

Angelique Kidjo

In the course of her successful career Angelique Kidjo has spread her rhythmic Afro-funk fusion to the four corners of the globe. With her fun-loving personality, her on-stage charisma and her totally unique voice, Ms. Kidjo is certainly one of the most popular artists on the current world scene.



Line-up

Angelique Kidjo - lead vocals

Rubens de la Corte - guitar & musical director

Habib Faye - bass

Joao Mota - guitar

Harvey Wirth - drums

Ibrahim Diagne 'Thiokhp' - percussions

On Stage: 6

Travel Party: 8

Website

www.kidjo.com

Biography

Since she broke the charts worldwide in the 1990's with her albums *Logozo* und *Aye* and the singles *Batonga* und *Agolo*, Angelique Kidjo has achieved worldwide recognition as an international, African pop artist. She is not only one of the spunkiest, most electrifying performers in the pop world today, but she's also one of its most forward and creative thinkers, an artist whose mission has been to explore the relationships between diverse musical cultures. Her work has garnered her four Grammy nominations, has cross-pollinated the West African traditions of her childhood in Benin with elements of American R&B, funk and jazz, as well as influences from Europe and Latin America. After *Aye* a trilogy of concept albums was released, *Oremi* (1998), *Black Ivory Soul* (2002) and *Oyaya!* (2004) that explored African roots in music from the United States, from Brazil and from the Caribbean. While she has steeped her music in the tribal and pop rhythms of her West African heritage, the Paris/Brooklyn-based Kidjo is ever crossing musical boundaries by blending a variety of styles. Ultimately, it is the theme of interconnection and universalism being the glue to bind the disparate threads of the Unicef Ambassador's music: "There's only one humankind - I believe that to my gut", Kidjo confirms. Throughout her career, Angelique Kidjo has collaborated with a diverse group of international artists like Branford Marsalis, Santana and Gilberto Gil. Her duet with Dave Matthews on the song *Iwoya*, which appeared on her record *Black Ivory Soul*, was a critical success that helped diversify her fan base. Her brand-new album *Djin Djin* (EMI, released in Europe on June 2007) features again some well-known guests such as Alicia Keys, Peter Gabriel, Carlos Santana, Joss Stone, Ziggy Marley, Amadou & Mariam, Joy Denalane, Branford Marsalis and Josh Groban. Live, Angelique Kidjo has performed hundreds of concerts

throughout all continents. Her voice is amazing, and her energy on stage is unbelievable. After a European tour in autumn 2007 to present her new album, she will be back in Europe in April 2008 and for the 2008 summer festivals.

Discography

1980 Pretty

1990 Parakou - Island

1991 Logozo - Island

1994 Aye ! - Mango

1996 Fifa - Mango

1998 Oremi - Mango

2001 Keo on moving - Wrasse

2002 Black Ivory Soul - Sony

2004 Oyaya - Sony

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