

## **New Thursday Evening Weekly Class at Motherland Music in Culver City**

**Entry/All Levels Guinean Djembe and Dundun Drumming** with

**Griot Aboubacar Kouyaté from Guinea**



**Want to learn the basics of west African drumming from an acknowledged master drummer? Here is a chance to study with one of the best right here in Los Angeles.**

Aboubacar Kouyaté began to learn music under the tutelage of Kemoko Sano, Director/Choreographer of Yamoussa Sumah Ballet Africaine de Guinea. Then in 1986 he was selected for a spot in Guinea's Ballet Merveilles de Guinea where he went on to wide acclaim as not only a solid accompanist, but also as a sizzling-hot soloist in the great tradition of his teachers. In 1999 Kouyaté relocated to New York, NY as a studio musician with Vanguard Jazz Records, and he taught drumming at Brooklyn's Ifetayo School. Relocating to the southern California area in 2004, Aboubacar continued and continues to be in demand for recording sessions, recording in NY with Fode Bangoura, Menge Sylla, Ismael Bangoura, and Bemba Bangoura, and touring with Drum Café and making special guest appearances at various traditional African events.

Motherland Music is delighted to have Aboubacar Kouyaté on faculty, as his expertise is not only top-notch, but we are also happy to be able to host his new Beginning Guinean Djembe and Dundun class to add our third weekly beginner's class. Rest assured that while this gifted master drummer can hang with the best of the best, he does care very much about sharing his knowledge and experience with new students, and he has been planning to teach a class like this for many years, you will not be disappointed. This class will not move so fast that even students who work hard will be unable to keep up... it will be paced for the maximum reasonable progress for a wide range of student aptitudes—thus it is open to anyone with any drumming potential who wants to learn west African drumming from the ground up with a great teacher!

"I believe that given good technical and musical foundations for growth, my students will master clean bass, tone, and slap sounds and learn some of the essential rhythms that make this music for dance so exciting. I also plan to explain some of the cultural contexts that inspired the various dances and songs we hope to pass on to future generations, as our ancestors have passed them onto us. This class will be a lot of fun; I've always wanted to teach a beginning class, and I'm excited about the possibilities. I think I can provide my students with good teaching, and I hope they will support me in this new class."

This approximately 90-minute class will meet weekly from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings at Motherland Music. It is for anyone with rudimentary drumming skills who wants to learn how to play a djembe and/or how to play some basic dundun and bell rhythms. Bring your drum if you have one, or you can rent one for \$5 per class. The class fee is \$20 (paid to the instructor at the end of each session).

Motherland Music's *Institute of African Music Studies*  
welcomes Griot Aboubacar Kouyaté to her faculty with open arms.

Reservations are not required for this weekly class.

Please observe recording restrictions per the copyright notice on the [motherlandmusic.com](http://motherlandmusic.com) Classes page.