



# WEST AFRICAN MUSIC for the Marimbist

Authentic traditional West African gyl music transcribed for 4 1/3, 4 1/2, and 5 octave marimba solo or with percussion accompaniment

## Transcriptions

16 transcriptions (not "adaptations") of gyl music - careful collaborations with Kakraba Lobi to preserve the integrity of both instruments. ordered least to most difficult

### Kpanlogo (Dance from the South)

Good first piece low A, I

### Song Collection Number 2 - 3 beginner short pieces

1. Goodbye passacaglia, low C, II/III
2. Nite Song elementary, elegant, low A, I
3. Fra Fra Song playful bold mischievous, low E, I/II

### Wenda Kanawa (Joyous Lament)

Tshokwe of Angola 5/4 good for the first time marimbist/singer, low A, II

### Darkpey Song Collection 3 challenging short pieces

1. Kaang Kuon Kpar (The Oil Has Spilled) low E, III
2. Kpaar Kpo Naah (Oblong Headed One) low A, II
3. Bana Kaaba (Your Proper Thing) low A, voice III

### Nuor Wongolo (Dogface!)

Bluesy driving 12/8 with challenging metric modulations low E, voice, II

### Lo Ben Doma (Breadwinner's Hoeblade)

Very bright 6/8 example of driving traditional dance music, low A, II

### Nanye Nuor Balkala (Your Husband is a Thief)

Pad Dol 12/8 slow driving bluesy, low E, II

### Ganda Yina (The Strong Man is Out)

A most loved funeral song. lyric passacaglia, low A, III

### Jong Kplek Kple (Haggard Old Man)

Rondo with a challenging bass line, low A, III

### Banda Jel (Lizard Egg)

Kakraba's "self portrait" low C, III

### Fer Barre Kona Jeno (Do Not Play Favorites)

Explosive and dynamic, low E marimba, opt voices III

### Guun (Ancient Funeral Music)

Ten movements with challenging metric modulations, low C or low E, III+

## Discography



### West African Music for the Marimba Soloist

All transcriptions except Banda Jel, Guun, and SC #2.



### Traditional World Music for Western Percussion Ensemble

14 pieces, trio - octet.  
MP SC#2 NW DSC G#BNJUKK



### Song of Legaa

(Lyricord Disc)  
Kakraba Lobi, Valerie Naranjo, Barry Olsen solos, duos, trios of Lobi music on traditional percussion instruments including gyl.



### Song of Nira

(mandaramusic)  
Kakraba Lobi, Valerie Naranjo, Barry Olsen.



### Da Yillena (Wood That Sings)

Kakraba Lobi, Valerie Naranjo, Barry Olsen.



### Ye Suo Barra (The Last Word)

Stunning gyl solos from Kakraba Lobi. Marimba, gyl, and piano arrangements of traditional songs  
Banda Jel, Fer Barre Kona Jeno



### Lewaa's Dream

Valerie Naranjo on marimba and gyl. Duos and trios with American and West African percussion stars.  
XP DSC NW NNB GYC



### Mandara

Ghanaian, Native American, and original music for quintet including voices, piano, bass, drums.  
Nite Song (SC#2)



### Zie Mwea

(Natural Conditions)  
Bernard Woma, Valerie Naranjo, Barry Olsen. Trios of Bernard's favorites.  
Kaang Kuon Kpar (D Song Cycle)



### Knock on Wood

The Rhythm of Change by Ron Grunhut  
How a single individual can change the status quo. Valerie Naranjo's quest to master the gyl led to an unexpected change in the tribe's relationship to its women.  
13 minute documentary.



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