



Nadja
2nd Album
Makonde Milele
and other songs

The contents of Nadja's songs
singing in Makonde language

Mueda / My hometown Mueda village

Many people ask me where you were born.
I say, "I was born in Mueda village".
Mueda village is the hometown of Makonde people.
My mother is Makonde, my father is Makonde, and
my family is Maconde.
Welcome to the Makonde. Welcome to Mueda village.
I will teach you the language, dance and culture of the
Makonde. Let's dance our dance. Let's eat our food.

Vanu / People

At night, while I was sleeping, someone came into the
room and poured bad medicine into my mouth.
I died. Be careful of people.
There may be people who bring dangerous things.
Be careful. There are good and bad people in the world.
※This Song is the story that Nadja heard from his grandmother,
that you should watch out for black magicians.

Ingoma uwavi / The dance of black magician

One night, a very pleasant dance is held.
Their group is naked, forming a line, matching steps
and dancing backwards.
The sing, " SHIKUNDUKUNDU, backward, backward".
My grandma, mom and uncle told me never to dance
this dance. Because this is the black magician's dance.

Antumani / A common man, Antumani

Antumani has a wife and children.
In the morning, he bathes and dresses nicely and
goes out saying, " To go to work ".
But he doesn't work. He goes to a bar, catches a woman,
and goes home at night without making any money.
Everyday there is nothing to eat at home.
When he earns money, he spends it all on alcohol and
women. So his wife and children are thin and hungry.
He looks good, but he has a bad heart.
Everyone is aware of that.

Mwanda / See you later!

Whenever I go out, I always say, "See you later!".
I'm going out, but I'll definitely come back.
I tell mom, dad, my friends, and uncle, "See you later!".
I definitely come back at night, tomorrow or someday.
Unexpected things happen in our lives.
Even if we meet today, it can be the end of life.
"See you later!". I'm going out, but I'm sure I'll be back.

Masikini / Handicapped person

When I was walking down the street in my neighborhood,
I saw a blind man with a bad leg get stuck.
He was asking people for help.
"Somebody, please help me. Can you take me to my
house?! please help me ". I ran to the man.
And I walked with him hand in hand. We walked slowly.
We put our hands together and walked step by step
to his house.

Minguko / Mom's yam digging

Makonde mothers in Mueda village get up early in
the morning and go to dig yam.
They can't dig yam with the baby on their back,
so they leave the baby at home.
The baby is crying all over the place because mom is
not there. So Neighbors go to the house where the
baby is crying and calm down. On the day mom
digs yam, baby is watched by dad and neighbors.

Vangwele / Mystery of monkey

Monkeys are mysterious.
In the evening, when Makonde women came back
from the field, they encountered a group of monkeys.
The Monkey put his hands together, passed through,
and said to women, "Don't go through here".
The women were surprised and asked, "We want to
go home as soon as possible after working all day.
Please let me go through".
The monkey said, "Then give me the food. We're starving".
And the women said, "Those are my family's dinner.
Please let me go through".
The monkey said, "If you go home without giving food,
someone in your family will be dead ".
When the women came home, their families were
dead and they cried.
This is the mystery of monkey.

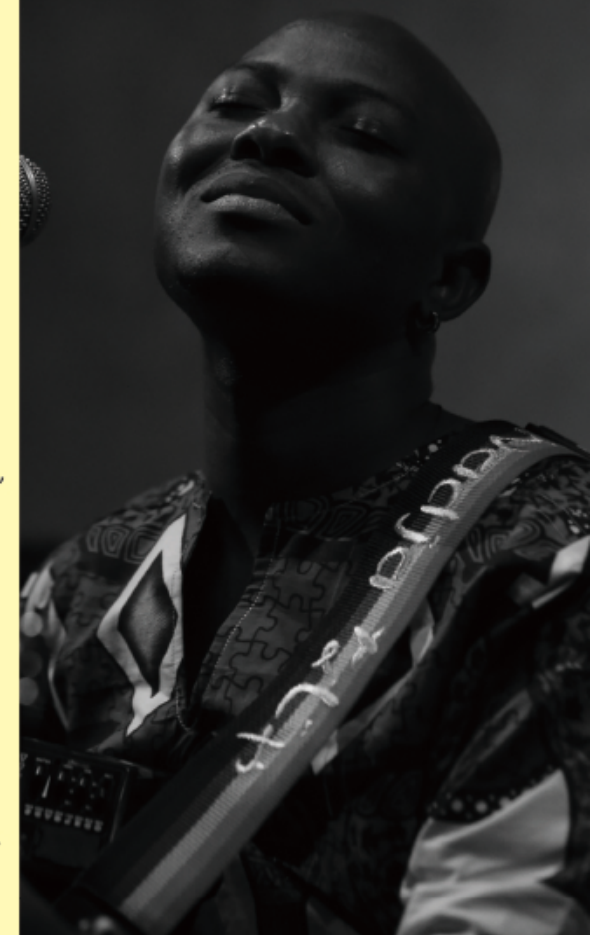
Namumu / Hide and seek

Hide, hide, hide. You mustn't look at me now.
Hide, hide, hide. You mustn't come here now.
Okay, look at me now. Okay, come here now.
Find me where I am.
But don't go where the distant sun sleeps.
It's dangerous because there are lions where the sun sleeps.
We should stay close and play together.
My dear friends, brothers, fathers, mothers,
don't go to the place where the sun sleeps.
Let's play together here.

Makonde tribe
Mozambique

Nadja

VOCALIST and GUITARLIST
He was born in Mueda, Cabo Delgado Province, Republic
of Mozambique in 1987, during the civil war.
He was raised by Nangundo, who was one of the most
famous Afro musicians in Mozambique.
He started learning Afro Music including Afro rumba in his
childhood. In 2010, He formed " Banda Myuna ".
He is now a professional Afro musician who composes his
own lyrics and music. His songs often honor the Makonde
ethnicity and point out social issues, such as HIV, flawed
education systems, and domestic violence.
Lately, he earned different music prizes in a row at the
Mozambique Music Festival, the largest music festival in
Mozambique.
He was also promoted to social support campaign artist.
He has started NGO PVM, in many different ways in order
to encourage children to have dreams and hopes.



Photographed by Kohei Ishikawa

Bridge for Lives in Mozambique