

Ama Oforiwaa Aduonum
Professor of Music

Illinois State University

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EDUCATION

Degrees

1999	Ph. D. Ethnomusicology	Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
	Dissertation: “Urban Bush Women: Building Community and Empowering the Disempowered Through a Holistic Performing Arts Medium”	
1990	M. M. Ethnomusicology	Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
1986	B. M. Vocal Performance	Fisk University, Nashville, TN

Certificate

2020	Graduate Certificate, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	Illinois State University, Normal, IL
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Consultant *Bi Nka Bi* (“One Must not bite another”)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic

1999-Present	Illinois State University	Normal, IL	Professor
2023 (Feb)	Lewis-Clark State College	Lewiston, ID	Visiting Scholar
2022 (Feb)	Agnes Scott College	Decatur, GA	Visiting Scholar
2020 (March)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	Amherst, MA	Guest Artist/Scholar
2020 (March)	University of Georgia	Athens, GA	Visiting Scholar/Artist
2016-2017	University of Cape Coast	Ghana	Visiting Professor

2016	University of Iowa	Iowa City, IA	Guest Scholar
2008-2009	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	Visiting Scholar
2004	Agnes Scott College	Decatur, GA	Visiting Scholar
1998-1999	Agnes Scott College	Decatur, GA	Visiting Scholar

Select Publications

Book

2022 *Walking with Asafo in Ghana: An Ethnographic Account of Kormantse Bentsir Warrior Music*. University of Rochester Press.

Chapter in Edited Volume

2023 “Entering the Lives of Others: Entangled Intimacies, Trauma, and Performance.” *Intimate Entanglements: Vulnerability in the Ethnography of Performance*, edited by Sidra Lawrence and Michelle Kisliuk. New York: University of Rochester Press.

2015 “Tapestry of Sweet (Motherhood): African Woman, Scholar, Performer.” In *Teacher, Scholar, Mother: (Re)Envisioning Motherhood in the Academy*, edited by Amy Young. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Book Manuscripts

More Than Slave Holes: Unearthing the Roots of Black Music/Sound.
Ko-ko-gya! Sounds, Poetry, and Musicking at Former Dungeons.

Journal/Encyclopedia Articles

2021 “Ethnomusicology, Are you Ready?” *Ethnomusicology* 62(2): 203-220.

“Walking as Fieldwork Method in Ethnomusicology.” *Ethnomusicology* 62(2): 221-258.

2020 “Ethnomusicologists, Keep Walking!” *SEM Newsletter* 54(4): 19-21.

2011 “Memory Walking with Urban Bush Women’s *Batty Moves*.” *TDR: The Drama Review* 55 (1): 52-69.

2010 “Hottentot Venus.” *Women’s Journal: An Interdisciplinary Perspective* 39(7): 781-784).

2010 “We Are Wo!” *Women’s Journal: An Interdisciplinary Perspective* 39(7): 785-789.

2009 “Gorée, Speak!” *WARA (West African Research Association) Newsletter*, p. 9.

2009 “Baptême without Organized Music: Still A Grand Baptême!” *WARA (West African Research Association) Newsletter*, p. 17.

- 2004 “*Buwumu*: Redefining Black Beauty and Emancipating the Hottentot Venus in the Work of Oforiwaa Aduonum. *Women’s Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. 33: 279-298.
- 2003 “Dance.” In *Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century African History*. Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Dickson Eyoh, eds., 125-131.

Copyrighted and Produced Performance Art Works

- 2019 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. A Solo Performance—Award-winning. Kim Pereira and Don Shandrow, directors; Don Shandrow, producer (Coalescence Theatre).
- 2014 *Walking with My Ancestors: Elmina Castle*. A Full-Cast Performance. A Solo Performance. Kim Pereira, director; Don Shandrow, producer (New Route Theatre).

Book Reviews

- 2009 Review. *What the Music Said: Black Popular Music and Black Popular Culture* by Mark Anthony Neal. *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Hip Hop Literature*, edited by Tarshia L. Stanley, ed., pp. 252- 253.
- 2006 Review. *Playing with Identities in Contemporary Music in Africa*, edited by Mai Palmberg.
<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=12339>.

Record Reviews

- 2001 *Cote d’Ivoire: Musiques des Wé (Guéré)*. In *Yearbook of Traditional Music* 33: 190.
- 2001 *Kakraba Lobi: Song of Legaa*. In *Yearbook of Traditional Music* 33: 190-191.
- 2000 *Western Sissala Music from Lambussie, Ghana: In the Time of My Fourth Great-Grandfather*. In *Yearbook for Traditional Music* 32:228.
- 2000 *Burkina Faso: Anthology of the Music of the Gan*. In *Yearbook of Traditional Music* 32: 225-226.
- 1998 *Rhythms of Life, Songs of Wisdom: Akan Music from Ghana, West Africa*. In *Yearbook of Traditional Music* 30: 184.

Books (YA)

- 2020 *I Am Proud of My Ancestors: They Overcame*. Palatine, IL: Anchor Press Books, Ltd.
- Beautiful Little Girl: I Like Me!* Palatine, IL: Anchor Press Books, Ltd.
- 2004 *Rhythms and Stories for African Bell Ensembles*. Liberty, SC: Harrock Hall Music.

Select Conferences

International

2023 “Creative Fictions of Sound and Silence.” Roundtable. **69th Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology**. Ottawa, **Canada**.

“Moving Away from Whiteness: The Musicologist of Africa as an Indigenous Scholar.” **The 47th International Council for Traditional Music Conference**, Legon, **Ghana**.

2022 “Gendering Africa” Music and Gender of African Musical Arts.” Virtual, **Columbia University**, New York.

2021 “Resolution of Thanks.” 66th **Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology**. Virtual Meeting.

2019 “Thingified Other, Musical Pasts, Asafo, and the Insider’s Curse!” **63rd Annual International Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology**. Albuquerque, NM.

2108 “*Te-te wo bi-ka, te-te wo be kyere*”: The Ethnomusicological Pasts of a Fante Warrior Tradition.” **International Council for Traditional Music, African Studies Group**. Accra, **Ghana**.

2017 “Black Lives Always Mattered: Asafo Music and the Transatlantic Discourse Against Erasure.” **Obama Institute of American and Transnational Studies**. Mainz, **Germany**.

“We are Dying, Dying: Should Asafo Music and Performance be an Issue for Black Lives Matter Movement?” **ACASA Triennial Conference**. Accra, **Ghana**.

“Sustaining Asafo Music and Performance.” **The 2nd Kwame Nkrumah Pan-African Intellectual and Cultural Festival**. Accra, **Ghana**.

“*Egwardze!* Performing Spectacle, Status, and Grief for the Dead.” Interdisciplinary in the Arts, Academy, and Industry Conference. **International Conference of the School of Performing Arts. University of Ghana**. Accra, **Ghana**.

“Ethnomusicological Pasts of Kormantse Asafo Warriors.” Department of Music and Dance Graduate Presentations. **University of Cape Coast**. Cape Coast, **Ghana**.

2016 “Can Spaces, Sing, and Dance?” Digging the African American Musical Pasts in Former Dungeons for Enslaved Africans.” **Faculty of Arts Series. University of Cape Coast**. Cape Coast, **Ghana**.

2014 “When Spaces Speak and Sing: Elmina “Castle” and the Making of Afro-Brazilian Slaves and Music.” **International Society for Music Education (ISME), 31st World Conference**. Porto Alegre, **Brazil**.

“Keep them Dancing, Singing, and Playing: A Musical Strategy towards Eliminating Bullying.” **International Society for Music Education (ISME) 31st World Conference.** Porto Alegre, **Brazil.**

“Embodying Slavery: An Experiential Approach Towards Black Music Performance in the Classroom.” **International Society for Music Education (ISME), 31st World Conference.** Porto Alegre, **Brazil.**

2013 “Locating the Body: Mediating Desire, Race, Sexuality, and Gender in Field Research.” **Annual International Conference for the Society for Ethnomusicology.** Indianapolis, IN.

“Urban Bush Women: Three Decades of Choreographing an African Aesthetic.” **The Society of Dance History Scholars, Special Topics Conference at York University.** Toronto, **Canada.**

2011 “Performing Ethnomusicology: Character Portrayals as an Alternative to the World Music Ensemble.” **56th Annual National Conference of The Society for Ethnomusicology.** Philadelphia, PA.

2008 “Embodying Diaspora: The Story of Two Dance Companies.” **Annual International Conference for the African Studies Association.** Chicago, IL.

“*Aburukusu*: The Challenges of a Ghanaian Musician and His Orchestra.” **Annual International Conference for the Society for Ethnomusicology.** Middletown, CT.

2006 “African Diaspora Musico-Politics” **International Association for Jazz Education.** New York, NY.

2005 “Griots of the African Diaspora.” **The College Music Society Annual International Meeting.** San Francisco, CA.

2004 “*Ati deka metua xo o* (One stick cannot build a house): The Synergy of Music and Movement in Gavu,” with Professor David Locke. **Annual International Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology.** Tucson, AZ.

2003 “African Women, Myth, and Drumming.” **Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities.** Honolulu, HI.

2002 “From African Drumming Communities to Jazz Communities.” **International Association for Jazz Education Teacher Training Institute.** Las Vegas, NV.

National

- 2019 “More than Slave Holes: Dungeons for Enslaved Africans and the Making of Black Music.” **National Council for Black Studies**. New Orleans, LA.
- 2011 “Recasting and Reforming the Past: Slavery and the Choreographic Imagination in *Les écaillés de la mémoire*.” **Congress on Research in Dance: Special Topics Conference**. Tallahassee, FL.
- 2007 “Urban Bush Women: Deconstructing Nappy Hair Towards Celebration and Healing.” **African and African American Popular Music Conference**. Plymouth, NH.
- “Can the Church Say Amen? Redemption, Hope, and Hip-hop.” **African and African American Popular Music Conference**. Plymouth, NH.
- 2002 “Buwumu”: Emancipating Saartjie Baartman, the Hottentot Venus, in the works of Oforiwaa Aduonum.” **Pacific Rim Literary Conference**. Anchorage, AL.
- 1997 “Women in World Music: Teaching, Research, and Performance.” **The CollegeMusic Society Annual International Meeting**, Cleveland, OH.
- 1996 “Diachronic Study of the Female Singer-Dancer Tradition in Java: The Case of the *Pesindhen* and the *Ronggeng*,” Convocation of the **Music and Gender Study Group of the International Council of Traditional Music**, College Park, MD.

Regional

- 2014 “Embodying Music of Slaves: An Experiential Approach.” **University of Illinois Faculty Summer Institute**. Champaign, IL.
- 2013 “Songs, Movements, and Tales: Bringing Africa to Children.” **Annual Conference of the McLean County Association of Educators of Young Children Conference**. Normal, IL.
- 2002 “Pique Their Interest, Then Teach Them,” **Illinois Music Teachers’ Association**. Peoria, IL.
- “African Aesthetics through Music and Dance,” **Students Association of Black Chiropractors**. Davenport, IA.
- Batty’s Across the Seas: Emancipating the Hottentot Venus in the Works of Urban Bush Women,” **Center for African Studies**. Champaign, IL.
- 2001 “From Storytelling to Music Making: A Lesson in African Music,” **Kansas City Music Teachers’ Association**. Pittsburgh, KS.
- “Dance as Group Therapy,” for the **Student Black Chiropractic Association (SBCA) at Palmer College of Chiropractic**. Davenport, IA.

2000 “African Dance: A Celebration of the Human Form,” **Quad-Cities World Affairs’ Annual Conference**. Bettendorf, IA.

Teaching

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

1999-Present	Black Music I & II
2000-Present	African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
2000-2017	World Music (Music Majors and Non-Majors sections)
2004	Women in Popular Music (Independent Study/Senior Project) 2004—
2006-Present	Women in Music—Cross-cultural Perspectives (Upper Undergraduate and Graduate)
1999-2003	Foundations of Inquiry (Freshman Orientation)
2016-Present	Introduction to Ethnomusicology—Musical Ethnography, Social Justice, (Upper Undergraduate and Graduate)

University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana

2016-2017	Ethnomusicology Graduate Seminar Readings in Fieldwork Methods
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The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

April 2016	African American Studies Class Musicology Colloquium Music Education Methods Class
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Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA

Jan-May 2004	Music of the African Diaspora African Music Ensemble African Music: Traditional and Contemporary
1998-1999	Music of the African Diaspora African Music Ensemble African Music: Traditional and Contemporary

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL (Graduate Assistantship)

1990-1991	Introduction to Western Music History
1991-1999	African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
1993-1999	Music Cultures of the World

Symposia/Colloquia/Talks/Chair/Keynote

2023 “Unhu/Ubuntu: Decolonizing the Social Theory of Africa’s Music.” Chair. 69th Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology.

“Creative Arts for Leadership, Liberation, and Social Justice.” **Keynote.** Redbird Leadership, Education and Development (LEAD). **Illinois State University.** Normal, IL. *Walking with Asafo in Ghana.* **Book Talk and Signing. ISU Women’s Club, Normal, IL.**

“Mourning and Memorialisation.” **Chair.** British Forum for Ethnomusicology. Edinburgh, **Scotland.**

“*Sankofa: Sonic Time Travel and Performative Journeyings in Walking with My Ancestors.*” **Keynote.** British Forum for Ethnomusicology. Edinburgh, **Scotland.**

Walking with Asafo in Ghana. Book Talk and Signing. **Illinois State University.** Normal, IL.

Walking with Asafo in Ghana. Book Talk and Signing. **Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, ID.**

2022 “*Etua wo nyonko ho a, etua dua mu: The Body as an Instrument of Research and Creativity, Walking with My Ancestors.*” **Keynote. University of Florida,** Gainesville, FL.

2020 “Decolonization and Afro-Feminism.” **Chair.** Dialogue with Author Dr. Sylvia Tamale. **Readings in Decolonization Group.** Virtual Meeting.

“Towards an anti-racist/anti-colonial/de-colonialist African Musicology.” **SEM African Music Society.** Virtual Meeting.

2018 “The Ethnomusicology of African Music.” **Illinois State University,** Normal, IL.

“Walking with My Ancestors: Reflections on a Music Journey from Slave Dungeons in Ghana to America.” **TEDx Talk Normal.** Normal, IL.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56WTvTyyLsY>

“Songs of the Enslaved African Dungeon: An Ethnomusicological Inquiry.” **William & Mary.** Williamsburg, VA.

“Music and Sustainability in Africa.” **William & Mary.** Williamsburg, VA.

2016 “Character Portrayals’: An Experiential Approach to Teaching Black History and Music to Elementary School Students.” **The University of Iowa.** Iowa City, IA.

“Can Spaces Speak and Sing? The Uses of Historiopoiesis, Embodiment, and African American Memory in the Ethnomusicological Research of Slave Dungeons.” **The University of Iowa.** Iowa City, IA.

"Speaking to the World': An Experiential Approach to the Politics and Poetics of AfricanAmerican Music." **The University of Iowa**. Iowa City, IA.

"From Slave Dungeons to #BlackLivesMatter: Protest Performance, Memory, and the Genealogy of a Movement" **The University of Iowa**. Iowa City, IA.

"When Spaces Speak, Sing, and Dance: Readings from My Elmina Castle Diary." **College of Fine Arts, Visuality and Culture Symposium, Illinois State University**. Normal, IL.

2008 "Urban Bush Women: Towards A 'Compound Diaspora'" **University of Virginia**. Charlottesville, VA.

Mentoring: Thesis/Supervision

2020 "Dance and Know You Are a Part: The Politics of Performative Politics and Their Role in Identity Formation, Social Memory, and Agency in Brazil".

2015 "Cultural Displays, Performance, and the Politics of Ghanaian Identity"

2014 "Women in Music: Performing Politics and Gender in Pop Music".

Founder/Consultant: *Bi Nka Bi* Practice

2023 *Bi Nka Ni* ("One should not bite another"): Finding, Celebrating, and Sustaining Our Authentic Selves as Artists, Scholars, and Instructors (May 23-June 1)
***Bi Nka Bi* (Belonging, Justice, Fair play, Freedom, Peace, Forgiveness, Unity, Harmony, and avoidance of conflict or strife)**

Administrative

2023 President Heartland Head Start Agency Governing Board

2022 Ambassador *Bi Nka Bi* ("One must not bite another") Practice

2021-23 Chair Society for Ethnomusicology, African and African Diasporic Music Section

2021- Member SEM Council

2020 Director ABURUKUSU! Center for Creative Learning, Normal, IL

2013 Director Obokrom Pre-Kindergarten, Ghana

1999- Director African Drumming and Dance Ensemble, Normal, IL

- 2023 Associate Vice President for Diversity, Faculty/Staff
- 2021-23 College Faculty Status Committee
Comprehensive Evaluation Committee for Dean of the
- 2020 College of Fine Arts
Growth Change Team Initiative—Diversity, Equity, and
Inclusion Committee (College of Fine Arts)
Representing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (REDI)
Committee (School of Music)
College of Fine Arts Council
Mentor, African Cultural Association
- 2018-2019 Academic Senate (Senator)
Teams Excellence Award Committee
Campus Communications Committee to the Board of
Trustees
- 2015-2016 Vice President for Student Affairs Search Committee
University Service Award Committee
- 2012-2013 College Research Committee
- 2005-2006 College Curriculum Committee
General Education Task Force
- 2001-2003 College of Fine Arts Council

Select Workshops and Clinics

- 2021 “Who Will Sing for Their Feet?” Practice-led, Practice-based Research Workshop.
University of Virginia. Charlottesville, VA.
- 2019 “Sharing Stories, Building Community, Transcending Boundaries.” Diversity,
Equity, Inclusion Summit. **University of Michigan.** Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2017 "Qualitative Research and Ethnographic Writing." Presented at First DAAD Workshop
for theSDG Graduate School, "Performing Sustainability: Cultures and Development in
West Africa." **University of Cape Coast.** Cape Coast, **Ghana.**
- 2014 “Music: The Soul of Black Folk.” **Juneteenth Celebration at Unitarian Universalist
Church.** Bloomington, IL.

Residencies

- 2023 Scholar/Artist Residency. **Lewis and Clark College.** Lewiston, ID (February 2-5).
- 2023 Scholar/Artist Residency. **Illinois Wesleyan University.** Bloomington, IL (January 26-27).
- 2022 Scholar. **University of Florida.** Gainesville, FL (April 1).
- 2022 Scholar/Artist Residency. **Agnes Scott College.** Decatur, GA (February 7-11).

2020 Scholar/Artist Residency. **University of Georgia** Athens, GA (March 2-5).

Select Performances

International

2021 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle* (2019). **Society for Ethnomusicology**. Virtual Annual Meeting.

2017 “I Have Come to Sing to You!” 25th Anniversary Celebration of the **Pan African Festival** (PANAFEST) at Cape Coast Castle. **Ghana**.

“We Have Known Rivers: A Musical Journey” for *Ties that Bind: Roots and Routes of Ghana-U.S. Relations, A 75- Year Retrospective- 1930 -2016*. Cape Coast, **Ghana**.

Walking with My Ancestors: Elmina Castle (2014). **Abibigromma**. Legon, **Ghana**.

2014 “Anarcha! Who will Sing for the Mother of Gynecology?” **International Society for Music Education (ISME), 31st World Conference**. Porto Alegre, **Brazil**.

National

2023 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. **Lewis-Clark State College**. Lewiston, ID.

2022 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. **Agnes Scott College**. Decatur, IL.

2021 *Who Will Sing for Their Feet?*” Practice-Led, Practice-based Group. **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville, VA.

Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle. **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville, VA.

2020 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. **University of Massachusetts**. Amherst, MA.

Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle. **University of Georgia**. Athens, GA.

2019 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. **American Association for Community Theaters (AACT)**. Gettysburg, PA.

2015 *Walking with My Ancestors: Elmina Castle*. **DC Black Theatre Festival**. Washington, DC.

Regional

2021 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. Fifth Annual Mandi Theatre Festival at **Prairie Center for the Performing Arts**. Schaumburg, IL.

2020 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. **The University of Missouri**. Carter Institute of Education. Virtual Performance.

2019 *Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle*. **The University of Michigan**. Ann Arbor, MI.

Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle. **Africa American Museum and Genealogical Society**. Decatur, IL.

Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle. **American Association for Community Theaters (AACT)**.

Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle. **Illinois Theatre Association Festival (ITA)**. Peoria, IL.

SELECT HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2023 Ellen T. Blaney Prize for Research in the Humanities. College of Arts and Sciences, Illinois State University, for my *Walking with Asafo* Book (\$1,000.00).
- 2020 University Outstanding Creative Activity Award (\$3,000.00), Illinois State University
- 2019 University Redbird Scholar Recognition, Illinois State University
YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for Creative Arts and Entertainment, McLean County, IL
Outstanding Original Work—Illinois Theatre Association Festival (ITA) Award
Outstanding Use of Music—ITA Award
Outstanding Achievement in a Leading Role—American Association for Community Theatres (AACT) Award
Outstanding Performance—AACT Award
Outstanding Original Work—AACT Award
Outstanding Use of Music —AACT Award
Illinois House of Representatives Recognition Certificate
- 2018 College of Fine Arts Outstanding Research Award, Illinois State University (\$1,000.00)
German Educational Exchange (DAAD) Scholar Award
- 2017 *Nkoso Hema* “Queen Mother of Progress” Award, Ghana
Visiting Scholar Award University of Cape Coast SDG Graduate Program (\$4,000.00)
- 2016 Unitarian Universalist Church Social Justice Award, Bloomington-Normal (\$4,250.00)
University Research Grant (\$3,450.00)
University Faculty Development Grant (\$1,350.00)
- 2014 International Society for Music Education (ISME) Sponsored Delegate Award (\$1,750.00)
- 2012 US Department of Education TEACHER+PLUS Urban Teacher Preparation Development Grant, Illinois State University (\$1,000.00)

2008 University Research Grant, \$4,000.00
2004 Kirk Visiting Scholar Award, Agnes Scott College
2001 Exceptional Teacher of the Year Award, Illinois State University
1998 Kirk Visiting Scholar Award, Agnes Scott College

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM)

- African and African Diasporic Music Section (Chair)
- SEM Council
- Sound Studies Section
- Society for the Status of Women
- Gertrude Robinson Network of Black Ethnomusicologists
- Dance and Music Section

Society for American Music (SAM)

College Music Society (CMS)

International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM)

National Council for Black Studies (NCBS)

The Arts Council for the African Studies Association (ACASA)

National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS)

Performance Studies International (PSI)

INTEGRATED ARTS PROGRAMS LAUNCHED

2020- *ABURUKUSU!* Center for Creative Learning
2016-2017 *Feminine Spirits: A Women's Drum Circle*
2005-2007 *Obaa Sima (Ideal Woman): Celebrating Teenage Lives through Music*
1999-2018 *Biajo: Intergenerational and Inter-racial Community Performance-Art Group*
1999-Present African Drumming and Dance Ensemble

COMPOSITIONS

Instrumental Works

2020 Akan Women's Adenkum Medley
2017 Wo koo oko, wo koo oko! (Voice, bell, drum, and rattle)
Shackles! (Bells and drums)
2001 Asem Pa (Drums)
Ebe ye yie (Drums)
1998 Dawuro Ndwom (Bells)
1993 Aden (Bells and rattles)
1992 Agoro Mienu
1990 Agoro Baako (Drums, bells, and rattles)

Performance Art Works—music, dance, drama, spoken word

- 2021 Who Will Sing for Their Feet? A Musical
Dear Dr Martin Luther King, Jr
- 2020 Communing with Douglass, Lincoln, and Tubman
- 2019 Walking with My Ancestors: Cape Coast Castle
- 2017 Legacies
- 2014 Walking with My Ancestors: Elmina Castle
- 2003 Yebetumi
- 2001 Difference is Strength
Shekere Jo
Biako Ye
Asem Sebe
- 2000 Aku Sika
Sisi Pa
Ehurusi
- 1999 Yee ye
- 1997 Bu wu mu
- 1996 Pe-pem-pa
Yenea Ye ni
Nkomo
- 1994 Asafommba

Spoken Word Pieces

- 2019 Cape Coast Castle Praise Songs
Elmina Castle Praise Songs
- 2014 Speak
Door of No Return Speaks
Elmina Castle Speaks
Men's Dungeon Speaks
Condemned Cell Speaks
- 2009 Goreé Speak!
- 2008 We Are Wo!
Branding Irons Gloats!
- 2007 I am *The Venus*