



Zambezi Marimba Band

Tendai Muparutsa, director

Personnel

Alison Bunis '16
Jonathan Berg '18
Erin Cohn '19
Ruby Froom '17
Louisa Goss '19
Madelyn Grant '18

Jack Hood '18
Cindy Liao '17
Maija Lindaas '18
Ryan Patton '18
Uygar Sözer '17
Alden Taylor '19

Program

Bangidza
Afro-Variations
Retso
Sounsoumba
Chemuntengure
Besame Mucho
Taireva
Muzvambarara
Tsime
Santo Domingo

Saturday, October 24, 2015

8:00 p.m.

Chapin Hall

Williamstown, Massachusetts

*Please turn off or mute cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.*

See music.williams.edu for full details and additional happenings as well as to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

Upcoming Events:

Sun Oct 25	3pm	CANCELED Orrin Evans, jazz piano - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Tue Oct 27	4:15pm	Faculty Talk with Prof. Corinna Campbell	Bernhard, room 30
Wed Oct 28	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC "In C" by Terry Riley	Chapin Hall, stage
Sun Nov 1	3pm	Faculty Recital: Matthew M. Marsit, clarinet	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed Nov 4	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC	Chapin Hall, stage
Thu Nov 5	2:35pm	Composition Reading Voxare String Quartet - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Nov 5	4:15pm	Master Class Chamber Music Voxare String Quartet	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Nov 5	8pm	Voxare String Quartet - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Nov 6	4:15pm	Faculty Talk with Prof. Jennifer Bloxam	Bernhard, room 30
Fri Nov 6	8pm	Faculty Recital: Joanna Kurkowicz, violin and Doris Stevenson, piano	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Sat Nov 7	4pm	Master Class: Cappella Pratensis - Visiting Artist Series	Thompson Memorial Chapel
Sat Nov 7	8pm	Cappella Pratensis - Visiting Artist Series	Thompson Memorial Chapel

About Kusika and the Zambezi Marimba Band

This concert during Williams Family Days highlights the verve and energy of the Zambezi Marimba Band in a free performance open to all. Led by Tendai Muparutsa, the Zambezi Marimba Band was founded in 1992 and is inspired by traditional Zimbabwean marimba music as well as contemporary African styles. Zambezi's chromatic marimbas are hybrid instruments, combining tempered tuning with a rich and buzzy African tone, making this a truly unique ensemble. Williams Family Days give parents and others a chance to attend a Friday class; enjoy student performances, faculty presentations, and get to know all of the new people in their student's life. This performance is in that spirit too, an evening sharing the joy of Zambezi's music with the whole community.

This performance features the Zambezi Marimba Band by itself, but very often the band can be heard with its partner organization Kusika. Kusika performs traditional African music, dance, and storytelling from Ghana, Zimbabwe, and Senegal. This material is the core of Kusika's repertoire and reflects the creative interests of its founders: Ernest Brown, professor of music emeritus, and Sandra Burton, Lipp Family Director of Dance and Senior Lecturer in Dance. The Zambezi Marimba Band plays marimba music from Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In the Shona language of Zimbabwe, Kusika means "to create." The repertoire of these ensembles consists of traditional pieces and original pieces based on traditional models.

Kusika and Zambezi have benefited from several short-term residencies with talented African and African-American musicians and dancers, including Ghanaian master drummer Obo Addy, shekere virtuoso Ahmondylla Best, marimba virtuoso and composer Alport Mhlanga from Zimbabwe, dancer Lora Chiorah-Dye from Zimbabwe, and Chuck Davis' African-American Ensemble.

Kusika and Zambezi perform two major concerts per year on campus.

Kusika was founded in 1989 and the Zambezi Marimba Band was founded in 1992. Tendai Muparutsa and Sandra Burton are co-directors of the ensembles.

About Tendai Muparutsa



Tendai Muparutsa is an internationally known performer, music educator, ethnomusicologist and bandleader. He participates in a multitude of Zimbabwean and African music circles in North America, and collaborates with musicians and instructors from all over Africa. His work encompasses everything from performing with afro-pop groups to teaching at African music camps to directing mbira, marimba and dance ensembles. His high energy, humor and passion for sharing African music delight audiences and students alike. Tendai co-directs Kusika and the Zambezi Marimba Band.

Tendai's research has been diverse and his passions are many. He has explored, through both academic study and personal experience, the following: the music of Southern Africa; general music education with an emphasis on multicultural philosophy; popular music; jazz history; music and gender; African and African-American music collaborations in diasporas; and African choral music styles and how they interact with North American styles. His enthusiasm for cross-cultural music experiences results in many rich and exciting collaborative projects.

Tendai Muparutsa graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Zimbabwe in 2004, and graduated from the University of Idaho with a Masters in Music Education in 2008. He recently completed his Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology at the University of Alberta, Canada. While still in Zimbabwe, he taught at both elementary schools and at the university level. In North America, he has presented his research at major ethnomusicology and educational conferences such as ICTM and Washington Music Educators Conference.