Born in Washington, DC, Uasuf Gueye belongs to a family of Nguewel/Diali, or oral historians and musicians. He began his study and performance of Manding and Wolof music at a very young age. Uasuf is a dynamic djembe and dundun drummer as well as a skilled instrument craftsman. He also plays the 21-key bala, which he learned first with his teacher, Cheick Hamala Diabate and other master artists of the Manding tradition of West Africa. Uasuf has dedicated his life to the task of becoming an ambassador of African culture to the world. The catalyst for such a responsibility is the passion he has for reconnecting those of the African Diaspora to one another. His repertoire ranges from traditional songs from the 13th century to contemporary original compositions incorporating blues and jazz riffs.

Uasuf has studied in Senegal, West Africa, as well as the United States with master musicians and craftsmen including Medoune Yacine Gueye, Baile Mcknight, Famoro Dioubate, Mahiri F. Keita, and Amadou Kouyate. He has also acted as a teacher’s assistant to Amadou Kouyate at the University of Maryland and Montgomery College.

In addition, Uasuf Gueye also has several years of experience as a skilled teacher, lecturer, and dynamic performer. As a teacher, Uasuf has taught every age group from toddlers to elderly adults. This includes the facilitation of workshops around the world as well as being on staff in several schools. As a lecturer, he has stimulated minds and ignited thought on several accasions which includes conducting a clinic for Professor Larry Watson’s class at Berklee College of Music. Along with being a talented teacher, Uasuf has given exhilarating performances of different kinds. He has had a significant impact in various communities through lecture-demonstrations, providing ambience for eloquent banquets, solo performances, and opening for stars like Patti Labelle.

In addition to his solo work, Uasuf Gueye performs with several groups including Africa Unplugged, Kankouran West African Dance Co., Coyaba Dance Theatre, Proper SKANKS, Farafina Kan, Creative Pandemonium, Urban Afrikan, the Kouyate Family/Memory of African Culture, African American Dance Ensemble, and Sankofa Dance Theatre. His credits include performances at the Smithsonian Institution (Washington, DC), the Gullah Festival (South Carolina), Dance Africa (DC, Dallas, New York, and Denver), the Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), the Lincoln Theatre (Washington, DC), the Scottish Rite Theatre (St. Louis, MO), the Lisner Auditorium (Washington, DC), the Naomi Burton Theatre (Dallas, TX), a cultural exchange tour in Ecuador, South America, and many others.

**Musician/Performing Artist: African Instrumental Music - Bala, Djembe, and pre-production**

  Proper SKANKS - 2008 to present

  Farafina Kan, 2002- present

  Memory of African Culture Inc.- present

  Urban Afri-Kan, 2003 - present

African American Dance Ensemble, Chuck Davis - 2006 - 2007

  Facilitated performances and workshops in Ecuador, South America- December 2011

**Other Major Production Credits:**

  "Hera Suite" University of Maryland and Montgomery College symphonic and djembe orchestras, 2008

  "Spirit of Kwanzaa" Dance Institute of Washington, December 2000-2009

  “Let Freedom Ring” Kennedy Center, January 2011

**Assistant Lecturer/Drum Instructor, Asst. Drum Instructor, Guest Instructor**

  University of Maryland Ethnomusicology African Drum Ensemble Class, 2004 -2010

  Montgomery College World Music Ensemble ,2005-2010

  Sunrise Academy, 2008-2009

  Children’s Studio School, 2003-2010

 Conducted clinic at Berklee School Of Music

**Music Accompanist for Dance Classes**

  Kankouran West African Dance Co.,-2000- present

  Dance Place, 2003-present

  Balafon West African Dance Co., 2001-present

  Howard University, Guest Artist 2001- 2010

-Uasuf K. Gueye