



Spoken Word
Tobi Sogbanmu

Tobi Sogbanmu, aka Seyi Sogba is a children's author and the creator of Tobi's Tales and the Tobi'sTales Podcast, a collection of engaging

stories that introduces young readers to the Yorùbá language and culture. Through Tobi's everyday adventures, children learn useful Yorùbá words and phrases alongside English in a fun and accessible way. Seyi created the series to celebrate cultural identity, encourage language learning and help children feel more connected to their heritage.

Tobi's Tales supports its community by helping children learn Yorùbá, celebrate their cultural identity and feel connected to their heritage. The stories can support readers' emotional wellbeing by encouraging confidence, belonging and positive family conversations. They also create opportunities for parents, grandparents and children to learn together, strengthening relationships across generations. Although the books are not a mental-health service, their inclusive characters and familiar cultural experiences may help children feel represented, valued and proud of who they are.



Music Performer:Oboe

Esther Williams

Born and raised in London of Vincentian and Jamaican-Indian heritage, Esther Williams began playing the violin at the age of four. She taught herself music theory, the piano, guitar, descant recorder and alto saxophone and, by the age of 16, was adept on eight instruments, including the one that would define her musical journey: the oboe. She now has a burgeoning freelance career, performing with various opera/ballet companies, and regularly with orchestras such as the BBC Concert Orchestra, Chineke! (including at the BBC Proms, televised on BBC Four), and the Heritage Orchestra. She appears regularly at the Royal Albert Hall accompanying artists such as Alicia Keys, Nas, RAYE, Angélique Kidjo, Craig David, and Beverley Knight. She has performed with Stormzy at the O2 Arena, recorded for clients including Apple Music and Netflix, and has been invited to perform all over the world, including the USA, Guadeloupe, Thailand and across Europe.

Following her undergraduate studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (where she recently returned to give a masterclass), Esther completed her Masters in Music at Staatliche Hochschule für Musik Trossingen in 2025, studying with world-renowned oboist, Nicholas Daniel OBE. She has participated in masterclasses with François

Leleux, Sarah Francis, Albrecht Mayer, and Heinz Holliger, and received tutelage from oboists such as John Anderson and Gordon Hunt. Alongside her studies and performing career, Esther teaches at the Royal Hospital School, and was recently appointed Deputy oboe teacher for the Royal College of Music Junior Department.

Esther previously sat as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the International Double Reed Society (IDRS) 2021-2024. Committed to securing racial equality in the music industry, she is a member of several committees, including those of the British Double Reed Society, and the Royal Academy of Music's (RAM) Equality, Diversity & Inclusion. She serves as a Woodwind Mentor for Chineke! Junior Orchestra, and regularly leads workshops and summer programmes at RAM, which includes conducting her own woodwind arrangements. In recognition for years of service and contribution to the professional music field, Esther was awarded an Honorary Associateship of the Royal Academy of Music (Hon ARAM) in April 2025 and DAAD Prize June 2025.



Music Performer:

Khamis Ismael Mumba

Saxophonist & Live Performer

Music has been part of my life from the very beginning. My father was a renowned trumpet

player in Kenya, and he introduced me to the world of music, teaching me the trumpet from a young age.

I began my professional musical journey in Nairobi in 1991, later taking my passion to Dubai and eventually to London, where I am now based. Over the years, I have developed my craft as a versatile saxophonist, performing on Soprano, Alto and Tenor saxophones, alongside other woodwind instruments. Today, I perform as an official London Underground Busker, work with a variety of bands and artists, and take on independent live and session performances across London.

My repertoire ranges from African music and Jazz to easy listening and popular classics, allowing me to bring energy, soul and personality to every performance.

Music has taken me around the world, introduced me to incredible musicians and created unforgettable experiences. My passion is simple: to share that music with people, wherever I perform.



Music Performer: Steelpan

Mica Allen

Mica is a highly experienced Steel Pannist with over 10 years of professional experience, specialising in providing exceptional wedding entertainment. Across the years she has performed at hundreds of events at venues up and down the UK and further afield, both as a soloist and with multiple different steelbands. She has competed at national steelband championships in London, New York, and in the home of steelpan - Trinidad and Tobago, and has numerous wins under her belt with Mangrove Steelband. Notable performances include the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Glastonbury festival.



Music Performer: Lute /Soprano
Kristina Watt

Marked as possessing a 'sensibility that combines philological precision and storytelling' lutenist and singer Kristina Watt enjoys a busy freelance career both in the UK and further afield. As a chamber musician she particularly enjoys collaborating with

singers, playing regularly for vocal consorts such as The Marian Consort, Musica Secreta and Vache Baroque. She is featured on The Marian Consort's latest CD 'Una Poesia Muta 'in which her performance was reviewed as 'flawless 'by Gramophone Magazine. In 2026 she toured internationally with the viol consort Fretwork in the performance of John Dowland's Lachrimae alongside singers Ian Bostridge and Alexander Chance. Orchestrally she has performed with many of the leading baroque orchestras and beyond including the Academy of Ancient Music, Aurora Orchestra, The English Concert, Gabrieli Consort & Players and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

As a singer, with a particular interest in the historical practice of self-accompaniment, recent highlights have included solo recitals at the Oxford International Song Festival, Haapsalu Early Music Festival (Estonia), a recital with her ensemble The Portrait Players at Buxton International Festival, performances with Musica Antica Rotherhithe and appearances on BBC Radio 3 and Radio 4 with Musica Secreta. Her operatic experience includes First Witch in 'Dido and Aeneas 'with The Kellie Consort and 'Damigella 'in Francesca Caccini's Liberazione di Ruggiero (Brighton Early Music

Festival). As a keen ensemble singer, she has held a number of choral scholarships and completed her masters dissertation at the University of Glasgow on the ornamentation of renaissance vocal polyphony.



Music Performers

Sura Suso & Friends

Kora & Xylophone Performance

Sura is an internationally acclaimed Gambian-born, UK-based kora virtuoso, percussionist, singer-songwriter and composer from a distinguished griot

(Jali) lineage. Renowned for his captivating stage presence, he blends the timeless traditions of the Manding world with a fresh contemporary sound. From Glastonbury and WOMAD to the Barbican and Montreal Jazz Festival, Sura has performed on major stages worldwide, sharing the spirit, stories and extraordinary sound of the kora with audiences across the globe.

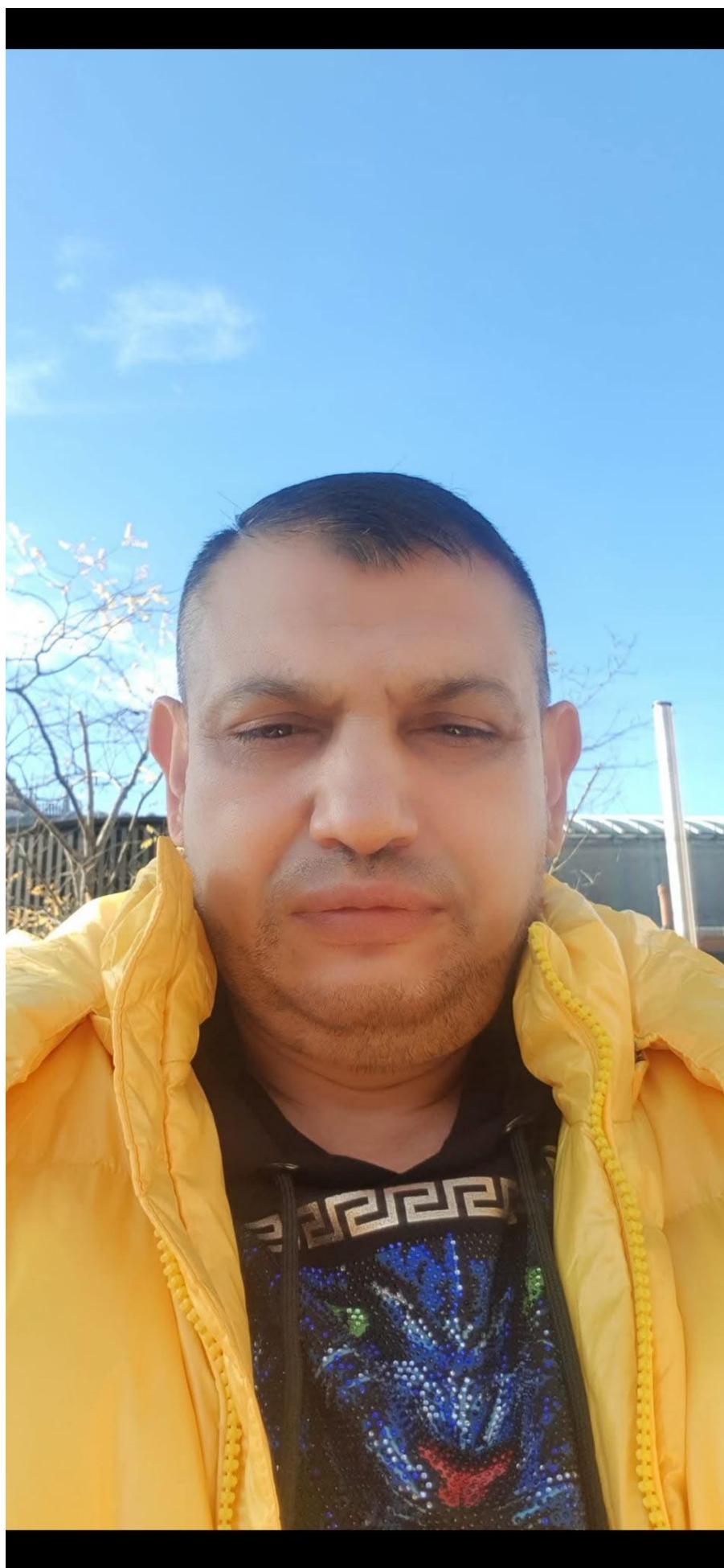
Amadou Diagne is a Senegalese percussionist, multi-instrumentalist and dynamic performer whose music is deeply rooted in the rich rhythms and traditions of West Africa. Known for his versatility, energy and musical sensitivity, Amadou brings an exciting contemporary edge to traditional Senegalese sounds, captivating audiences with rhythm, creativity and infectious spirit.

Ai



Music Performer

Elina from Ukraine



Music Performer: Accordion

Ghiorghita Chiriac