ Perform the work in public (play a concert, radio play...)
- ▶ Make a derivative of your work (make a cover, an altered version...)
- ▶ Display the work publicly (exhibition, website with lyrics...)



Activity 10: DJ workshops  
Date: 26/4/19 - 10/6/19

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective: Train participants into the art of DJing, with a special focus on young female DJs.

Number of participants: 12

Output: Series of classes using CDJs, the industry standard DJ equipment that was purchased through the IIDEA grant.

Outcome: 12 DJs including many women are trained to excel in the art of DJing, the most talented are being given DJ controllers to practice from home, and many of the students are given a chance to perform.

Results: DJs are seeing an increase in bookings and perform better, have broader selections and better techniques.

Pictures:





Activity 11: Production of 12 albums  
Date: Aug 01 - June 16

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective: Producer, release and promote innovative music from promising young East African producers and musicians with the aim of developing their bookings.

Number of participants: 35

Output: Ten released albums. Five albums prepared and scheduled for release.

Outcome: All artist who released have began at a minimum to get monthly booking in Kampala. A huge amount of international press ( see section 7 : Communication interventions) focusing on the East African electronic music scene. Global attention on the East African music scene.

Results: Five new East African Artists touring internationally.

Aug 01, 2018: HK001: Lasakaneku: Slikback  
Aug 01, 2018: HK002: Hakuna Kulala: Rey Sapienz  
August 3, 2018: HK003: Wilobo Man: Disco Vumbi  
August 10, 2018: HK004: Ndi Mukazi: My Yallah  
October 26, 2018: HK005: Crocodiles Homiees: Debmater  
November 2, 2018: HK006: Sleeping Buddha: Sleeping Buddha  
November 9, 2018: HK007: Tuli Banyo: Echobase  
February 1, 2019: HK008: Tomo: Slikback  
March 8, 2019: HK009: From the Cave to the World: Don Zilla  
April 12, 2019: HK010: MbV5: Will'stone feat LeBon  
June 24 2019: HK011: Mushoro : Rey Sapienz  
June 30: 2019: HK012 Zillelvina: Headroof  
July 15: 2019: HK013: Wulffluw XCIV - Ngoma Injection  
July 25: 2019: HK014: MC Yallah – Balibanyoba  
July 30: 2019: HK015: Blaq Bandana – Red Lamborghini

Pictures:

# HAKUNA KULALA



## Lasakaneku

by [Silkback](#)

[Edit](#) [Delete](#) [Bulk Edit](#)



Ascension 00:00 / 03:15



### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

Includes unlimited streaming via the free Bandcamp app, plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

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- 1. Acid 03:03
- 2. Bantu Zizi 02:50
- 3. Ascension 03:15
- 4. Just I 04:04
- 5. Veron 03:52

Five rough and ready club explorations from young Kenyan producer Silkback to kick off Hakuna Kulala's upcoming series exploring new producers from the East African and Congolese Electronic Underground.

released June 29, 2018

Mastering by Declared Sound

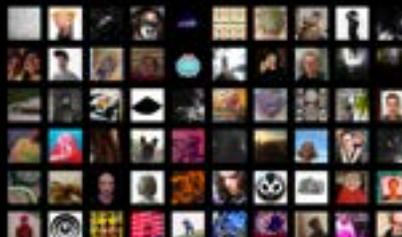
Recorded at Boutiq Studios, Kampala, Uganda



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### HAKUNA KULALA

Kampala, Uganda

[Following](#)

For Bookings:  
[hakunakulala@gmail.com](mailto:hakunakulala@gmail.com)

Club explorations from the East African and Congolese ... [more](#)

[edit artist bio](#)

[Facebook](#)

[SoundCloud](#)

[Instagram](#)

[discography](#)



# HAKUNA KULALA

## Hakuna Kulala

by [Rey Sapeinz](#)

[Edit](#) [Delete](#) [Bulk Edit](#)



Hakuna Ku Lala 00:00 / 03:54

### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

Includes unlimited streaming via the free Bandcamp app, plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

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1. [Hakuna Ku Lala](#) 03:54
2. [Eye Eye](#) 03:25
3. [On est bon là](#) 04:01

Hailing from Nord-Kivu, Congo DRC, Rey Sapeinz's debut ep offers a window into his Soukous mutations.

released June 29, 2018

Mastering by Declared Sound  
Recorded at Boutiq Studios Kampala  
Artwork by Kid Gringo

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HAKUNA KULALA

Kampala, Uganda

[Following](#)

For Bookings:  
[hakunakulala@gmail.com](mailto:hakunakulala@gmail.com)

Club explorations from the East African and Congolese  
[... more](#)

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[discography](#)



# HAKUNA KULALA



## Wilobo Man

by [Disco Yumbi](#)

[Edit](#) [Delete](#) [Bulk Edit](#)



### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

Includes unlimited streaming via the free [Bandcamp app](#), plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

[Buy Digital Album](#) €1.50 EUR or more

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- 1. [Jo-ducuruma](#) 04:26
- 2. [Wilobo Man](#) 03:28

Kenyan artist Aisi Ki's 'Disco Yumbi' moniker returns with a new two track ep recorded in the village of Bombo outside Kampala in collaboration with the a number of children from the village performing Buganda Folk Songs.

released August 3, 2018

Mastering by Declared Sound

Graphics by Kid Gingo

Vocals by Sikumbi Yusef, Oyella Josephine, Nangio Judith, Muvadhoo Sumaiya, Kibeni Christopher, Neubuga Brian, Wasawa Jovias, Sebano Daphine Naula, Peruth Claire, Legose Victoria.

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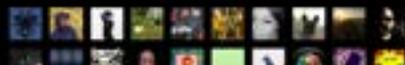


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 **Rebel Up SebCat** *fun EP of Kenyan music!*  
Disco Yumbi, really love the Wilobo Man tone and have been playing it a lot in my dj sets this summer :)  
Favorite track: Wilobo Man.

 **MDeaSeL** *These two songs are so good, my favourite is Jo-ducuruma. Even managed to fit it in as a ending track for a techno set. A must get if you enjoy this genre of music* Favorite track: Jo-ducuruma.



**HAKUNA KULALA**  
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# HAKUNA KULALA



## Ndi Mukazi

by MC Yallah

[Edit](#) [Delete](#) [Sub Edit](#)



Ndi Mukazi 00:00 / 02:56



### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

Includes unlimited streaming via the free Bandcamp app, plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

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- 1. Ndi Mukazi 02:56
- 2. Debmaster - Ndi Mukazi (Debmaster Instrumental) 02:52
- 3. Ndi Mukazi (Jay Glass Dubz Version) 04:12
- 4. Jay Glass Dubz - Ndi Mukazi (Jay Glass Dubz Instrumental) 04:12

### Boomkat Product Review:

Killer fresh rap music from MC Yallah, backed with cavernous Jay Glass Dubz versions on Hakuna Kulala - the mean yung sibling of Nyege Nyege Tapes...

Kenyan, but Ugandan born and raised Italian Gaudencia Moidde a.k.a. MC Yallah oozes style inside the cold, sparse boom/crack and vaulted electronica atmospheres of "Ndi Mukazi" - one of the most urgent yet deep, dark blue rap tracks we've heard in a minute - while



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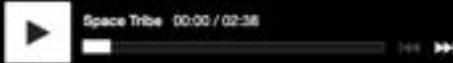
MBVS  
by 2018

# HAKUNA KULALA

## Crocodiles Homieees

by [Debmaster](#)

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[Streaming](#) • [Download](#)

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1. [Space Tribe](#) 02:38
2. [Solar Leone](#) 02:48
3. [1xv2](#) 02:05
4. [Crocodiles Homieees](#) 02:55

With a borderline obsessive workiness! longtime Hakuna Kulala collaborator Julien Deblots aka [Debmaster](#), trims his mustache every day the same way he trims his music. A kind of tornado of bleeps finding its strength as much in hip-hop as in more obscure genres such as Moldavian *Ńbit* or African accordion.

Following from his production on [Mc Yallah's Ndi Mukazi](#), [Debmaster](#) presents his first debut ep on Hakuna Kulala. *Crocodiles Homieees* reworks African field recordings from Kampala's [Soutiq Studio's](#) archives.

released October 26, 2018



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[Anastasia Elefantis](#) Great stuff but please consider making these tracks longer for *q's* :)



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[1xv2](#)  
1xv2

# HAKUNA KULALA

## Sleeping Buddha

by [Sleeping Buddha](#)

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### Digital Album

[Streaming](#) + [Download](#)

Includes unlimited streaming via the free Bandcamp app, plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

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- 1. [Goro](#) 04:58
- 2. [Onimusha](#) 04:00
- 3. [Tengu](#) 04:34

Young Durban producer Sleeping Buddha's s/t ep presents three Gqom killers.

\*\*\*Boomkat Product Review\*\*\*

Killer Gqom from Durban's Sleeping Buddha for Hakuna Kulala, the sister label of Uganda's amazing Nyaga Nyaga Tapes. Keeping the levels high after aces from Silkback, MC Yallah, Rey Sapientz and Disco Wumbi, the label looks due south to the virulent sound of South African taxi techno, or Gqom, with Sleeping Buddha's debut volley. Frozen, nut-crack drums and cold sweet-inducing bass drones pave the way for stinging strings, sirens and tart trance stabs in 'Goro', before 'Onimusha' keens off on an even darker path with some of the



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# HAKUNA KULALA



## Tuli Banyo

by [Ecko Bazz](#) feat [Bigga Yut](#)

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Ecko Bazz feat Bigga Yut - Tuli Banyo 00:00 / 03:31



### Digital Album

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1. [Ecko Bazz feat Bigga Yut - Tuli Banyo](#) 03:31

2. [pq - Tuli Banyo \(instrumental\)](#) 03:31

3. [Eke - Tuli Banyo \(rave edit\)](#) 04:11

\*\*\* Boomkat Product Review \*\*\*

Grimy rap killers from two of Uganda's finest MC's, Ecko Bazz & Bigga Yut, with production from Nihiloxica's pq and a remix from new name, Eke, all doing it for Nyege Nyege Tapes' sister label, Hakuna Kulala.

Moving from strength to strength after shots from MC Yallah, Demaster, Silkback and Sleeping Buddha, Ecko Bazz takes the lead on 'Tuli Banyo', trading bars with Bigga Yut, another MC from the Gabbu ghetto surrounding NNT's Boutiq studio in Kampala.

The energy and rudeness of the original recalls early UK grime, with



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[Vet Notjes](#) *Not your head for Uganda!*  
Favorite track: Tuli Banyo.



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# HAKUNA KULALA



## Tomo

by [Sikiback](#)

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Kyokai 00:00 / 02:28



### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

Includes unlimited streaming via the free Bandcamp app, plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

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1. [Sunshine](#) 03:05
2. [Gemini](#) 02:18
3. [Kyokai](#) 02:28
4. [Karam](#) 03:30
5. [Zuhara](#) 03:06
6. [Rage](#) 03:11

\*\*\*\*\* Boomkat Product Review \*\*\*\*\*

Kenya's Sikiback stuns again with the singular, forward rhythms and stark electronic space of "Tomo", his follow-up to the resoundingly acclaimed "Laakaneki", also for Nyege Nyege Tapes sister label, Hakuna Kulala.

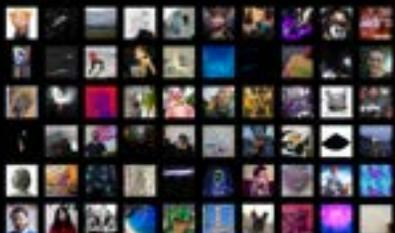
At the vanguard of a vital East African electronic music scene, Sikiback combines local rhythmic heritage with sheer, abstract



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MP3  
FLAC

# HAKUNA KULALA

## From the Cave to the World

by Don Zila

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### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

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1. From the Cave 05:42
2. Inside Me 12:50

Following on from his two remixes on STILL's 'T' album released in November 2018 on FAN records, Boutiq Studios manager and producer Don Zila presents his debut ep of dark club bangers built on nasty drums and tense drones.

### Boomkat Product Review

Nyaga Nyaga Tapes sibling, Hakuna Kulala host the fearless debut by Don Zila, manager of the Boutiq studio at the heart of Kampala, Uganda's vital music scene

Following up his remixes of STILL's 'T' album cuts in 2018, Don Zila bares his teeth in both parts of 'From The Cave to the World', first churning up a viscous groove full of shadow-boxing drums and guitar bass distortion on the cusp of dubstep raw and hellzap D&B with



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### discography



[MP3](#)

**MBv5**  
by Will Stone feat. Le Bon

Edit Delete Bulk Edit

MBv5 00:10 / 02:24

**Digital Album**  
Streaming + Download  
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1. Mbv5 02:24
2. Debmaster - Mbv5 Instrumental 02:25

\*\*\* BOOMKAT PRODUCT REVIEW \*\*\*

Hailing from the Eastern Congo city of Goma, Will Stone's barking, stentorian style has come to define the sound of his city's war torn youth. On 'Mbv5' he's joined by Kampala-based Congolese MC, Le Bon to spray fire over a crushingly heavy groove built from drop forge drums and sweltering, even panicked patina of field recordings, and in a way that wouldn't sound outta place on JPEGMafia's 'Veteran', Outthroat, hardcore business.

Not to be missed!

released April 12, 2019

Produced by Debmaster  
Mastered at Declared Sound  
Graphics by Kid Gringo

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MBv5  
Apr 2019

**Forthcoming ALBUMS:**

HK011: Ray Sapienz : Mushoro (RELEASE DATE: 21 June)

HK012: Zillelvina: Headroof (RELEASE DATE; 30 June)

HK013: Wulffluw XCIV - Ngoma Injection (RELEASE DATE: 15 July)

HK014: MC Yallah – Balibanyoba (RELEASE DATE: 25 July)

HK015: Blaq Bandana – Red Lamborghini (RELEASE DATE: 30 July)

**Activity 12: Mastering**

Date: August 01 2019 – 25 May 20

Venue: Declared Sound, UK

Objective: Preparing all the music from residencies and incubations to best possible international release standards

Number of participants: 1

Output: 12 mastered albums

Outcome: 12 finished albums

Results: With successful album releases artist are now seeing an increase in bookings and are eager to work on further music.

Pictures: Please See Invoice from Declared Sound as well as mastering credits on Screen grab for Release credits for Activity 16.

**Activity 13: Music Video production (10)**

Date: January – April 2019

Venue: Several Locations (Kampala, Dar Es Salaam)

Objective: Produce high quality music videos

Number of participants: 100

Output: 10 Music videos

Outcome: 10 high quality videos artists

Results: Artists gain great recognition for their work and get more shows

Pictures:











Still from MC Yallah Video





#### Activity 14: Photoshoot

Date: February 2019

Venue: Different locations in Kampala

Objective: Create professional photography for Hakuna Kulala artists

Number of participants: 10

Output: Photo of artists

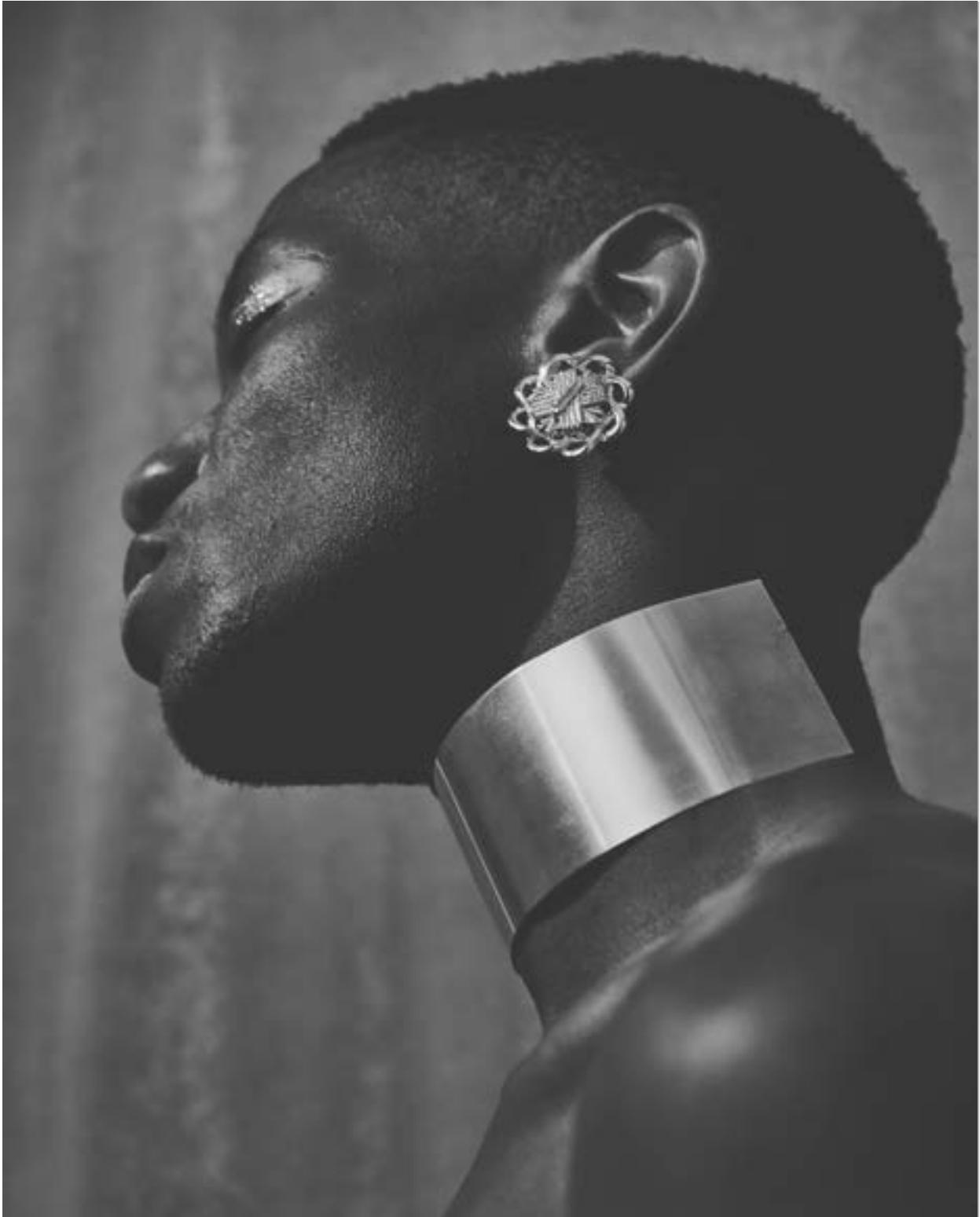
Outcome: Every artist gets professional photos

Results: Artists now have great photos to send to promoters, add to their press kit and send to journalists.

















Activity 15: T-shirt design and production for launch

Date: 05-09-2018

Venue: Nyege Nyege Festival

Objective: Promote the launch of Hakuna Kulala

Number of participants: 1

Output: 250 t-shirts

Outcome: Gain visibility for the label, allow artists to associate with the label

Results: Print of 250 t-shirts, and brand recognition has widely increased around the region.



#### Activity 16: Touring schedule for all artists

Date: 15/08/2018 - Ongoing

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Studio

Objective: Create touring posters for all the artists

Number of participants: 1

Output: 6 tour posters

Outcome: Artist gain visibility through promotion.

Results: More visibility for the artists and for Hakuna Kulala, all artists in the region recognize the value of the platform because of its results, artists are making an income with their original music and this inspires many in the region. More artists requests.

Pictures:

# NYEGE NYEGE

## W I N T E R T O U R

26/01 CTM, BERLIN (SLIKBACK)  
 01/02 CTM, BERLIN (MCZO & DUKE)  
 01/02 GARAGE NOORD, AMSTERDAM (OGNIKI)  
 07/02 AERONEF, LILLE (KAMPIRE)  
 09/02 CONCRETE, PARIS (SLIKBACK)  
 22/02 SONIC ARTS FESTIVAL, AMSTERDAM (SLIKBACK)  
 01/03 VOORUIT, GENT (KAMPIRE)  
 01/03 VOORUIT, GENT (OTIM ALPHA)  
 02/03 ELEVATE FESTIVAL, GRAZ (SLIKBACK)  
 02/03 NITSA, BARCELONA (KAMPIRE)  
 02/03 NITSA, BARCELONA (OTIM ALPHA)  
 08/03 JAZZ CAFE, LONDON (KAMPIRE)  
 08/03 MEET FACTORY, PRAGUE (OTIM ALPHA)  
 08/03 MEET FACTORY, PRAGUE (BAMBA PANA & MAKAVELI)  
 08/03 MUTEK FESTIVAL, BARCELONA (SLIKBACK)  
 09/03 CARNIVAL ARTS, GLASGOW (KAMPIRE)  
 10/03 8<sup>th</sup> WORLD SUMMIT ON ARTS & CULTURE, MALAYSIA (KAMPIRE)  
 14/03 POLE ÉTUDIANT, NANTES (KAMPIRE)  
 15/03 GRETCHEN, BERLIN (KAMPIRE)  
 16/03 SUDPOL, LUCERNE (KAMPIRE)  
 22/03 YAAM, BERLIN (BAMBA PANA & MAKAVELI)  
 22/03 YAAM, BERLIN (OTIM ALPHA)  
 23/03 CATCH FESTIVAL, UTRECHT (KAMPIRE)  
 23/03 VEGA JR, COPENHAGEN (BAMBA PANA & MAKAVELI)  
 23/03 VEGA JR, COPENHAGEN (OTIM ALPHA)  
 29/03 REWIRE FESTIVAL, DEN HAAG (KAMPIRE)  
 29/03 REWIRE FESTIVAL, DEN HAAG (BAMBA PANA & MAKAVELI)  
 29/03 REWIRE FESTIVAL, DEN HAAG (OTIM ALPHA)  
 30/03 RADIO MEUH CIRCUS FESTIVAL, LA CLUSAZ (KAMPIRE)  
 05/04 VK, BRUSSELS, (OTIM ALPHA + NEW PROJECT)  
 12/04 DADA CLUB BEIJING (SLIKBACK)  
 13/04 OIL CLUB SHENZHEN (SLIKBACK)  
 19/04 LOOPY HANGZOU (SLIKBACK)  
 20/04 ALL CLUB SHANGHAI (SLIKBACK)  
 26/04 INTONAL FESTIVAL MALMO SWEDEN (MCZO & DUKE)





**US-EU-UK  
SUMMER '19**

- |                                                                     |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 18/05 Red Bull Music Festival presents<br>Nyege Nyege, New York, US | 06/07 Down The Rabbit Hole Festival, Ewijk, NL  |
| 25/05 Lente Kabinet Festival, Amsterdam, NL                         | 11/07 Festival Les Suds à Arles, France, FR     |
| 26/05 Griessmuehle, Berlin, DE                                      | 14/07 Dour Festival, Belgium, BE                |
| 07/06 Clandestino Festival, Gotenborg, SE                           | 17/07 Gurtenfestival, Bern, CH                  |
| 14/06 Paraiso Festival, Madrid, ES                                  | 18/07 Razzmatazz, Barcelona, ES                 |
| 15/06 La Magnifique Society, Riems, FR                              | 19/07 Melt! Festival, Ferropolis, DE            |
| 16/06 Marsatac Festival, Marseille, FR                              | 20/07 Kallida Festival, Somerset, GB            |
| 21/06 Electricians Street, Gdańsk, PL                               | 27/07 N'Gola Biennial, São Tomé e Príncipe, ST  |
| 22/06 Kolorádó Fesztivál, Budapest, HU                              | 02/08 Wilderness Festival, Oxfordshire, GB      |
| 27/06 Fusion Festival, Larz, DE                                     | 03/08 Cafe OTD, London, GB                      |
| 28/06 Fusion Festival, Larz, DE                                     | 10/08 Flow Festival, Helsinki, FI               |
| 29/06 IndieRocket Festival, Pescara, IT                             | 11/08 Plages Electroniques Festival, Cannes, FR |
|                                                                     | 23/08 Shambala Festival Northamptonshire, GB    |

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# NIHILOXICA

## EUROPE 2019

27 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL	/ LE HASARD LUDIQUE	/ PARIS	/ FR
1 <sup>ST</sup> MAY	/ LES ARALUNAIRES	/ ARLON	/ FR
3 <sup>RD</sup> MAY	/ LE BOTANIQUE	/ BRUSSELS	/ BE
4 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	/ KASERNE	/ BASEL	/ CH
10 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	/ BAD BONN	/ DUDINGEN	/ CH
11 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	/ RAZZMATAZZ	/ BARCELONA	/ ES
16 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	/ UNIVERISTE	/ NANTES	/ FR
18 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	/ MOLODOI	/ STRASBOURG	/ FR
25 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	/ LENTEKABINET	/ AMSTERDAM	/ NL
1 <sup>ST</sup> JUNE	/ LES NUITS SONORES	/ LYON	/ FR
8 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	/ BLACKOUT FESTIVAL	/ TURIN	/ IT
9 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	/ BUKA	/ MILAN	/ IT
10 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	/ RAVENNA FESTIVAL	/ RAVENNA	/ IT

(MORE DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED)

# BAMBA PANA & MAKAVELI

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**CLANDESTINO FESTIVAL - SWEDEN**  
(GOTHENBURG - 7TH OF JUNE)

**OFF FESTIVAL - POLAND**  
(KATOWICE - 3RD OF AUGUST)

**HEART OF NOISE FESTIVAL - AUSTRIA**  
(INNSBRUCK - 9TH OF JUNE)

**FLOW FESTIVAL - FINLAND**  
(KATOWICE - 3RD OF AUGUST)

**MEET FACTORY - CZECH REPUBLIC**  
(PRAGUE - 14TH OF JUNE)

**LOWLANDS - NETHERLANDS**  
(BIDDINGHUIZEN - 17TH OF AUGUST)

**WIENER FESTWOCHE - AUSTRIA**  
(VIENNA - 15TH OF JUNE)

**PUKKELPOP - BELGIUM**  
(HASSELT - 18TH OF AUGUST)

**KOLORÁDÓ FESTIVAL - HUNGARY**  
(BUDAPEST - 22ND OF JUNE)

**INSOMNIA FESTIVAL - NORWAY**  
(TROMSO - 26TH OF OCTOBER)

**LOREM IPSUM - SPAIN**  
(BARCELONA - 25TH OF JULY)

**OSLO WORLD FESTIVAL - NORWAY**  
(OSLO - 1ST OF NOVEMBER)

**VIVA FESTIVAL - ITALY**  
(APULIA - 2ND OF AUGUST)

**KUNSTHALL - NORWAY**  
(BERGEN - 2ND OF NOVEMBER)

**2019**

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# MCZO & DUKE

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**INTONAL - APRIL 26TH  
(SWEDEN)**

**RED BULL MUSIC FESTIVAL - MAY 18TH  
(NEW YORK)**

**SATURNALIA - JUNE 22ND  
(MILAN)**

**SUMMER NOSTOS - JUNE 25TH  
(GREECE)**

**UN SOUND - OCTOBER 12TH  
(POLAND)**

**WOMEX - OCTOBER 23TH  
(FINLAND)**

**NYEGE NYEGE - SEPTEMBER 7TH  
(UGANDA)**

**UN SOUND ADELAIDE - DECEMBER 15TH  
(AUSTRALIA)**

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May

16/05/2019 Université, Nantes, FR (Nihiloxica)  
18/05/2019 Molodoi, Strasbourg, FR (Nihiloxica)  
25/05/2019 Lente Kabinet Festival, Amsterdam, NL (Nihiloxica / Kampire)  
26/05/2019 Griessmuehle, Berlin, DE (Kampire)

June

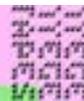
01/06/2019 Nuits Sonores Festival, Lyon, FR (Nihiloxica)  
07/06/2019 Clandestino Festival, Gothenborg, SE (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
07/06/2019 Hasard Ludique, Paris, FR (Poko Poko + Rey Sapienz + Debmaster)  
08/06/2019 Blackout Festival, Turin, IT (Nihiloxica)  
08/06/2019 Edmundo Festival, Nantes, FR (Poko Poko)  
09/06/2019 Heart Of Noise Festival, AT (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
09/06/2019 Buka, Milan, IT (Nihiloxica)  
10/06/2019 Ravenna Festival, Ravenna, IT (Nihiloxica)  
14/06/2019 Meet Factory, Prague, CZ (Bamba Pana + Makaveli / Slikback)  
14/06/2019 Paraiso Festival, Madrid, ES (Kampire)  
15/06/2019 La Station, Paris, FR (Slikback)  
15/06/2019 Wiener Festwochen, Vienna, AT (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
15/06/2019 La Magnifique Society, Riems, DE (Kampire)  
16/06/2019 Marsatac Festival, Marseille, FR (Kampire)  
20/06/2019 Linecheck Festival, Milan, IT (Bamba Pana + Makaveli / Kampire)  
21/06/2019 Electricians Street, PL (Kampire)  
21/06/2019 La Nature, Vielsalm, BE (Slikback)  
22/06/2019 Tauron Nowa Muzyka, Katowice, PL (Slikback)  
22/06/2019 Kolorádó Festival, Budapest, HU (Bamba Pana + Makaveli / Kampire)  
22/06/2019 Saturnalia, IT (Mczo + Duke)  
23/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, GR (Slikback)  
25/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, GR (Mczo + Duke)  
27/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, GR (Catu Diosis)  
27-28/06/2019 Fusion Festival, Larz, DE (Kampire)  
28/06/2019 Les Siestes Electronique, Toulouse, FR (Slikback)  
29/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, GR (Authentically Plastic)  
29/06/2019 Indierocket Festival, Pescara, IT (Kampire)

July

05/07/2019 Eurokennes Of Belfort, Belfort, FR (Kampire)  
06/07/2019 Down The Rabbit Hole Festival, Ewijk, NL (Kampire)  
11/07/2019 Ø, London, UK (Slikback)  
11/07/2019 Festival Sud À Arles, Arles, FR (Kampire)  
14/07/2019 Dour Festival, Dour, BE (Kampire)  
17/07/2019 Gurtenfestival, Bern, CH (Kampire)  
18/07/2019 Sónar Festival, Barcelona, ES (Slikback)  
18/07/2019 Off-sonar @ Razzmatazz, Barcelona, ES (Otim Alpha / Kampire)  
19/07/2019 Sónar Festival, Barcelona, ES (Hipotep)  
19/07/2019 Blue Dot Festival, Manchester, UK (Otim Alpha / Slikback)  
19/07/2019 Met! Festival, Ferropolis, DE (Kampire)  
20/07/2019 Kallida Festival, Sparkford Hall, UK (Otim Alpha / Kampire)  
25/07/2019 Contemporary Art Museum, Barcelona, ES (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
26/07/2019 Slinks, BE (Hipotep)  
26/07/2019 Levontin, Tel Aviv, IL (Otim Alpha)  
25-27/07/2019 Norbergfestival, Norberg, SE (Slikback)  
28/07/2019 Ortigia Sound System Festival, Sicily, IT (Otim Alpha)

August

03/08/2019 Cafe Oto, London, UK (Otim Alpha / Kampire)  
03/08/2019 Off Festival, Katowice, PL (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
03/08/2019 Phonox, London, UK (Kampire)  
04/08/2019 Supernormal Festival, Oxford, UK (Otim Alpha / Kampire)  
04/08/2019 Dekmantel, Amsterdam, NL (Slikback)  
09/08/2019 Le Sucre, Lyon, FR (Otim Alpha)  
10/08/2019 Flow Festival, Helsinki, FI (Bamba Pana + Makaveli / Kampire)  
11/08/2019 Plages Electroniques Festival, Cannes, FR (Kampire)  
17/08/2019 Poekhali Festival, Bergen, NO (Otim Alpha)  
17/08/2019 Lowlands Festival, Biddinghuizen, NL (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
18/08/2019 Pukkelpop Festival, Hasselt, BE (Bamba Pana + Makaveli)  
23/08/2019 Kamikaze, Shambata, Northamptonshire, UK (Kampire)  
25/08/2019 Cabaret Vert Festival, Charlesville-Mézières, FR (Kampire)  
26-31/08/2019 Atlas Electronic Festival, Marrakech, MA (Otim Alpha)  
5-8/09/2019 Mtn Nyeye Nyeye Festival, Jinja, UG (Everybody)



May

16/05/2019 Université, Nantes, FR (Nihiloxica)  
18/05/2019 Molodoi, Strasbourg, FR (Nihiloxica)  
25/05/2019 Lente Kabinet Festival, Amsterdam, NL (Nihiloxica / Kampire)  
26/05/2019 Griessmuehle, Berlin, DE (Kampire)

June

01/06/2019 Nuits Sonores Festival, Lyon, FR (Nihiloxica)  
07/06/2019 Clandestino Festival, Gothenborg, S  
07/06/2019 Hasard Ludique, Paris, FR (Poko Poko  
08/06/2019 Blackout Festival, Turin, IT (Nihiloxi  
08/06/2019 Edmundo Festival, Nantes, FR (Poko  
09/06/2019 Heart Of Noise Festival, AT (Bamba  
09/06/2019 Buka, Milan, IT (Nihiloxica)  
10/06/2019 Ravenna Festival, Ravenna, IT (Nihil  
14/06/2019 Meet Factory, Prague, CZ (Bamba Pa  
14/06/2019 Paraiso Festival, Madrid, ES (Kampi  
15/06/2019 La Station, Paris, FR (Slikback)  
15/06/2019 Wiener Festwochen, Vienna, AT (Ba  
15/06/2019 La Magnifique Society, Riems, DE (K  
16/06/2019 Marsatac Festival, Marseille, FR (Ki  
20/06/2019 Linecheck Festival, Milan, IT (Bamb  
21/06/2019 Electricians Street, PL (Kampire)  
21/06/2019 La Nature, Vielsalm, BE (Slikback)  
22/06/2019 Tauron Nowa Muzyka, Katowice, PL  
22/06/2019 Kolorádó Festival, Budapest, HU (Ba  
22/06/2019 Saturnalia, IT (Mczo + Duke)  
23/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, G  
25/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, G  
27/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, G  
27-28/06/2019 Fusion Festival, Larz, DE (Kampi  
28/06/2019 Les Siestes Electronique, Toulouse,  
29/06/2019 Summer Nostros Festival, Athens, G  
29/06/2019 Indierocket Festival, Pescara, IT (Ki

July

05/07/2019 Eurokennes Of Belfort, Belfort, FR  
06/07/2019 Down The Rabbit Hole Festival, Ewi  
11/07/2019 Ø, London, UK (Slikback)  
11/07/2019 Festival Sud À Arles, Arles, FR (Kam  
14/07/2019 Dour Festival, Dour, BE (Kampire)  
17/07/2019 Gurtenfestival, Bern, CH (Kampire)  
18/07/2019 Sónar Festival, Barcelona, ES (Slikb  
18/07/2019 Off-sonar @ Razzmatazz, Barcelona  
19/07/2019 Sónar Festival, Barcelona, ES (Hipo  
19/07/2019 Blue Dot Festival, Manchester, UK (O  
19/07/2019 Met! Festival, Ferropolis, DE (Kamp  
20/07/2019 Kallida Festival, Sparkford Hall, UK  
25/07/2019 Contemporary Art Museum, Barcelo  
26/07/2019 Slinks, BE (Hipotep)  
26/07/2019 Levontin, Tel Aviv, IL (Otim Alpha)  
25-27/07/2019 Norbergfestival, Norberg, SE (Su  
28/07/2019 Ortigia Sound System Festival, Sicil

August

03/08/2019 Cafe Oto, London, UK (Otim Alpha /  
03/08/2019 Off Festival, Katowice, PL (Bamba P  
03/08/2019 Phonox, London, UK (Kampire)  
04/08/2019 Supernormal Festival, Oxford, UK (C  
04/08/2019 Dekmantel, Amsterdam, NL (Slikbac  
09/08/2019 Le Sucre, Lyon, FR (Otim Alpha)  
10/08/2019 Flow Festival, Helsinki, FI (Bamba P  
11/08/2019 Plages Electroniques Festival, Cann  
17/08/2019 Poekhali Festival, Bergen, NO (Otim  
17/08/2019 Lowlands Festival, Biddinghuizen, N  
18/08/2019 Pukkelpop Festival, Hasselt, BE (Ba  
23/08/2019 Kamikaze, Shambata, Northampton  
25/08/2019 Cabaret Vert Festival, Charlesville-  
26-31/08/2019 Atlas Electronic Festival, Marral  
5-8/09/2019 Mtn Nyeye Nyeye Festival, Jinja, UI

## Activity 17: East African Tour (Nairobi/Kampala/Kigali)

Date: 07-03-2019 – 18-03-2019

Venue:

Ngong Racecourse (Africa Nouveau Festival, Kenya)

The View (Full Moon Party, Kampala)

One Love Kigali (Full showcase, Kigali)

Objective: To create regional exposure for the artists, as well as support local scenes with top east African performances. To strengthen partnerships in the region, with venues and promoters especially. To create regional consciousness amongst the artists who travel to another East African country for the first time.

Number of participants: 25 (not all on the full tour)

Output: 3 performances

Outcome: Artists have gained regional exposure and build an east African fanbase. They are more aware of East Africa as a total market and have initiated collaborations and future projects. We have learned from each event, identified best practices, and key partners in each city.

Results: 3 shows in 3 countries, audience of 20,000 people, first international experience for many artists.

Pictures:



**HART THE BAND** (KE) **SHO MADJOZI** (ZA)  
**NAIROBI HORNS PROJECT** (KE) **KARUN** (KE) **IBAAKU** (SN)  
**DJ CORTEGA** (CH/SN) **DJ VIDZA** (KE) **BENGATRONICS** (KE)  
**BURUNTUMA** (GNB) **DAGOZ GANG** (KE) **ALEC LOMAMI** (DRC)  
**SPOEK MATHAMBO** (ZA) **THE KAYA COLLECTIVE** (KE)  
**BODDHI SATVA** (CA) **CHEIF & THE MARSHALLS** (KE)  
**DJ SISSO & REHEMA TAJIRI** (TZ) **DJ BASTHMA** (KE)  
**TKR PRESENTS** (KE) **FAIZAL DA MOSTRIXX** (UG)  
**SURAJ X MAX DOBLHOFF** (KE) **BATUK** (ZA)  
**FRANK BIYONG** (CR)

ART INSTALLATIONS BY: **KHALLIDA, PETER WALALA & MESHACK OIRO**

FESTIVAL PASS  
**4500 KES**

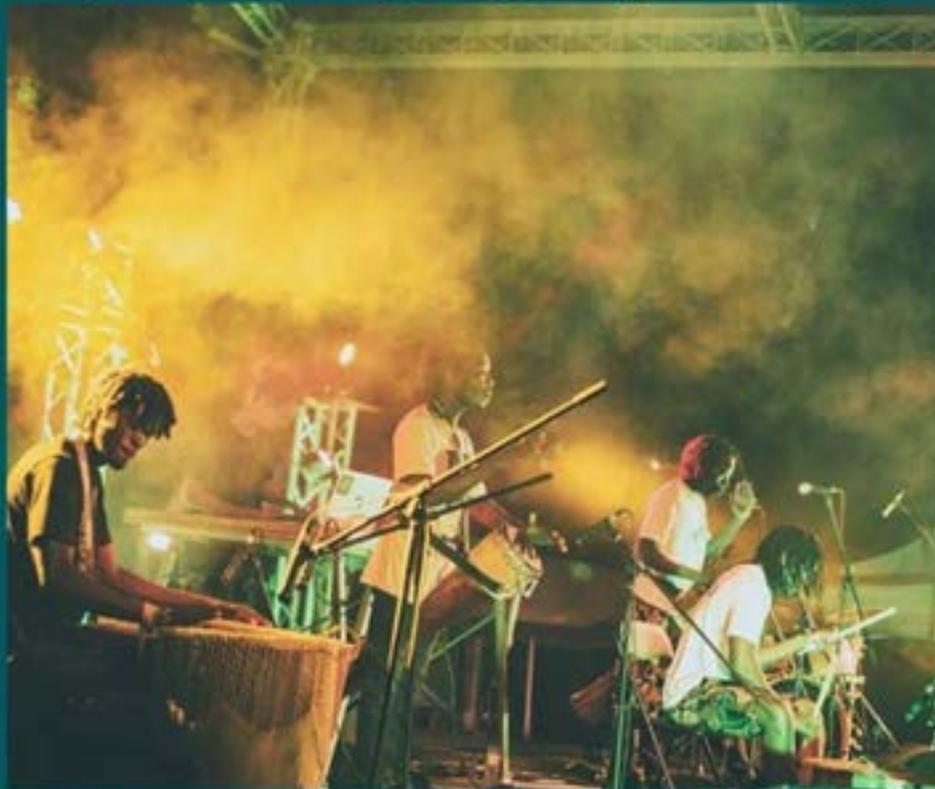
**08-10**  
**MARCH**

**NGONG'**  
**RACECOURSE**

MUSIC X FASHION X VR GAMING X FILMS X CAMPING X INSTALLATIONS

[WWW.AFRICANOUEAU.COM](http://WWW.AFRICANOUEAU.COM)

*east africa inner tropical  
nyege nyege party*



16 MAR 2019  
7PM

ONE LOVE KIGALI  
3000 RWF

**NIHILOXICA DJ SISSO & REHEMA TAJIRI**  
POKO POKO CATUDIOSIS LYYNDUH MC YALLA GILO  
KURUKA CHAMA TEAM KUMBA KOOJO ALYT-MX BINGHI

**Activity 18: RESIDENCY : Otim Alpha Leo P-layeng and Producer Redda**

Date: 15/09/2018 – On going

Venue: Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective: Create hybrid project between North African producer and Northern Ugandan music

Number of participants: 3

Output: Multiple performances and residencies, electronification of the traditional adungu instrument from Northern Uganda, creation of a new band TRANCE PARENTS ORCHESTRA

Outcome: All musicians involved have a deeper insight into one another's tradition and rhythmic structures, while also learning a lot from the collaborative process.

Results: A performance in Morocco and in Belgium and a forthcoming album in august.

Pictures:

**Activity 19: RESIDENCY: Italian producer Still works with 4 Ugandan rappers**

Date: 15/08/2018 – Ongoing

Venue: Hakuna Kulala studios

Objective: Out of a collaborative process, we hope to present an album and a touring band

Number of participants: 8

Output: Album, music videos and performance at Hakuna Kulala Nyege Nyege Showcase,

Outcome: Touring and performance opportunities, and income

Results: The amount of local bookings have increased and the MCs involved in the project have started their own event. When the album will be released we expect more bookings and income.

Pictures:





**Activity 20: RESIDENCY :** Kenyan Metal Band “Ungratefully Alive” recording sessions and residency

Date : 12/04/2019 – on going

Venue : Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective : Experiment with metal sonorities, collaborate with Laurence Okello, record an album, perform and be part of the collective.

Number of participants : 7 (3 main artists from Kenya, and four collaborators)

Output : Album

Outcome : Touring and performance opportunities, income.

Results : Finished. Album due out in October 2019-06-17



**Activity 21: RESIDENCY :** Collaboration between Jonathan Uliel and East African artists

Date : 31/09/2018 – on going

Venue : Hakuna Kulala Studios

Objective : Collaboration with one of Uganda's most talented drummer and lady trumpeteer

Number of participants : 3

Output : Album

Outcome : Touring and performance opportunities, income.

Results : In process

Pictures :



Activity 22: Build performance networks: event in Dar es Salaam

Date: April 05-7 2019

Venue: Mburahati Football Pitch, Dar Es Salaam

Objective: To Showcase our work with Singeli Artists in their community. To showcase the Underground Singeli scene to BASATA (The Tanzanian Arts council) and other promoters and journalists. To build key networks in Dar Es Salaam and interact with key studios.

Number of participants: 1500

Output: Live Showcase of Singeli music.

Outcome: Major article about the Singeli scene in key international publication. New connections made in the community for organizing further community events. Local Counsellor, head of police. Largest showcase of Singeli in Mburhatui ever taken place.

Results: An Audience of 1500 people attended. Five hour showcase of Singeli showcasing over 35 artists.

Pictures:





Singeli Movement Inakuletea.....

# - CHIMBO LA SINGELI -

Itakalofanyika : **Manzese Uwanja Wa Tishio**

17/3/2019

**Juma Pili**

Kuanzia Saa 8 Mchana

Litakalo Sindikizwa Na Wasanii & MaDj Wafuatao:

## WASANII

1. MAKAVEL
2. WISE MANI
3. CHIEF BEKA
4. MC KADILIDA
5. ANTI VAIRAS
6. MDOGO JANJA
7. MCZO
8. MUJWA UKI
9. KASHIWASHI MC
10. GANZI MDUDU
11. DOGO MUCHI



## MADJ

1. BAMBAPANA
2. TAKSHOW
3. BALOSHINEIDA
4. LONGO
5. JAY MITA
6. DUKE

www.singeli.com

**HakunaKiingilio**

### Activity 23: Performances and Events in Kampala

Date: 15-09-2019 – Ongoing

Venue: 10+ venues throughout Kampala

Objective: To create performance opportunities for the artists in the incubation program, including themed parties as well as collaborations between other event promoters and the hakuna kulala artists

Number of participants: 30+ artists and 5000+ audience

Output: 17 shows, either organized by Hakuna Kulala or featuring Hakuna Kulala artists

Outcome: Artists in incubation are able to create income and participate in growing the scene, the label becomes widely known for the music it puts out and the artists it represents, some parties like the ANTI MASS parties are heavily supported and become important event on the calendar. More venues are opening up to our artists and events, a sign that the work is being impactful.

Results: The event landscape of Kampala is greatly transformed, with promoters taking risks on upcoming artists and with the music programming becoming always more adventurous and more open to independent voices.

Pictures:



**NYEGE NYEGE TAPES**  
HOLLYWOOD MASSAWA GGABA ROAD  
(OPPOSITE BRYX PETROL STATION)  
10K ENTRY FREE BEFORE 9PM  
**FRI 30 NOV**  
9PM-11AM  
KAMPIRE  
HIBOTEP  
CAUDIOSIS  
ZINWA  
JAY MITTA  
MOROTOBYI INDI  
DJ JYAN  
HOT IN DA CLUB

The poster features a central figure whose face is a complex collage of patterns, textures, and small images, including a portrait of a man. The background is a bright blue with a dense, repeating pattern of yellow and white geometric and organic shapes. The text is bold and stylized, with various colors and fonts.

HATARI VOLTAGE & BOTTOMS UP  
PRESENT

# INTO *The* DOME

KAMPALA

DATE - MAY 18TH | VENUE - ONE54 CULTURE  
(OPPOSITE BUNGA MARKET)  
TIME: 8PM TILL LATE

DJ LINEUP

MOROTO HVY INDSTR (GRC) | HAKUNA KULALA (DRC)  
HOLA JEFE (UG/USA) | FAIZAL MOSTRIXX (UG)  
QWASA QWASA (BE)

GUEST DJ - AMARE (BE)

TICKETS : 10K PRE-SALE ON XENTE  
20K @ THE DOOR



SKATE HERE PARTY  
 26 OCT 3PM-LATE  
 GUESTS:  
 HAKUNA \* KULALA  
 BLOK \* JAY \*  
 SYR \* M \* N \* K \* A \* H \*  
 J \* Y \* H \* \* R \* N \* F \* G \*  
 BLESSES \* SUN + ME  
 FLAK \* WIFE \* PERFORMANCE  
 WILL STONE + CHRIS  
 D & S \* MOST \* GRUBS \* HIB \* CAT \* U \* S \* S \*  
 @ONE54 \* BRUNGA \* GGABA RD. \* AD \* 10K  
 \* OPPOSITE ORX STATION \* M \*



# KAMPIRE

03rd May, 2019  
20.00 - 05.00  
Factory (One Ten on 7th)  
Fee: 15k



# DECAY

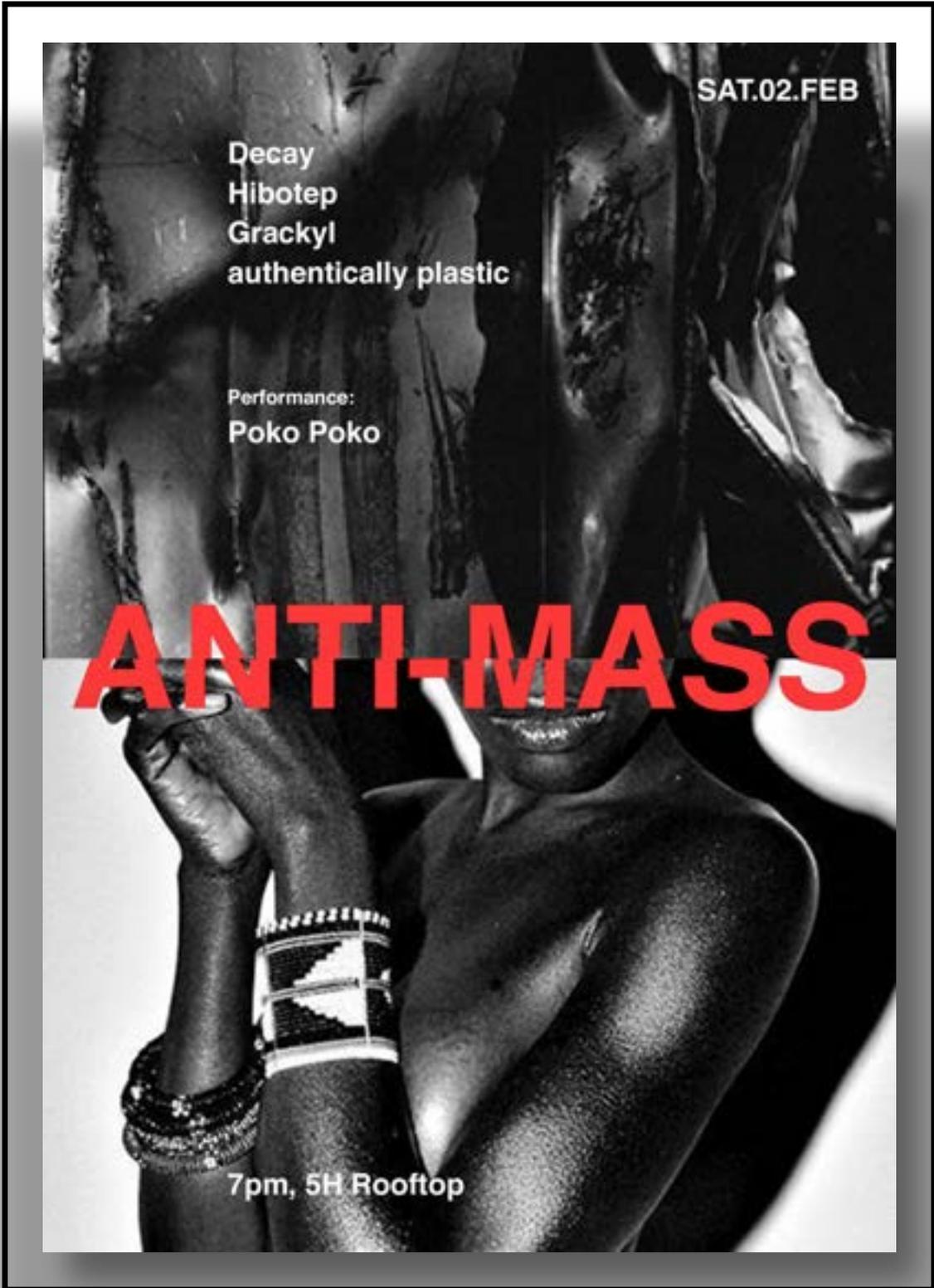
03rd May, 2019  
20.00 - 05.00  
Factory (One Ten on 7th)  
Fee: 15k



## UNDERGROUND CHAOS II

Hosted by  
KQ Hub Africa x Factory





SAT.02.FEB

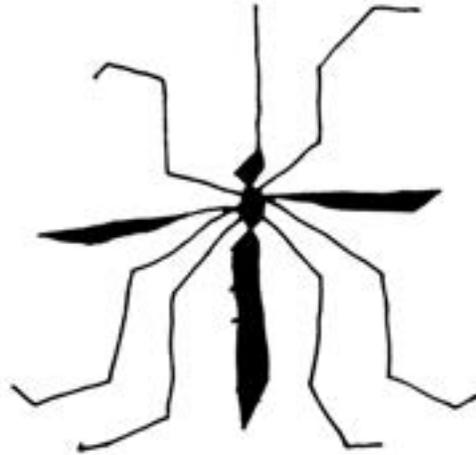
Decay  
Hibotep  
Grackyl  
authentically plastic

Performance:  
Poko Poko

# ANTI-MASS

7pm, 5H Rooftop

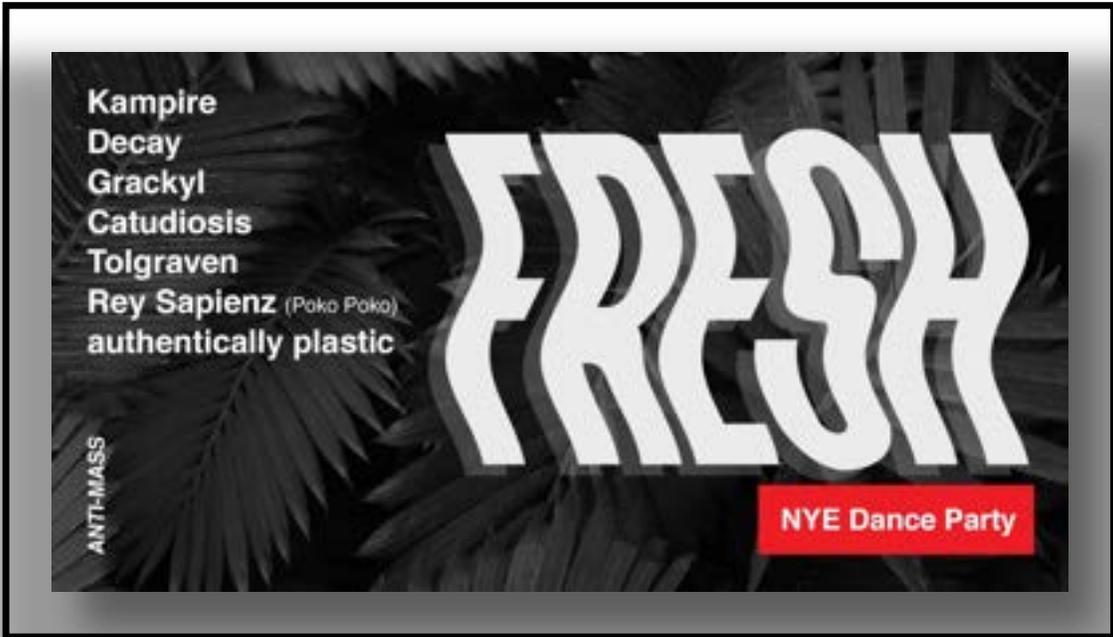
# HAKUNA KULALA #1



🦟 2.11.18

MOROTONG / PQ / 5P00KY-7 / 5LKBAR / DZAN  
LIVE PERFORMANCE BY R.FERIEA

ONE54 \* BRUNGA \* GGABA RD. \* AD 5K  
\* OPPOSITE ORX STATION \* M:





BOTTOMS UP PRESENTS

# UTOPIA

ECKSODUS

NIHILOXICA

NEW EP LAUNCH

GRACKYL

HIBOTEP

DONZILLA

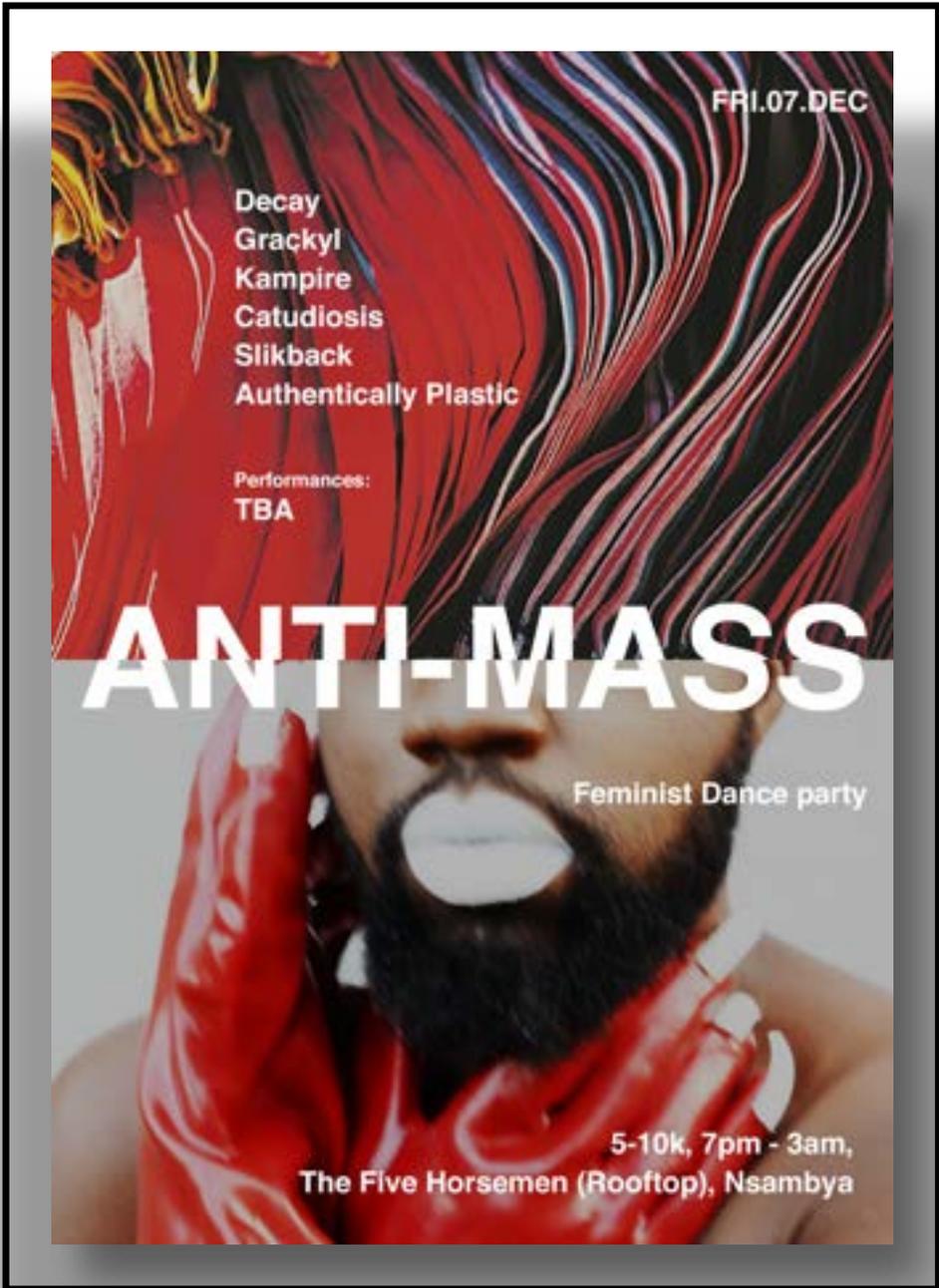
HOLA JEFE

TOLGRAVEN

TOBBY

EKHE

20K ENTRY  
AT THE FACTORY  
TONIGHT AT 8PM



**HOLLYWOOD MASSAWA ENTERTAINMENT**

**NYEGE NYEGE TAPES  
PRESENTS**



**LORD TUSK - TEETH AGENCY - DECAY**

**OWINY SIGOMA SOUND SYSTEM**

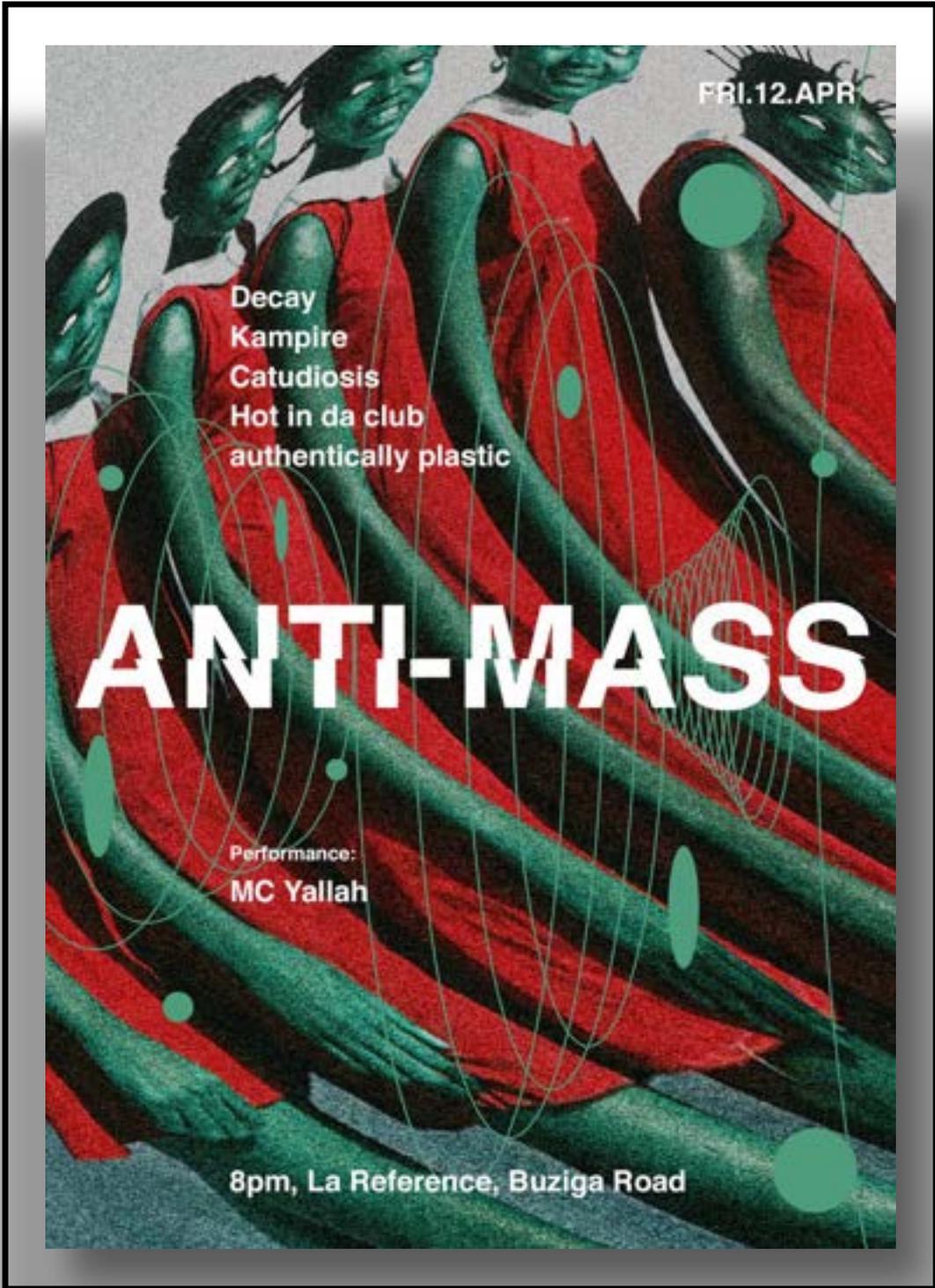
**MOROTO HVY IND - DON ZILLA**

**AUTHENTICALLY PLASTIC**

**CATUDIOSIS - HOT IN DA CLUB**

**MC YALLAH - ECKO BAZZ**

**FRIDAY 1ST OF MARCH - DAMAGE: 10K**



FRI. 12. APR

Decay  
Kampire  
Catudiosis  
Hot in da club  
authentically plastic

# ANTI-MASS

Performance:  
MC Yallah

8pm, La Reference, Buziga Road



Activity 24: Build performance networks: East African Tour

Date: March 2019

Venue: One Love, Kigali – Nging Racecourse, Nairobi – The View, Kampala

Objective: To strengthen relationships with collectives in Rwanda, Kampala and Nairobi to showcase our artists and initiate collaborations, while also giving Hakuna Kulala artists their first East African touring experience.

Number of participants: 21

Output: Multiple performances at 3 different shows. Connections made with collectives in Kigali, Green Fairies, and All night event featuring artists from all over East Africa representing the Hakuna Kulala Label and the Green Fairy label.

Outcome: Connections made between Kigali and Kampala, strong emphasis on East African collaborations and new fan base build. Thanks to this initiative the ties between Kampala and Uganda are stronger and we are invited for a second event in May.

Results: All artists had an opportunity to perform in Rwanda and get paid to do so. It increases their international and regional profile.

VIDEO: <https://www.facebook.com/nihiloxica/videos/2087430398021648/>

*east africa inner tropical  
nyege nyege party*



16 MAR 2019  
7PM

ONE LOVE KIGALI  
3000 RWF

**NIHILOXICA DJ SISSO & REHEMA TAJIRI**  
POKO POKO CATUDIOSIS LYYNDUH MC YALLA GILO  
KURUKA CHAMA TEAM KUMBA KOOJO ALYT-MX BINGHI



**HART THE BAND** (KE) **SHO MADJOZI** (ZA)  
**NAIROBI HORNS PROJECT** (KE) **KARUN** (KE) **IBAAKU** (SN)  
**DJ CORTEGA** (CH/SN) **DJ VIDZA** (KE) **BENGATRONICS** (KE)  
**BURUNTUMA** (GNB) **DAGOZ GANG** (KE) **ALEC LOMAMI** (DRC)  
**SPOEK MATHAMBO** (ZA) **THE KAYA COLLECTIVE** (KE)  
**BODDHI SATVA** (CA) **CHEIF & THE MARSHALLS** (KE)  
**DJ SISSO & REHEMA TAJIRI** (TZ) **DJ BASTHMA** (KE)  
**TKR PRESENTS** (KE) **FAIZAL DA MOSTRIXX** (UG)  
**SURAJ X MAX DOBLHOFF** (KE) **BATUK** (ZA)  
**FRANK BIYONG** (CR)

ART INSTALLATIONS BY: **KHALLIDA, PETER WALALA & MESHACK OIRO**

FESTIVAL PASS  
**4500 KES**

**08-10**  
**MARCH**

**NGONG'**  
**RACECOURSE**

MUSIC X FASHION X VR GAMING X FILMS X CAMPING X INSTALLATIONS

[WWW.AFRICANOUEAU.COM](http://WWW.AFRICANOUEAU.COM)

**TALENT AFRICA & BOUTIQ ELECTRONIQ PRESENT**

**FULL  
MOON  
PARTY**



**FRIDAY  
19TH OF  
APRIL**

**HOTEL DIPLOMATE  
MUYENGA**



**PRESALE: 20K    DOOR: 30K    TIME: 6 P.M.**

## 6. Outreach of the project (in Numbers)

*How many people have been reached by the project directly and indirectly? How many of them are youths? How many are women? You can use or adjust the following format.*

### *Group 1: Total number of people reached (gender, age groups, EAC countries)*

*+ Please briefly describe your interaction between your project and this group*

Total number: 50,000+ people directly through performances across the region. The artists we've supported have toured all over the EAC, except South Sudan and Burundi. Through performances, artists are able to gain new fans and continue to interact with them online, while at the same time gaining in confidence and experience. Performance is the main avenue of validation for an artist, so we have put a lot of focus on it, by organizing our own events as well as building relationships with other promoters across the region.

Gender: 50/50 (audience and artists)

EAC: Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda (artists, events and audience)

Hakuna Kulala represents the artist and has for mission to create performance opportunities for them, by helping them to get booked for shows, through creating compelling promotional material, creating performance venue networks. Hakuna Kulala operates as the agent, setting the conditions for performance.

### *Group 2: People actively participating in events & workshops (gender, age groups, EAC countries)*

*+ Please briefly describe your interaction between your project and this group*

*Total number: 100+ artists*

EAC: Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda

Gender: 60M/40F

This group can be divided into three, entry level producers and DJs, who have directly benefited from training and workshops, mid-level musicians and producers, who benefit from the workshops as well as the production/recording facilities and who work on becoming performance ready as well as releasing music on the Hakuna Kulala label, and accomplished artists, who use the label to release their music, and the network to increase regional performance opportunities.

*Group 3: People with substantial life improvements through your project (gender, age groups, EAC countries)*

These are the artists who have proven the incubation model and who have gone from learning to excelling.

**Freddy N’jau (Kenya)** learned to DJ and produce music under the Hakuna Kulala program. Originally from Kenya, he did an extended residency at the Hakuna Kulala studios and is credited with being one of the original co-founders of the label. At the launch he played a remarkable set which earned him his first international booking in Poland and a set on the boiler room stream which was viewed by over 400,000 people. Early this year Freddy travelled to Europe and then to China to promote the label and organize collaborations. He now makes an average of 800\$/show, and will invite Chinese producers for a residency with Hakuna Kulala artists in August 2019. He continues to support East African MCs with free beats and instrumentals of the highest calibre.

Freddy aka Slikback: **I never dreamed music could take me this far, and I could get so good that people in China want to see me perform, this is still a dream and I don’t want to wake up.**

**Abas Jazza (Tanzania)** is the field officer from Dar Es Salaam, in the day he’s a cabdriver, and in the evening he does all the work with Tanzanian artists who work with Hakuna Kulala. He recruits new talent, helps with travelling and coordinates support to two studios in the most impoverished areas of Dar Es Salaam. He has gained a very respectful position in the community, and the only English speaker he has given multiple interviews and is credited in his community from bringing in unexpected income and cultural pride to his community.

Abass Jazza: **Hakuna Kulala has changed this community forever. We were making music before, but outside of Mburahati nobody liked it, they said it was for thieves. But through the program our artists are travelling in the whole of East Africa and even the world, last month some played in Europe and others played in Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda, they make money and it makes me feel so good to see them succeed, I just want to see more musicians make it.**

Lalango Catherine (Uganda) joined the Hakuna Kulala program from the beginning, at first as a beginning dj. She was given both material support and attended all the workshops, including production with other girls. In the last six months she’s been booked at over 15 shows, including two showcases in Kigali, shows in Germany, Greece and France and finally Zanzibar where she did a residency with Stone Town Records and quickly followed up with a trainer position on the East Africa Soul Train.

Lalango Catherine: **This platform is there for us, I feel comfortable I can express myself, and I can see hard work paying off, in less than a year I’ve become a touring dj and a producer, and even manage to help other young women get into music production.**

## 7. Describe the Communication interventions

*What have you conducted? Describe the output, outcomes and results achieved with pictures, media clips, videos, links etc.*

Promotion and communication is very important in our field, so a lot of activities are directly related to our mission, and in order to promote our music and our artists, we've done several things, which hence might be repeated from the above activity breakdown.

1. Every artist is trained to do his/her own communication. Through help with designing promotional material, learning self promotion skills etc. (Attached are all the artist **Electronic Press Kits** that were drafted in the workshop and then designed by a graphic designer)

**Output:** Over twenty artists are trained in online promotion and marketing, they are getting more shows and more fans, which help improve their livelihood.

**Outcome:** Artists are opening social media accounts, preparing EPKs and being more active in self promotion.

**Results:** Artists are getting more bookings.

**Pictures:** See above activity.

2. Organize and promote **events** that feature artists in the program. In this way artists have been able to perform at many events in Kampala, Nairobi, Kigali, Dar Es Salaam, at our own events as well as partner events and festivals.

**Venue:** 10+ venues throughout Kampala

**Objective:** To create performance opportunities for the artists in the incubation program, including themed parties as well as collaborations between other event promoters and the hakuna kulala artists

**Output:** 17 shows, either organized by Hakuna Kulala or featuring Hakuna Kulala artists

**Outcome:** Artists in incubation are able to create income and participate in growing the scene, the label becomes widely known for the music it puts out and the artists it represents, some parties like the ANTI MASS parties are heavily supported and become important event on the calendar. More venues are opening up to our artists and events, a sign that the work is being impactful.

**Results:** The event landscape of Kampala is greatly transformed, with promoters taking risks on upcoming artists and with the music programming becoming always more adventurous and more open to independent voices.

**Number of participants:** 30+ artists and 5000+ audience











3. **Music video** is the most important communication tool for our artists. We've shot 10 music videos, including a last one of MC Yallah with Sasha Vibes for 10,000,000 UGX, a considerable investment we hope will put the young lady on star level in the region.

Outcome: 10 Music videos

Results: Artists gain in recognition.

Pictures: see above

LINKS:

Cadillidah (with Jay Mitta)

[https://youtu.be/h2R\\_ErEEUtw](https://youtu.be/h2R_ErEEUtw)

MCZO & DUKE

<https://youtu.be/JSqv--coH7U>

Jay Mitta feat Dogo Mjana

<https://youtu.be/6AJtXChPulU>

Echobase

<https://vimeo.com/330744565>

psw: Still

Blaq Bandana

<https://vimeo.com/333964687>

psw: Still

Swordman Kitala

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1CHsN-5QcxXfdNz5fIOAw9KUQrD63Je5s>

Poko Poko

<https://web.facebook.com/hakunakulalaband/videos/313322972893959/>

Otim Alpha – Tong Gweno

<https://vimeo.com/330640595/dcba3bfdc2>

Slikcback - Bantu Zen Video

<https://vimeo.com/308400347>

MC Yallah (in process)

4. **PR** and media facilitation. Getting Hakuna Kulala artists in the press through providing quality content to media houses.

Outcome: Articles in the press.

Results: Artists gain in recognition.

Media Clips:

Videos:

Links:

<https://www.factmag.com/2018/12/04/best-labels-2018/>  
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<https://crackmagazine.net/article/future-list/25-artists-shaping-the-future-of-music/>  
<https://crackmagazine.net/article/live-reviews/unsound-2018-frontier-sounds-at-the-european-undergrounds-favourite-festival/>  
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<https://mixmag.net/feature/10-breakthrough-djs>  
<https://djmag.com/content/fresh-kicks-86-kampire>  
ARTE VIDEO : <https://youtu.be/KHYg0o0IT7s>

<https://www.factmag.com/2019/04/06/the-25-best-albums-of-the-last-three-months-january-to-march-2019/>  
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Pictures:



# THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

Singeli, the breakneck-paced dance music from the streets of Dar es Salaam, is bringing international fame to its young stars. Mark Edwards meets some of the movement's leading lights.

**I**t's the early hours of Saturday morning in the Mburahati suburb of Dar es Salaam and there is little light beyond the embers of last night's braais as we walk through a network of alleys between brick houses with corrugated metal roofs. It is sound that is guiding us, however, and we stop outside a hut emanating a thrum of bass that has attracted an amiable crowd who sit around chatting and drinking.

## DIY dance music

Opening the door unleashes an ecstatic skittering of percussive sounds, sirens and bleeps accompanied by a rapper desperately trying to keep up with the relentless programmed aural assault. This is singeli, a DIY music genre born on the streets of Dar and now seen as one of most exciting strains of underground dance music, building renown across Africa and into Europe. And this snug little room is the Sisso Records studio, where it all began almost 15 years ago.

Sisso Mohamed is the DJ and producer who set up the studio and who also gives his name to the compilation album 'Sounds Of Sisso', released in late 2017 by Ugandan label Nyege

Tapes, which showcased the singeli sound to an international audience for the first time.

Sisso is not here now, although a framed diploma on the wall rather sweetly evidences the business course that helped the 24-year-old consolidate his vision for the studio. Instead, at the controls is rising young producer Jay Mitta, responsible for Nyege Nyege Tapes' third singeli release, 'Tatizo Pesa', released in January and already sold out on vinyl. The album's success is testament that singeli is no longer an underground phenomenon. Another Mburahati studio, Pamoja Records, is releasing tracks gaining international renown, while the Nyege Nyege Festival, which lassoes the best of contemporary dance music in Africa, had a strong singeli showing for the first time in 2018. Singeli acts have also been invited to play live shows in Poland and Germany and the Dar radio station E-FM now plays nothing but singeli music for four hours, Monday to Thursday.

Jay is an energetic young man. He was given his singeli name 'Mitta



Studio session: Makaveli on the mic with Jay Mitta at Sisso Studios

(Swahili for 'metre') as he would sprint everywhere as if he was running the 100 metres. No wonder the frenetic 200 to 300 beats per minute of singeli appeals to him. In the studio his speed is in his hands, which fly over the desktop keyboard – the only equipment in the studio beyond a battered Roland synthesiser and a stand-up mic for the vocals – as he tweaks a track using the software program Virtual DJ.

## Studio time

Also there laying down some backing vocals on a new track he is working on with Jay's rapper Makaveli. My arrival, accompanied by studio manager Abbass Jazz, brings the number in the studio to six – Jay is supported by a couple of friends – but we would have to press ourselves against the walls to allow anyone



Studio founder Sisso Mohamed



# SINGELI: EAST AFRICA'S NEW WAVE

Sirin Kale | 12 Nov 2018

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OK

Nyega Nyega Tapes want you to love the Tanzanian sound of \_\_\_\_\_ they do. Writer Sirin Kale speaks to the label about their ongoing efforts to bring the sounds of Dar es Salaam to a global audience.

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## TOP FLIGHT WITH CHAL RAVENS Slikback and Kampala's Bass Underground

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Electronic Bass Music Global Beats World

120 mins First aired 1 Feb 2018 This episode is unavailable to play on demand. Why?



Image by Red Bull Audio



Bibi Maximal and DJ Lag performing at Unsound, October 13, 2018. Photography Daria Piskowicz, courtesy of Unsound

## The rise of Africa's most exciting new dance music scenes

MUSIC · FEATURE

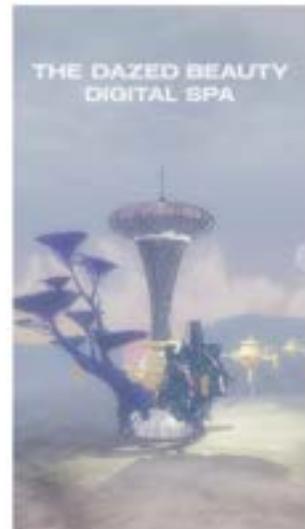
This year's Unsound festival showcased emerging movements from across the continent who are confronting colonial narratives of electronic music

23rd November 2018

Text: Ezra Marcus



For the past two years, Unsound has partnered with the Ugandan festival and arts collective *Nyege Nyege* (a word in Luganda for 'the feeling of a sudden uncontrollable urge to move, shake, or dance') to showcase rising East African artists. I attended a panel featuring Arlen Dilsizian, Nyege Nyege's co-founder, speaking with *Kampira*, a DJ from Kampala, Uganda, who's a core member of the collective. Their conversation tackled thorny issues of representation and identity. Kampira critiqued the way western consumers often treat African music more as a source of cultural capital than an actual living culture. She noted how some European DJs keep the African tracks they play secret in order to enhance their crate-digger clout, rather than giving shine to struggling artists. "I understand its really tempting to consider yourself some sort of authority on the subject [of African music]," she said. But "rather than booking some white dude who's playing Ethiopian house," she argued, promoters should go straight to the source.





FEATURES

# FRESH KICKS 86: KAMPIRE



DJ MAG STAFF

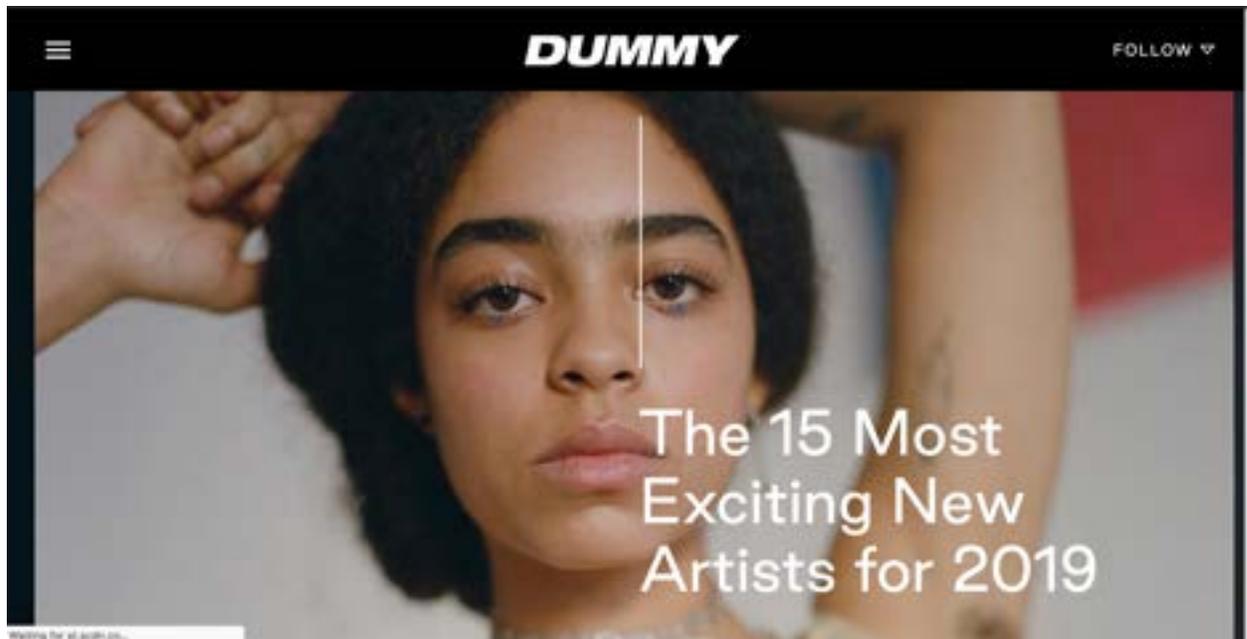
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019 - 17:20



Uganda's Nyege Nyege festival has become THE place to find fresh, forward-thinking talent from East Africa, and spin-off label Hakuna Kulala is a treasure trove for cutting-edge, genre-crossing releases from associated, local artists. Studio manager for Boutiq Studios (owned and operated by Nyege Nyege), Don Zilla showcases the label aesthetic perfectly with a heavy payload club bomb built on jagged low-end, footwork energy and subtle polyrhythms. Check the flip for a 13-minute journey.



▲ BACK TO TOP



#### 14. Silkback



Silkback has been making tsunami-sized waves as of late. From his highly-acclaimed debut EP 'Lasakaneku' and shows across Europe including Unsound and Mutek, the Kenyan producer and DJ is at the forefront of the country's exciting club scene. Affiliated with the Nyege Nyege crew in Kampala, Uganda, Silkback's sound has been described by some as completely unheard of, and has made a fan in PAN's Bill Kouligas. Hard-hitting and eclectic, yet done in the utmost elegance, his percussive brand of skeletal, global bass is set to take off even further. *DL*



NEWS

# Ugandan rapper Ecko Bazz releases a killer Grime EP on Hakuna Kulala

By Pan African Music on 20 November 2018 | Comments Off on Ugandan rapper Ecko Bazz releases a killer Grime EP on Hakuna Kulala



### TRENDING POSTS



**Black Monument Ensemble**: gospel, political activism and drum machines

23 May 2018



**Tyler, The Creator's IGOR** has the flower boy morph into a most unpredictable and refreshing artiste

23 May 2018



**Ethiopian legend Ayalew Mesfin** to perform at festival Le Guess Who? 2018

24 May 2018



**Rema unveils visuals** for his latest hit 'Rema'

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## Listen To The First Track From A New EP By Rising Kenyan Producer And Nyege Nyege Affiliate Slikback





The 50 best singles of 2018

[BACK TO FACT](#)

2



## Slikback

'Venom'

(Hakuna Kulala)

Kampala-based producer Slikback appeared on Nyege Nyege Tapes sublabel Hakuna Kulala earlier this year with little fanfare. But after performing multiple times at Nyege Nyege Festival in September, the young producer's name traveled fast, carried by his unique ability to mold a plethora of diverse sounds into exciting new forms. That ability is never more evident than on 'Venom', a breakneck dance cut that layers broken rhythms and off-kilter samples over fractured dancefloor-ready electronics. If you're looking for innovation in dance music as corporate involvement continues to drag clubbing into the mire, taking pragmatic DJs and producers along for the ride, then East Africa is your destination. *JF*

LATEST

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elastic techno cut 'Biggest Bully' on Fever AM



Kosma and Kyoka team up as Lena Anderson for 30der Målarstrand



Listen to Flying Lotus's first album in five years, Flamingo




BY JOHN FIELDS, CLARE LORENFIELD, SCOTT WILSON, HENRY BRUCE JONES AND APRIL CLARE WELSH, APR 4 2019

Image by Oliver Kelly

**DUKE**  
*Uingizaji Hewa*  
 (Nyege Nyege Tapes)

[Bandcamp](#) / [Spotify](#) / [Apple Music](#)

Tanzania's breakneck singeli sound has been gaining traction outside of Dar Es Salaam since Ugandan imprint Nyege Nyege Tapes released the genre-defining *Sounds of Sisso* compilation back in 2017. DJ and producer DUKE represents another focal point of the movement and sits at the helm of nearby Pajoma Records, working alongside MCs like MCZO, Dogo Lizzi, Pirato MC and Kashiwashi. *Uingizaji Hewa* is a window into the scene, illustrating DUKE's command of the technology as he fuses off-kilter samples and processed field recordings with rhythms that roll with hypnotic urgency. DUKE performed alongside MCZO at **this year's CTM Festival** in Berghain and stunned the building into frothy convulsions – you might not be able to witness the impact of that performance here, but you can get damn close. JT

Uingizaji-Hewa



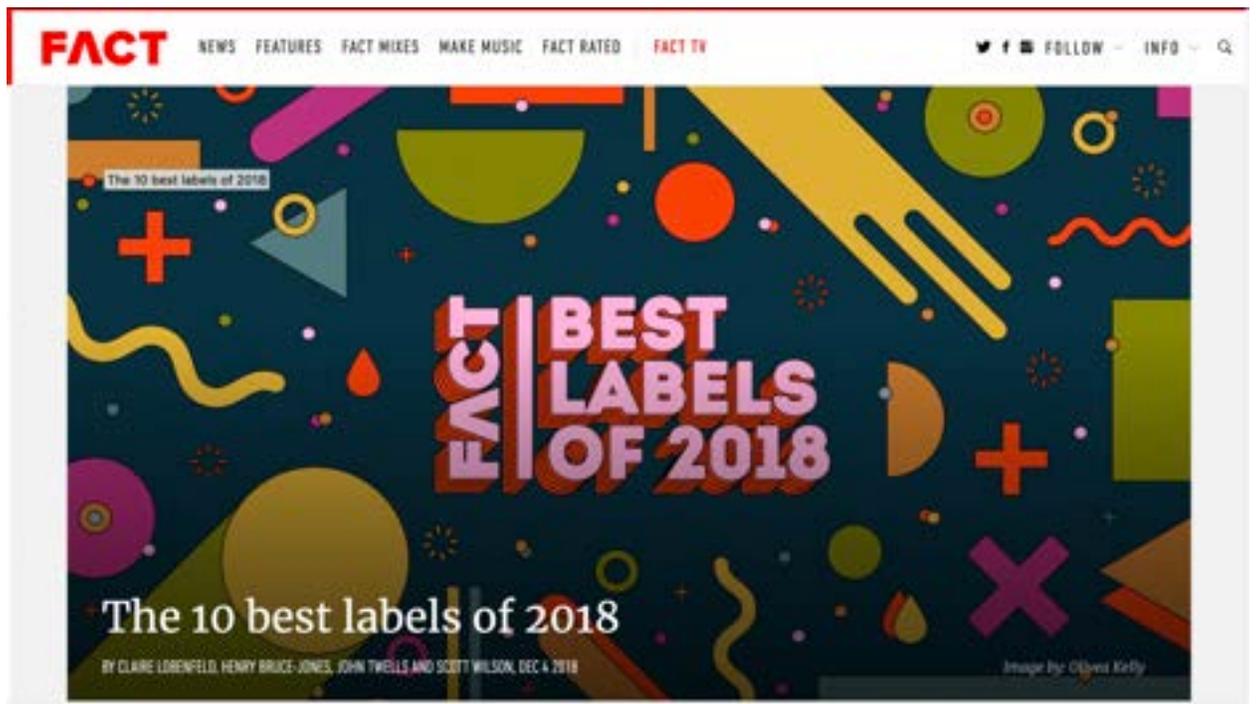
**Slikback**  
**Tomo**  
**(Hakuna Kulala)**

**[Bandcamp](#) / [Spotify](#) / [Apple Music](#)**

Last year's *Lasakaneku* was one of FACT's favorite releases of the year, launching a powerful new voice in club music. Slikback's genre-fluid approach to beatmaking – folding his unique Kenyan vocabulary into rap, dubstep, footwork and more – made the EP a giant leap forward for bass and club music, and its followup *Tomo* is even better. These six tracks dissolve a plethora of different rhythms into buzzing new forms, but Slikback avoids the trappings of "IDM"; *Tomo* is never indulgent, it's exploratory and exciting – an experimental vision of a new world of possibilities. But even at his most challenging, Slikback never loses sight of the dancers, offering bass and bounce to anyone eager enough to pay attention. *JT*

first album in five years, Flamagra

tying-into-flamagra



**In 2018, labels still matter, and we don't mean the majors.**

Independent labels are a crucial part of music's landscape and the best imprints right now represent something quite special: community, passion and dedication.

FACT has picked a handful of operations from across the globe that represent this message, from Club Chai, a multi-faceted club night, incubator and label out of the Bay Area all the way to Hakuna Kulala, an offshoot of Kampala's Nyege Nyege Tapes label focusing on underground music from East Africa and the Congo.



## Hakuna Kulala

A bold new sub-label from the minds behind Kampala's impressive Nyege Nyege Tapes imprint, Hakuna Kulala focuses solely on East African and Congolese underground electronic music. Its first slew of releases highlight some of the most essential sounds in the world right now: unmissable records from Rey Sapienz, Don Zilla, MC Yallah and local legend Slikback that fold fractured global club sounds into a vague template of breakneck African experimentation. If you're looking for innovation in dance music, Hakuna Kulala has you covered. *JT*

LATEST

**F** NEW MUSIC: Nyege Nyege 2018: The world's best electronic music...

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Nyege Nyege 2018: The world's best electronic music festival is in Uganda

By JOHN TWISS, SEP 11 2018

Image by John Twiss

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Cassgrain's Rhyer releases elastic techno-out "Biggest Baby" on Fever AM.

Ennsa and Kyoka team up as Lena Anderson for Söder Målarstrand

Listen to Flying Lotus's first album in five years, Flamingo

large, well-lit food area, you could pick up all manner of international cuisine, from meat pies to Teppanyaki.

With a full belly, I managed to catch most of **Hakuna** Kulala's takeover at the Eternal Disco stage. This lengthy showcase marked the launch of a new label and incubator project from the Nyege Nyege Tapes crew, focusing on younger, fresher sounds from East Africa and the Congo. Kenyan producer Slikback was the star here, fluidly blending frenetic electronics and familiar syncopated rhythms with vocal snippets and welcome blasts of sub bass. The showcase offered a chance to hear how young East African producers were absorbing elements of footwork, D&B and other global club subgenres into the framework of local dance music. Familiar gqom rhythms were merged with double-time tom patterns and occasional amen breaks or hoover sounds, while syncopated woodblock trills bounced off narcotic wumps and trap drops. EDM wasn't off limits either, with conspicuous filter sweeps, neon-blasted synths and white noise buildups absorbed into the eclectic throb.



# 2019: First Quarter Favorites

23 incredible releases from the last three months

by **TMT STAFF** · March 29, 2019

**STAFF FEATURE**

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**Jay Mitta**  
**Tattoo Press**  
*(Nonesuch/Target Labels)*



Tattoo Press, the second entry into the ongoing *Shine Studios* series from Nonesuch/Target Labels, is always on the brink. *Tomerling on*

looking for i betted.com...

NEWS

## Hakuna Kulala signs Congolese rappers Will'stone and Le Bon

By Pan African Music on 8 April 2019 / Comments Off on Hakuna Kulala signs Congolese rappers Will'stone and Le Bon



Will'stone unveils "MBv5" single on Hakuna Kulala. Featuring another Congolese MC, Le Bon, based in Kampala, Uganda, hometown of the label.

### TRENDING POSTS



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23 May 2019



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23 May 2019



**Ethiopian legend Ayalew Mesfin** to perform at festival Le Guess Who? 2019

22 May 2019



**Rema unveils visuals** for his viral hit 'Dumebi'

21 May 2019



**Listen to this danceable one-hour mix** of afrobeats

21 May 2019

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# 10

FEATURES

## TOP 10 BREAKTHROUGH DJs OF THE YEAR

The DJs that have made their breakthrough this year

MIXMAG STAFF | 13 DECEMBER 2018



## KAMPIRE

A breakout star of the burgeoning Ugandan dance scene, Kampire's played everywhere from Diplo's Africa showcase at Sónar to Shanghai and Tokyo this year. A core member of the *Nyege Nyege* crew, her mixes pummel through the shadowy end of global bass, whether South African gqom or mutant dancehall.

[Photo: Martin Khanumwa]

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# 25 ARTISTS YOU NEED TO WATCH IN 2019

If you don't know these artists to watch, then get to know

MIXMAG DIGITAL SQUAD | 7 JANUARY 2019

You've seen our [DJs](#) and [Breakthrough DJs of 2018](#) play near-perfect sets all around the world, you've seen our [stars of the year](#) shine brighter than the rest over the last 12 months and you know what songs dominated the year just gone. But what about 2019, what about the next 12 months, who should you be listening to and keeping an eye on? Look no further as we're serving up 25 artists to watch in 2019.

Every January, we take great pride helping you navigate the electronic music



# SLIKBACK

For those of us who weren't at Unsound, the FOMO was compounded by clips of Slikback creeping onto IG Stories, of thick, twisted bass shapes unfurling in a dimly lit room somewhere in Krakow. The Kenyan is one of the newest artists to emerge from the club music wave, having released the lacerating 'Lasakenku' EP on Nyege Nyege sub-label Hakuna Kulala last summer, pulling the spotlight over to East Africa and the Congo, where the sound is bubbling. There's something visionary in the way Slikback spans BPMs and redefines familiar elements of club music, meaning future releases may well put him on a par with those who've already proved they're two steps ahead, like RP Boo, Amnesia Scanner or the members of the NUXXE crew. *Seb Wheeler*

**Celestial Trax**  
Serpent Power

**TRUETHIER**  
**Atmospheric ambience**  
"At the heart of 'Serpent Power' lives an organic entity; its sounds roll over the listener like an unknown weather pattern," reads a note for Celestial Trax's second full-length LP "True Aether." Much like Objekt's 'Cocoon Crush' (albeit without the techno trimming and PAN signatures), True Aether does in fact possess an almost breathing, trembling life force of its own that exists outside the production. More tranquil and ambient, and less linear

than his previous club-led offerings, the album is otherworldly and according to its creator, was intended to "present itself more like paint on canvas, rather than an overly-edited digital image." For us, it does just that. **7/10**

**Siete Catorce x Taso**  
**Grande Exitos Vol 1**  
**Mexico City meets Chicago**  
NAAFI mainstay Siete Catorce teams up with multi-instrumentalist, DJ and producer Taso (Tekitel) for an adventurous four-track outing that merges the distinct

musical traits championed by their respective labels. Club music throughout, each of the four EP cuts is packed with warped samples, breathless vocals and hyperactive tempos. Brain-rattling opener 'California Sunshine' sets the tone for the Mexico City/Chicago mash-up before moving through to dark, aqualytic cut 2 for 20. 'Gatos' feat. Leo and Adrian Be is moodier and more club-focused, leading the way before system number 'Acetate' rounds the EP off in style. Wonderful. **8/10**

**DJ Plead**  
Pleats Plead

**HEROIC HERON**  
**Lebanese rhythms with Nervous Horizon flair**  
London's Nervous Horizon remains loyal to its percussive label signifiers this month as it shares a brand new one from Melbourne-based producer DJ Plead. Much like the rest of the imprint's back catalogue (which features a string of low-key, high-octane releases, including TSV's glorious debut album 'Inner Worlds'), Pleats Plead is a pleasure to digest – both through headphones and rip-roaring club speakers. Inspired by Plead's Lebanese heritage, the six-tracker merges traditional rhythms and instruments with stirring, sweaty club motifs. Tune into the whole thing, especially closer 'Crush And Burn', immediately. **9/10**

**Bambounou**  
Whities 021  
**Wonderful Whities debut**  
Parisian producer Bambounou makes his Whities debut with a neat three-tracker. Fans of Bambounou, real name

Jeremy Guido, will be aware of his genre-bending dance musical abilities and his expert footing on the fringes of techno, UK bass and other rhythmically aligned sounds. On his latest release, however, Guido is rooting his energetic material in place as he draws inspiration from a collection of material produced for his 2017 'Frustration' set. From the peak-time frenzy of 'Temple' to the Friday-night stylings of 'Tou' and barn-entrance-inducing closer 'Seize-Sept', the EP works for a wild headphone listen – but will be best enjoyed knee deep in the dance. **7/10**

**Slikback**

**Toma**  
**Keep your eyes (and ears) on Slikback**  
Kenyan producer and DJ Slikback is sharing a new EP this spring on Nyege Nyege Tapes sub-label Hakuna Kujala. Titled 'Toma', the EP follows up his devastatingly good debut EP 'Lasakaneki', which landed last spring, and offers up a screw-face worthy slice of incredible club material, from one of our artists to watch in 2019.



**TUNE OF THE MONTH**

**Shlohmo**

**The End**  
**He's back!**

Shlohmo's first album in four years, 'The End' finds its creator, Henry Laufer, contemplating the apocalypse. As with his last LP 'Dark Red', and his work with fellow melancholic musicians (Banks, Yung Lean), the album is undeniably dramatic; its title track is a heavy, trappy cut that would fit better at a Drain Gang night than at a Cali club. It's a statement of intent from a talented producer who knows his sound best; in this case, according to Laufer, "Reading a nice book while the meteor hits". **8/10**

**EDITED BY**  
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**ALBUM OF THE MONTH**

**Dis Fig**

**PURGE**  
**Orchestral vibes from an underground music kingpin**

Dis Fig has been a consistent figure at the forefront of leftfield electronic music for years. Blurring relentless hardcore with grime, and techno with industrial noise, the Chinese-American Berlin-based artist has explored her sound via various mediums and platforms – but we're thrilled to report she's now ready to release her debut album via the wonderful PTP. While perhaps an uneasy, challenging listen to those enraptured by the warped world of 'experimental' material, 'PURGE' is a powerful outing that explores confrontation, subconscious emotions and vulnerability. With many tracks focusing on more aggressive, noisier forms of sonic delivery, there's real beauty to be found in some of the album's quieter moments. 'WHY' is a beautiful, soft, vocal-led number that moves into dramatic, orchestral cut 'I Am The Tree' much like a film score, moving from one scene to another with grace. **8/10**



**Highlights**  
'em', 'I Am The Tree', 'Drum Five Bagle'

Tuly innovative, Slikback's diasporic concoction of vigorous footwork, US trap, UK grime and underground African club percussion comes together to deliver some of the best music we've heard, as of late. Be it for the edgy Unsound crowds or the disjord warehouse ravers, Slikback and his music offers up something for us all. **9/10**

**Mano**

**Seven Steps Behind**  
**Fascinating new material from the Italian producer**  
We thoroughly enjoyed Mano's debut EP 'Creature' when it landed on Hyperdub back in 2017. Now, he's back on the label as he prepares to release another first. 'Seven Steps Behind' is Mano's debut album, and has been described as "an electronic album that doesn't always sound electronic". Over the course of its 12-tracks 'Seven Steps Behind' defies its very title, coming together to form a release that looks to the future. Combining processed acoustic samples, strange orchestral melodies and Mano's very own singing voice, the album merges the

visceral with the cerebral as it moves from track to track in a dreamlike state. Very nicely done. **8/10**

**False Witness**

**Red Curtain Daybreak**  
**Tough techno tracks**  
E-Missions lines up a new EP comprised of three relentless new tracks from LA-based producer and GHE2000THK offshoot False Witness. Complete with a close, comedown-avoking (in the best way possible of course) remix of track 'Devil May Cry' from Herring Bauer, the EP is sure to delight the more techno-leaning clubbers among us – or just those who appreciate raw, relentless bangers. Our pick? Well, while all three of the originals offer up a unique listening experience, we suggest post-euphoria cut 'Crucial Optimism'. We can see this going down a treat at one of Ewan Christ's iconic 'Trance Parties'. **9/10**

**monitor**  
What's happening this month in bass



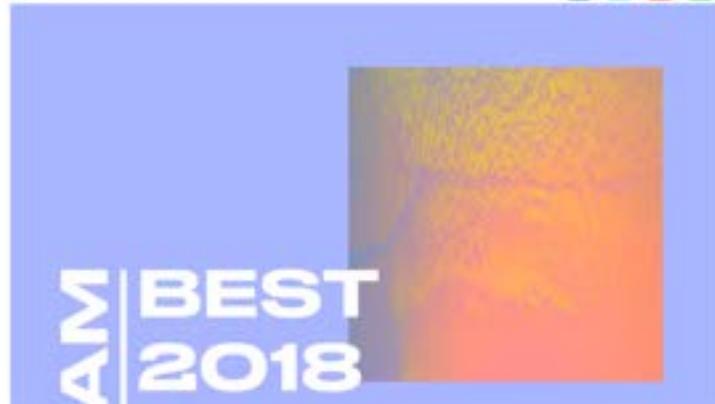
From **Mana**'s 'Renegade Lakes' to **TT Antigua**'s 'Nocelo', there are plenty of recent releases to keep us occupied this month... Coachella hits the desert April 12 to 14 and April 19 to 21, with the likes of **SOHN** and **Yves Tumor** confirmed

... Across the pond, **Sinjón Hawke & Zera**, **Jenna Oshick** and **Fatima Al Qadiri** are heading to Sónar Reykjavík for the Icelandic festival's seventh edition April 25 to 27... Elsewhere on the event circuit, **James Blake** (hear us out, he is

the poster boy of post-substep so deserves an honorable mention) is playing a three stop UK tour for his new album 'Assume Form'. Catch him in Manchester April 7, Bristol April 8 and 9 and London April 17 and 18 to hear these dulcet tones live.

## Les 20 meilleurs albums de musique électronique de 2018

By [Rafik Abouin](#), [Mouctar](#) | 18 décembre 2018 | Commentaires fermés sur [Les 20 meilleurs albums de musique électronique de 2018](#)



Nos DJs et journalistes ont sélectionné leurs albums et EPs favoris de musique électronique venue d'Afrique ou inspirée par le Continent.

Nyge Nyge Tapes a lancé un nouveau label Hakuna Kulala. La scène électronique tunisienne en pleine effervescence avec Ammar BOB qui joue à mélanger TR BOB et les sonorités tirées du targ, du grawa et du rai. La productrice Deena Abdelwahed a sorti un premier album acclamé par la critique. Le gqom continue sa conquête du monde. Voici nos 20 sorties préférées de cette année riche en musique électronique.

Écouter la playlist issue de cette sélection sur [Spotify](#) et [Deezer](#).



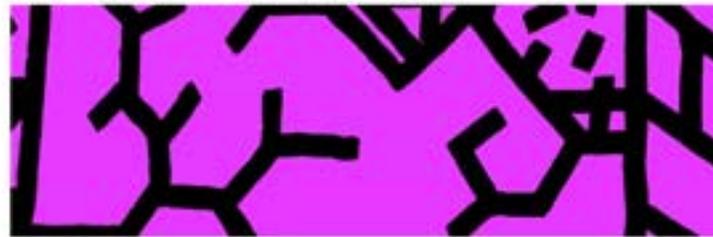
#### [14. MC Yallah](#)

[Ndi Mukazi](#)

[Hakuna Kulala](#)

Le Kényan - né en Ouganda - MC Yallah a signé un EP de rap sur Hakuna Kulala, produit par le Français Debmaster. La voix du rappeur ne fait plus qu'un avec les productions sombremenent glitchy et electronica de Debmaster. La cerise sur le gâteau est dans l'invitation de Jay Glass Dubs : le scientifique du dub électronique here deux versions hautement psychédélique du titre « Ndi Mukazi ».

Écouter : [Spotify](#) / [Deezer](#) / [Apple Music](#) / [Bandcamp](#)



#### [8. Silkback](#)

[Lesokoneku](#)

[Hakuna Kulala](#)

C'est avec cet EP que Nyege Nyege a lancé le sous-label Hakuna Kulala, piloté par Zilla, Sapienz et Silkback, trois artistes basés à Kampala, capitale de l'Ouganda. Agissant comme une filiale indépendante de Nyege Nyege, Hakuna Kulala cherche à promouvoir la scène électronique d'Afrique de l'Est et de la République Démocratique du Congo.

Avec Lesokoneku, le producteur d'origine kényane dévoile son talent de producteur de bass music, genre prestigieux aux UK, qu'il digère à sa sauce, survitaminée.

Écouter : [Spotify](#) / [Deezer](#) / [Apple Music](#) / [Bandcamp](#)

# The Best Electronic Music of 2018

Including records by Aphex Twin, RAMZ!, Mr. Fingers, and more



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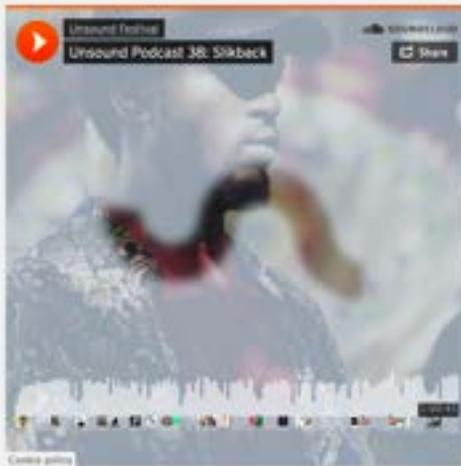


## Slikback

### *Lasakaneku*

Kenya's Slikback has been producing music for less than two years, amassing an archive of some 400 songs. Perhaps he's making up for lost time: He played on three separate occasions at this year's Nyega Nyega Festival, in Kampala, Uganda, and three more times at Krakow's Unsound. His debut EP, for Nyega Nyega Tapes' Hakuna Kulala sublabel, is a fascinating snapshot of all the ideas jostling for space in his brain: a *malgré* mix of synths, 808s, and sampled percussion that nods simultaneously to dembow, UK bass, trap, South African gqom, Portuguese bairada, and more. Since releasing the EP, he's remained PAN artist [STILL](#); check back in a year to see how much more ground he's covered. —Philip Sherburne

Listen: Slikback, "Bantu Zen"



### Slikback Unsound Podcast

Slikback's first gig outside East Africa took place in a Kraków basement on a chilly night at this year's Unsound festival. That performance saw the Kenyan artist play an hour of trap, grime and deconstructed club music—all his own music and remixes, including a tune he'd made earlier that day. It was one of the festival's **highlights**, announcing the arrival of yet another exciting Nyege Nyege talent.



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# February's Best Music



02



## Slikback Tomo Hakuna Kulala

Wild, syncopated, exhilaratingly fresh club sounds that show why Slikback is among Kampala's most exciting artists.

Listen: [Bandcamp](#) / [Apple Music](#) / [Spotify](#) / [Soundcloud](#)

Binh

World music

"This cuts across society": how singeli music went from Tanzania to the world

With up to 300 beats per minute, singeli could be the world's most frenetic music. In Dar es Salaam, its creators explain how it helps to create a better life



Kate Hutchinson in Uganda

@katehutchinson 55 Email

Mon 17 Dec 2018 15:00 GMT



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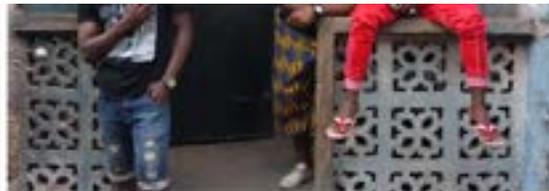
Michael Gove to challenge Johnson for Tory leadership

Women are happier without

Kate Hutchinson in Uganda

@katehutchinson 55 Email

Mon 17 Dec 2018 15:00 GMT



▲ Stars of singeli ... by MUSA, MUSA, SASSO and SASSO. Photograph: Kate Hutchinson for The Guardian

On a neon-lit jetty overlooking the River Nile, a young Tanzanian DJ called Sisso is playing a bracing barrage of blips, bells and breakneck beats that could blast apart a heart-rate monitor. We are at Nyege Nyege, a pan-African festival in Uganda that curates contemporary club music from across the continent, and it's the first time so many musicians from Tanzania have made it here. Sisso and his peers have taken a 30-hour bus journey and crossed two borders in order to play at the event. Their sets are being streamed live to the world via Boiler Room.

The music these Swahili speed freaks make is a street-level sound known as singeli. It has been ricocheting around the ghettos circling Dar es Salaam for almost 15 years, with unbridled synth lines, percussion pitch-shifted up to alien frequencies and super-speed lyrical flows.

It isn't as underground now as you might expect. In Tanzania, singeli has become mainstream, like music by Drake or Kendrick Lamar. There is the poppy singeli of artists such as Msaga Sumu and Man Fongo, whose music is slower and more similar to bongo flava, the last big sound to sweep the country. Sisso Records, however, has an uncompromising style, with rapping instead of singing.

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India's Muslims quiver in the new dawn of an emboldened Narendra Modi

Michael Gove to challenge Johnson for Tory leadership

Reviews / Singles

# Slikback - Lasakaneku

Label /  
Hakuna Kulala  
HK001

Released /  
June 2018

Style /  
Experimental

Rating /  
3.7/5

← Previous

Next →

## Contemporary club music from East Africa.

The range of music orbiting [Nyege Nyege](#) is extraordinary. The Kampala collective's festival and record label have introduced the world to regional sounds like electro acholi (from northern Uganda) and singeli (from Dar Es Salaam), as well as hybrid projects like [Nihiloxica](#). Now [Nyege Nyege](#) has set up a new label, [Hakuna Kulala](#), in partnership with [Zila](#), [Sapierz](#) and [Slikback](#), three artists based in Kampala. Operating independently of [Nyege Nyege Tapes](#), it will be an outlet for contemporary club music from East Africa and the Democratic Republic Of The Congo.

The first release comes from the Kenyan producer [Slikback](#). [Lasakaneku](#) makes clear that he's a young artist who's spent time



Reviews / Singles

# Slikback - Tomo

Label /  
Hakuna Kulala

Released /  
February 2019

Style /  
Experimental, Club

Rating /  
4.0/5

← Previous

Next →

## Exciting experimental club from the Nyege Nyege crew.

In less than a year, [Hakuna Kulala](#) has become a top outpost for genre-defying club music. A sister label to Uganda's [Nyege Nyege Tapes](#), it focuses on artists from East Africa who operate in a more open spectrum rather than defined local scenes. Embodying this idea is [Slikback](#), a Kenyan artist based in Kampala who launched the label last year with the [Lasakaneku](#) EP. [Tomo](#), a more assured follow-up to that record, melts footwork, trap and other club styles into a dark, sleek hybrid.



World, hold on

## The changing face of electronic music

CTM festival, a showcase of experimental club music in Berlin, drew attention to the industry's shifting centre of gravity



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BERGHAIN, a nightclub in Berlin, is notorious—partly for its electronic music, but mostly for its exclusivity and tolerance of drug use. Last week the venue, packed with ravers of all varieties and nationalities, had a different feel. Visitors moved to music that thumped at a pace between 200 and 300 beats per minute (a healthy human heart manages between 60 and 100). They were exposed to the sounds of *singeli*, nimble rap with ululating keyboard leads, from Tanzania; *gabber*, frenzied music that makes use of sirens and heavily distorted kick drums, from Indonesia; and a punishingly loud imitation of Cold War sonic weaponry, played from modified tanks rigged with amplifiers.

The event was part of CTM Festival—a nine-day panoply of live performances, multisensory art installations and technology talks—

### 8. Describe the M & E intervention implemented

*Please describe the output, outcomes as well as results attained (include pics etc.)*

There's a direct correlation between our intervention and the improved livelihoods and popularity and artistic sensibility of the artists that have participated in the program. Performance bookings is the most important key performance indicator, and we can see in activities above that that our results show that we have been by far the most impactful incubator on the Continent.

## 9. Achievements during the project implementation period

*Outline and explain the achievements and showcase the success stories registered during the project time frame. See below the table for projects achievements registered during the project elaborated for specific activity.*

### **Freddy N’Jau (Slikback - Kenya)**

In 2017, Kenyan architecture student decides to join Boutiq Foundation and abandon his studies to dedicate himself completely to music. One year later, together with fellow producers Zilla and Sapienz and the directors of Boutiq, he founds Hakuna Kulala Record Label. At the launch where 20+ programmers and journalists are invited, Slikback has a breakthrough performance. After the festival Freddy releases two albums under the Hakuna Kulala Project, both received with international acclaim. In Kampala Freddy becomes a small local star, inspiring many behind him to follow his lead. He in turn supports many local musicians with beats, including Black Bandana, Mr Mankwa, Mc Yallah. But at home in Kenya, he still does not get any bookings. In October 2018, Boutiq decides to engage with one of the world’s most important music festivals, Unsound Festival in Poland, known to have put many underground musicians on the so called “map”. Two Tanzanian artists are selected, Bamba Pana and Makavelli, and despite an initial rejection we are able to persuade Unsound to give Freddy a chance to represent Hakuna Kulala internationally. And it worked! Freddy ended up playing 3 times and was picked up as one of the breakthrough performances of the festival. Since then he’s toured in Europe and in China, where he engaged on behalf of Hakuna Kulala on a series of collaborations. He’s made over 10,000\$ in the last six months, and has received several mentions on best of 2018 lists. Finally, we reach out to club Muze in Kampala and arrange for Freddy’s Kenyan premier, his career has come full circle as he continues to soar new heights.

### **Catherine Lalango (DJ Catu Diosis - Uganda)**

Catherine Lalango has been with the project from the start, back in 2018 during the Hakuna Kulala launch she is introduced as an upcoming DJ on the Kampala music scene, following the footsteps of another Boutiq female DJ, DJ Kampire. Catherine has a background in dance, not in music, but her work ethic and drive to carve herself a career in music quickly make her one of the most exciting female East African DJs of her generation. At Hakuna Kulala she’s able to grab every opportunity, improving her skills during DJ classes and benefiting from the network to perform over 15 shows in 2018. In 2019, Dj Catu decides to take it a step further, and joins the classes of Rey Sapienz as a new production student. She quickly improves and is now about to release her first EP. Since then, Dj Catu is in high demand in Kampala, she also takes part in our outreach program going to support Stone Town Records in Zanzibar and giving young women DJ workshops and doing a showcase performance, cementing our relationship with the Zanzibari organization. She plays twice in Kigali too, becoming one of our most championed ambassadors.

## **Sapienz & Poko Poko (Rwanda/Uganda/Ghana)**

Rey Sapienz is a young producer and MC who's been with Boutiq since the beginning, and is part of the co-founders of the Hakuna Kulala label. Sapienz releases the first Hakuna Kulala album in October 2018, at the same time that he takes under his wing a young singer by the name of Pauline. Together they create Poko Poko, Hakuna Kulala's first live project. The project closes the Nyege Nyege Festival and the showcase lands them a first tour in France as well as a show in Kigali. Aside from Poko Poko and his personal projects, Sapienz is also driven to give back to the community, especially with regards to pushing young women to hold a more prominent place amongst producers. Thanks to a background in education and support from German company Ableton, he starts an all female production class at the Hakuna Kulala center. The first graduates of the class, including South Sudanese prodigy Turkana, Catu, Taio, Po, Decay are all breaking through with production skills and working on album releases on Hakuna Kulala, the first real wave of new producers that's come out of our project, and given the very few women in production, this comes with great pride to Sapienz and the Hakuna Kulala project.

## **Gaudencia Mbidde (Yallah MC – Kenya)**

Yallah MC is a teacher in the daytime, and in the evenings and weekends she becomes the fearless MC Yallah, conscious feminist rapper and integral member of the Hakuna Kulala program. Although MC Yallah has been in music for over fifteen years, she's always lacked the right producers and opportunities. At Hakuna Kulala she is a leading figure, and her performances are some of the most impressive hip hop performances in East Africa. Through the program she's paired with both East African and International producers, producing an EP and soon a full length album that will be premiered at Nyege Nyege Festival and then Unsound Festival and Amsterdam Dance Event in October 2019. Eager to see MC Yallah breakthrough on the East African music industry, we engage the best music video producer in Uganda, Sasha Vibes, which is due to release at the end of June and hopefully this will be her "big break"!

## **Tanzanian music "Singeli" taking over the region and the world**

As a label, our biggest success is probably the tireless work we've put in supporting the most impoverished areas of Dar Es Salaam, where in the neighbourhoods of Mburahati and Manzese a group of young kids have started a silent sonic revolution. When we first engaged with Sisso Records and Pamoja records the musicians there would share with us the difficulties of being perceived as thugs and not getting respect for their music. But by providing support to the studios, both material and curatorial, we've been able to present the sound of Singeli at the Nyege Nyege Festival and it has gone viral since. At the festival over 15 artists were presented, and since then the sound has been picked up by every major music publication on the planet, as well as featured articles in the Economist, the Guardian and Resident Advisor, the number one music publication. Since then we've helped them re-engage on new terms with local Tanzanian media outlets, and they are now featured regularly on radio E-FM, featured in

Air Tanzania's first on-board magazine, and considered by important music critics as the most avant garde sound on the Continent. Moreover, Sisso and Rehema Tajiri have completed an East African tour (Kenya, Uganda, Kigali) and the singeli DJs and MCs have a combined 25,000\$ worth of international bookings, with many more on the way. Given that most of the Dar Es Salaam based artists do not speak English, our field officer Abass Jazza has been instrumental in making the connections and building the internal capacity of the studios. The next step is to build more management capacity so that in turn, they can run their own homegrown label, but for now they have greatly benefited from our existing structures.

**10. To what extent do the outcomes of the project match the objectives of the original proposal?**

*Please further indicate to what extent (in %) you fulfilled every single objective of the original proposal and briefly elaborate on that.*

**OBJECTIVE 1: To incubate, promote and digitally release young East African musicians, to the region and the world.**

Yes, this objective was achieved at 100%. The results have been overwhelming, feedback from the participants, adoptions from the music industry key players and a huge increase in both local, regional and international bookings.

**OBJECTIVE 2: To develop a sustainable livelihood for young East African artists through their artistic work**

By offering tailor made management solutions and training artists in approaching their career from a small business perspective has really motivated all the participants to drive their own careers. By exploring new avenues of income such as merchandising and publishing it has also opened the door to many new possibilities. Although many artists that have joined the program have made an income from their music for the very first time, this objective could be given 100% but should only be given a mark of 50%, because we want every artist to be able to live completely and comfortably, and thus to continue on this path. Moreover, we've been able to create crucial linkages across the region with both artist collectives and promoters, venues and audiences eager to welcome music from the region and really drive a regional industry for emerging acts.

**OBJECTIVE 3: Establish satellite networks for production, promotion and performance across the region and internationally so that affiliated artists can constantly tap into that network to promote themselves.**

Yes, thanks to the past six months we now have the basis of a touring circuit, between venues and promoters in Zanzibar, Dar Es Salaam, Nairobi, Kampala, Kigali, and we are about to roll out an hakuna kulala monthly event in each city, in order to promote more regional performances and cross border collaborations. The objective gets 70%, simply because the network is set but the touring has not completely been rolled out yet, and 100% will mean that artists are permanently touring across the entire region, which we hope will be a reality by the beginning of 2020.



### 11. Project's lasting impact and sustainability

**OUTPUTS:** Detail all Planned and actual activities carried out during the reporting period and the actual outputs. Explain any deviation between the planned and actual activities and propose follow-up actions.

Description of activities planned for the reporting period	Output targets		Level of achievement (achieved/planned) in per cent	Explanation (s) / Performance / Remarks
	Planned	Achieved		
Trainings	12	✓	100%	
Electronic Press Kits	12	✓	100%	
Workshops	12	✓	100%	
Performances	10	✓	100%	
Build infrastructure	1	✓	100%	
Equip all participants with adequate gear	1	✓	100%	
Music video production	10	✓	70%	Some videos are still in postproduction or waiting for release date.
Project launch	80	✓	100%	
Mastering tracks	24	✓	100%	
Album production	12	✓	70%	Some music is scheduled to be released later this year.

## 12. Describe the Lesson Learnt during the Implementation of the Project

Our main lesson is really more a proof of concept, it shows that throughout the region there is an amazing pool of talent, and that by making these talents move throughout the region, it creates a sort of web of connections and new friendships that in turn lead to new creations. We've seen that building networks is key to foster integration. We've also understood that in many cases, musicians that are outside of the mainstream, gain a lot from international acclaim. When a musician from the North of Uganda or from a ghetto of Dar Es Salaam plays outside of their country, they are able to come home and gain traction and visibility as cultural ambassadors, but sometimes the contrary happens, and a lot of jealousy arises. This contradiction needs to be addressed and we need to learn to thrive on one another's success, and to not see one another as competitors, but rather collaborators.

## 13. What are some of the Challenges encountered during the Project Implementation

*Please list the biggest challenge on top and sort the others in descending order.*

**Describe problems / obstacles that were encountered during the reporting period and what was done to overcome them.**

**1a. Obstacle:** Quickly building institutional capacity and administrative and financial processes, while at the same time dealing with a big delay in funding as the project was being rolled out.

**1b. Solution:** We were able to bankroll the project through the festival's expenses, and also sat down with our financial manager at GIZ to highlight gaps in our processes and close those gaps.

**2a. Obstacle:** Language barrier

**2b. Solution:** For many artists in the region, they do not master english, so our studios being based in Kampala makes it slightly more difficult for some artists to communicate. We cover language classes for our artists as part of the development of the participants, and encourage artist's use of english, by for example pairing them with english speakers.

**3a. Obstacle:** No space for alternative independent music

**3b. Solution:** Because it's become harder to find safe and comfortable spaces where new types of music are being played, so we have to create our own events, and crowd, so that venues actually want to pay for a hakuna kulala showcase.

## 14. What are the Recommendations for the Integration Process from the Project?

*The following were the recommendations from the implementation and consideration for the project;*

1. Make people aware of regional cultural diversity as means of integration and income generation. Artists need to develop audiences beyond their own country, and only East Africa as a regional block can compete with larger markets, an artist needs to break regional borders in order to launch international careers.
2. Connect people along aesthetic lines, the rock guys with the rock guys, rappers with rappers, their commonalities often transcend their differences.
3. Find people to tell these stories, and highlight an overarching narrative, what the international press calls “East Africa’s New Wave”, “The world’s future sound”, “Top 10 best label of the year”, we need music journalists to continue and unearth talent to present to the world.
4. To engage with policy makers on the importance of the creative economy, East African demographic explosion coupled with the democratization of means of creative production and the lack of formal employment open great opportunities for economic development in the creative sector, but only a regionally integrated market can compete with the likes of South Africa and Nigeria on a continental level.

## **15. Next Quarter Work Plan and Budget as per the agreement**

Since we’ve already benefited from two extensions, it was agreed that we would not go beyond the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, and we’ve therefore managed to wrap up all our planned activities, we are just waiting for the final release of certain content, including album and video releases that needs to be done according to a precise timeframe.

## **16. Conclusion and Way Forward**

It is clear that the youth is the one to carry the East African flag forward, young people are curious to travel and to meet fellow East Africans in a creative setting. The urge to move, to make, to share and perform is informed by booming demographics, the democratization of production tools, a regained international interest in East Africa’s booming underground music, which was largely driven by our collective for the last five years. What is lacking is an infrastructure that supports independent voices in their career, in order to build a niche within the wider commercial music industry, one that resonates with the people and new audiences. By encouraging regional networks, tours and collaborations, artists get their first international experience, they taste new foods and hear new stories, meet new people and learn new languages, and finally learn to re-appreciate the diversity of the region. It is our aim to continue way beyond this grant, which has served to solidify our organization and lay the foundations for future growth.