

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS  
UNIVERSITY OF UYO, UYO

*Present*



**Costume Parade Production**

**IN**

**AFRICAN DANCES**

**Let's Rise to the Drum Beats**

DIRECTED BY:  
DR. MARGARET G. AKPAN

DATE: MONDAY  
15/5/2023

11:00<sup>am</sup>  
Prompt

# From the Director's Table

Cultural dances play a huge role among Africans as social etiquettes, good morals and skill acquisitions are taught through them in preparation for the many celebrative festivals that permeate the different African societies.

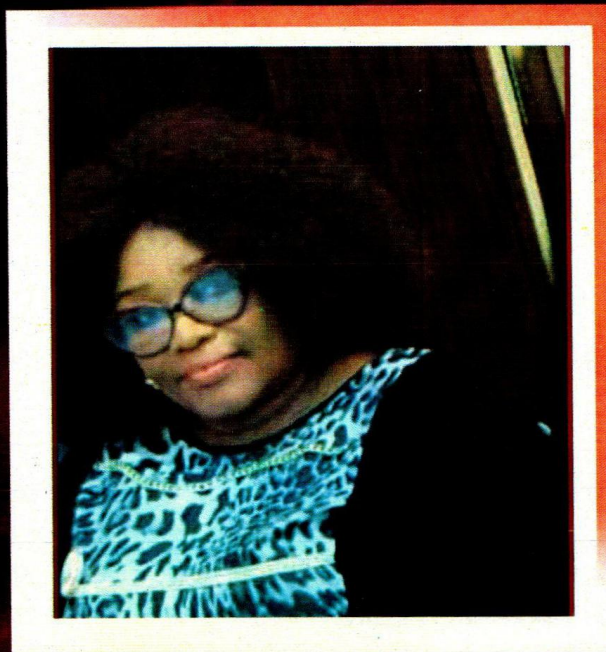
Today we present to you our dearly beloved quests some of the amazing traditional dances from selected African countries to celebrate 2023 costume parade in dance titled *Let's rise to the drum beats* featuring eleven different dances across Africa.

The dances are performed by the third year students in fulfilment of their course in costume design and visual presentation. The primary purpose is to determine the accuracy in design and functionality in different choreographic movements.

In dance we express ourselves when words are inadequate. The movements in a dance, taken together tell the story of the way of life of a people. The different costumes worn all contribute to the richness of the African culture in dresses, headgears, and other accessories.

We hope you will learn at least one thing from these presentations.

Let the parade begin!! Enjoy.



**DR MARGARET G. AKPAN**  
Ag. HOD



## Asian Uboikpa Dance (Ibibio)

This is a traditional maiden dance of Akwa Ibom State. The dance is performed by maidens who have successfully gone through seclusion. These girls were virgins who in seclusion were circumcised and taught the virtues of good living in the society. Here we see them gorgeously adorned in their wrapped skirt, short top, beads and jingles. The headdress is a symbol of honour and their body is significantly designed to show their purity.

# ASIAN UBOIKPA DANCE



# Swange (Benue)

This dance originates from Benue State among the Tiv, Igala and Idoma people of the middle-belt region. It is an exotic and very sensual dance that concentrates its movement on the waist. It is characterized by rhythmic contortion in beautiful slow movement.

The costume is representative of the Tiv traditional clothes known as Anger, made of black and white stripes, wrapped around the waist with white tops. Their beads are also black and white.

# SWANGE DANCE



# ADUMU DANCE (Kenya)

Adumu is the world famous traditional jumping dance performed by the iconic Maasai tribe of Kenya and Tanzania. The Adumu is popularly known as the “Jumping dance.” It is a coming of age dance and ceremony for young men in Africa. They jump to prove their strength and maturity.

The Maasai people don't use instruments when they are singing or dancing. All of their music is vocal. Their music comprises of rhythms rendered by a chorus of vocalists singing harmonies while the song leader sings the melody. Although, red is a favoured colour among the Maasai, black, blue, check and striped cloth are also worn, together with multi-coloured African garment.

The Massai identity is often defined by colourful beaded necklaces, rod and the Shuka cloth.



## IRIABO (Rivers)

The Iriabo dance is a prominent dance of the Kalabari Kingdom of Rivers State. The dance is mostly done by male and female to the wriggling of the waist accompanied by music and drums with ululations. Dancers are beautifully adorned with expensive wrappers as skirts and white blouses, coral beads, caps and white handkerchiefs.

Dance is performed during marriages, festivals and coronations.

# IRIABO DANCE



## BATA (Yoruba)

Bata dance is a prominent traditional dance among the Yoruba people of South Western Nigeria.

The dance is believed to be attributed to *Sango* – Yoruba god of Thunder and lightning thus the dance is ritualistic and also ceremonial as the case may be.

The music and dance is to appease and communicate with *Sango*. The dance can be done by both male and female.

The costume consists of *Iro* and *Buba* for the female and *buba* and *Shokoto* for the male with *gele* (scarf) and *fila* (softcap) respectively.



# ZULU DANCE

Zulu dance Indlamu is a traditional dance from South Africa, performed during weddings, coronation and other important occasions.

The dance consists of several leg kicks and a sudden fall with precise timing and unaccompanied posture. Originally, girls wear short beaded skirts and necklaces over bare breast but is here modified.

The men wear a circular head band called Umghele while the female wear a hat called Isicholo.

The dance brings a lot of happiness for all and sundry.

# ZULU DANCE





## ATILOGWU (Igbo)

Atilogwu is an acrobatic dance from the eastern part of Nigeria. The dance consist of leaps, turns, jumps, and other intricate foot work by the dancers.

The dance is usually performed during festivals.

The Atilogwu dance is performed on occasions such marriages, festivals, coronations and other important celebrations that involve the participation of the community.

Dancers normally wear brightly coloured dress.

# ATILOGWU DANCE



## EKISTA (ETHIOPIA)

Ekista is a traditional Ethiopian dance performed by both male and female. The dance focuses on rolling the shoulder blades, bouncing the shoulders, and contracting the chest. It is one of the most complex traditional dance forms in Ethiopia due to its technical nature.

The costume worn by the performers (both male and female) is a traditional Ethiopian dress made from wool called "Gabbi or netella". Furthermore, this traditional dress is painted using different colours depending on the gender of the performer.

# EKISTA DANCE



## Makossa Dance (Cameroon)

This dance originates from Congo and Cameroon. Makossa means 'dance.' This dance is very popular in the urban area of Congo though today it is performed everywhere in Africa.

Makossa dance follows a strict choreography and takes a lot of energy and creativity to make the dance beautiful. The dance is performed by both male and female at festivals and other important ceremonies. The costume is body fitting top for both sexes and a short skirt for women and short pair of trousers for the men.

# MAKOSSA DANCE



## ITORE (Burundi)

The Itore dance is from Burundi. It is a highly choreographed dance of heroines and warriors.

The traditional costume worn is called Umushanana. The skirts are brightly coloured which adds to the spectacle of the dance, making them visually engaging.

The dance is performed during national celebrations.

# ITORE DANCE



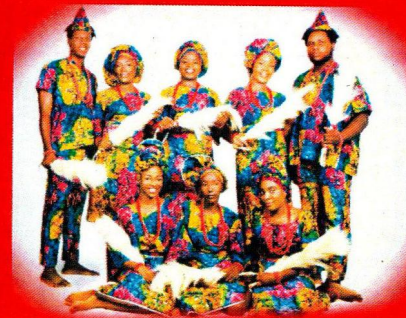
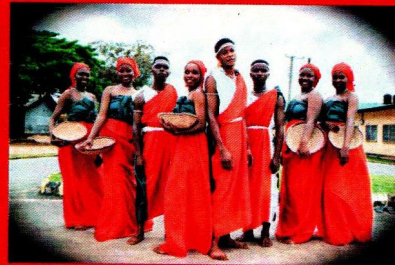
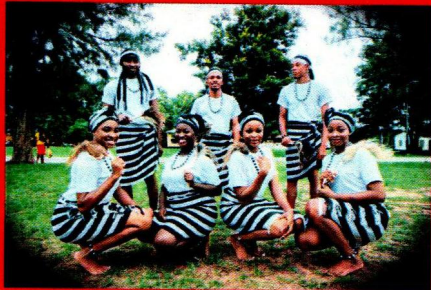
## MUSHAYAYO (Rwanda)

In Rwanda, dance and music are inseparable, making it one of the special expressions of the country's unique cultures.

The Mushayayo dance is distinct cultural dance performed by women. It signifies the elegant movement of different animals which grace the country of Rwanda.

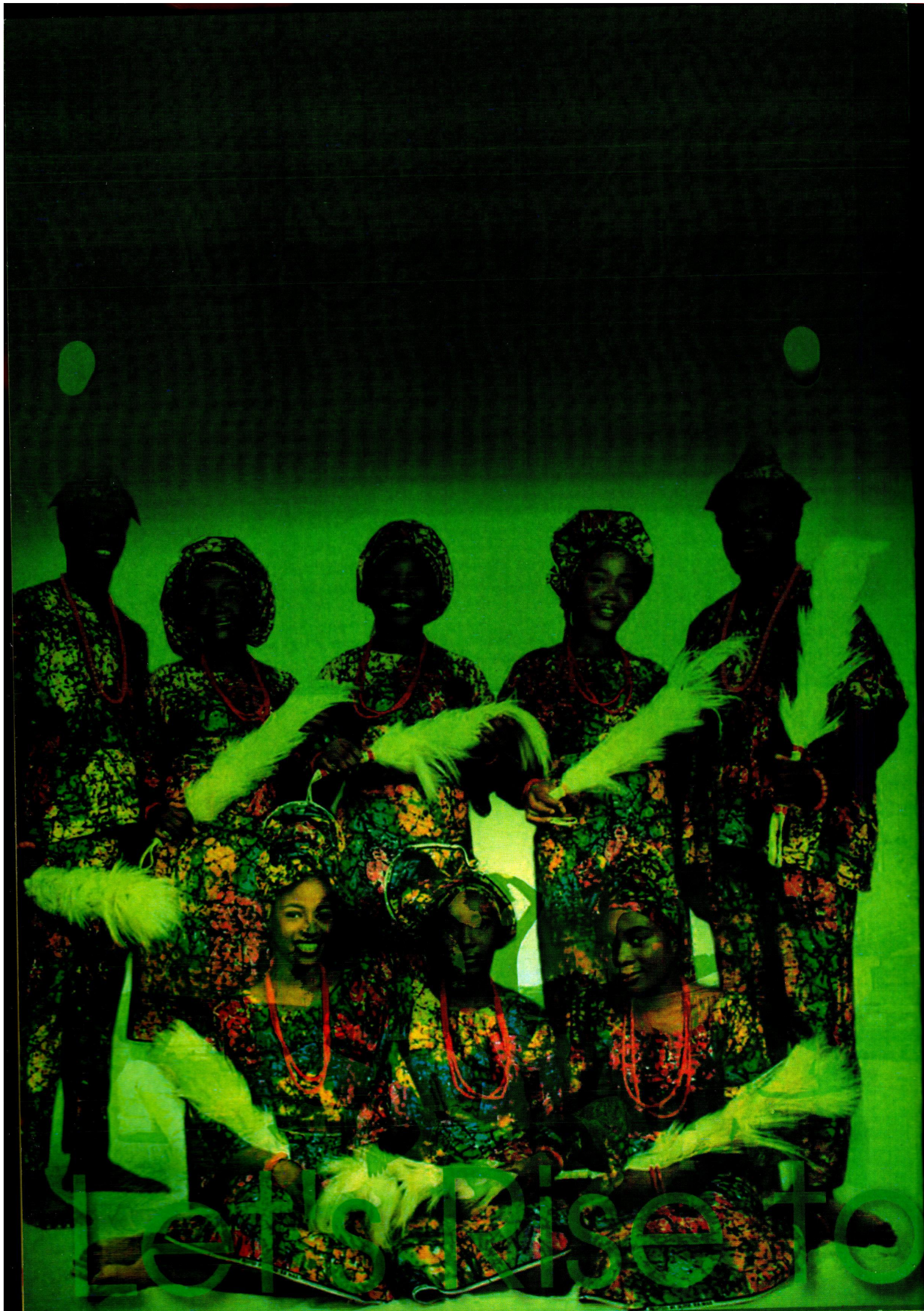
The dancers wear long flowery patterned skirts and with loose material wrapped around the shoulders.

# MUSHAYAYO DANCE



# CREDITS

Director	-	Dr. Margaret Akpan
Associate Director	-	Dr Ofonime Inyang
Commentator	-	Prof. Effiong Johnson
Production Supervisor	-	Sunday Umanah
Lighting Designer	-	Sunday Akpan Umoh
Stage Manager	-	Victor Thompson
Makeup Designers	-	Obazicham Esu Year Three Class
Patience Asuquo		
Costume Designer	-	Emmah Edet/ Dora Nnanake
Choreographers	-	YEAR THREE CLASS
Welfare	-	Abasifreke Clement
Sound Designer	-	Uwem Nesfield
Computer Operator	-	Comfort Etok
Organizers	-	Departmental Production
Committee		



Artists' Choice