

The making of the African Diaspora was a tragedy of both private and epic proportions. Yet the full-bodied complexity of pan-American culture would be sadly impoverished without the dynamic influence of African philosophical and aesthetic principles. This showcase of African based performance honors the tenacious survival of African traditions and acknowledges the cultural debt owed to the presence of Africa here.

2006 CubaCaribe Festival: *Africa* Here

Artistic Director Ramon Ramos Alayo

CubaCaribe

Producers

Michael Nolan
Kristina Ramsey
Jamaica Inule Simmons
Rose Williams

Lighting Design

Harry Rutbeck

Sound Operator

Andy Keefer

Graphic Design

Jamaica Inule Simmons

Thank you to all the dancers, musicians, choreographers and volunteers for supporting the CubaCaribe Festival and making this program possible, to Dance Mission Theater, CubaCaribe volunteers and staff, and all the volunteers who have lented their support and time.

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Looc Blooc's programs provide youth consistent contact with community-based artists of color who act as teachers, mentors and role models, empowering youth to make healthy choices about their lives. We feel both proud and grateful to work with youth and families in our community, and to bring forth amazing young artists. The Looc Blooc Performance Ensemble is comprised of the Lead Instructors in which make the program possible.
www.loocblooc.org

Michelle Martin & Konnyvi

The Afro-Haitian Piece is about Azaka, who is the patron of agriculture. From the field to the market, he assists those who earn their living working the earth. Djuba is the rhythm that is played in honor of Papa Azaka. This piece is dedicated to all workers who struggle daily, continue to be grateful and find the joie de vivre in a harsh physical and socio-economic environment.
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Alan Yris and Mind Over Matter

Mind Over Matter (M.O.M.) is the bay area's elite dance group known for its clean execution and soulful style that encourages individualism amongst its members, but yet presents uniformity through the art of dancing. Originated in 1993, M.O.M. has evolved into a diverse troupe that consists of members from teens to adults, with different ethnic backgrounds and a variety of dance styles. Throughout the years this renowned dance group has performed in countless benefit showcases & clubs across California. M.O.M.'s unique choreography and polished stage presence are what sets them apart from others. This strong combination brings forth a surge of excitement & motivation never seen before. Audiences will agree that M.O.M. is an unparalleled group of dancers who pride themselves on their creativity, energy & commitment to dance & to each other. In belief that anything is attainable if you put your mind into it, M.O.M. will give you a performance you would want to watch over and over again.
www.mindovermatters.com or henryperez79@yahoo.com

!TIMBEAL!

!Timbeal is a group of women of different ages, backgrounds, and interests who are strongly connected through a love of Cuban music and salsa rueda dancing. With such a diverse and rich culture of dance in the San Francisco Bay Area, the group's founders decided to harness the creative talents of the women around them and to provide women interested in rueda de casino a supportive and creative space to practice and improve their dancing skills, including leading, following, performing, and teaching. Founded in August 2004, !Timbeal has performed at street fairs, community events, private benefits, and other local venues. !Timbeal won first place in an international salsa rueda competition in Miami, Florida in November of 2005. !Timbeal is just returning home to the Bay Area from their second international rueda competition in Vancouver, Canada. !Timbeal's talent was again highly recognized and the team is proud to come home with second place honors. The piece is casino rueda, Cuban salsa danced in a circle or "wheel", with original vuelitas inspired by Cuban folkloric and popular dancing. Although rueda looks choreographed, dancers are responding to the direction of the "caller" which adds to the challenge, spontaneity, and fun of this infectious dance form.
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