

SHEKERE BEATS

Curriculum Relevance: LOTE – HSIE – SOSE - Music

Cultures, Identities, Languages, Traditions, Customs, Linguistics, Cultural Influence, Diversity, Perceptions and Understanding. Organising Sounds, Listening, Performing, Meter & Rhythm.

Shekere "She-Ka-Re" is the name of the African percussion instrument made from the dried fruit of the gourd vine and loosely covered with a wide decorative band of beads. The sound is produced by holding the outer cover of beads in one hand and twisting the gourd across them or simply shaking the entire instrument.

Shekere Beats samples the various African rhythms (predominantly 6/8 time) produced by the shekere and other percussion instruments. After establishing each beat Jonas adds the vocals to produce the completed song. A number of songs are produced in this way and African links are shown to many well-known popular modern songs. While watching and listening to Jonas is always a pleasure there is nothing quite like joining in, and Jonas has just the instruments and offers ample opportunity for your students to demonstrate their musical prowess. With Jonas's quirky African style, numerous drums and percussion instruments, guitar and a uniquely African wood and seed-pod xylophone, Shekere Beats is both a great exploration into the world of live music and a wonderful glimpse into another culture.

Jonas speaks a number of languages and has the entire audience repeating the African words for the instruments and props he uses. With the retelling of short stories from his childhood, students gain an understanding of African culture.

Jonas Tandoh was born in Ghana and has been a full time musician since the age of seventeen. He has played in numerous bands both here and overseas. As a founding member of the group Kalabash, Jonas toured widely supporting bands such as Osibisa and Ziggy Marley. Jonas is also a composer of many recorded songs and has been touring into schools for many years.

What schools have said: Performance was very much enjoyed by student and teachers. All actively engaged. "I liked the story about Simba and Monkey because the friends helped each other" - Millie (Prep). "It was great" - Aaron (Yr 6).

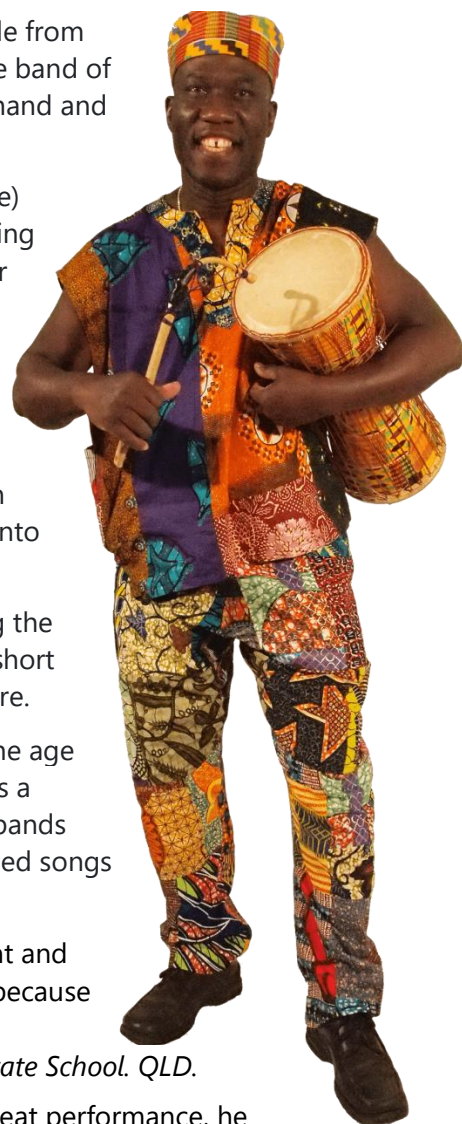
Julianne Luxton. Preps - Year 6. Withcott State School. QLD.

The students had a fantastic time participating. Thank you to Jonas for a great performance, he was very patient and understanding of our students and allowed them to be hands on with his instruments, which was great. *Jenna Crisp. K - Year 6. Aspect Macarthur School. Cobbitty. NSW.*

Engaged the audience - Students loved it. *Kate Haig. Preps - Yr 10. Jandowae State School. QLD.*

Price: \$5.50 per student (including GST). **Suitable:** Preps to Year 7. **Minimum Audience Size:** 130 students.

Times: Show 45 Mins. Set up 20 mins & Pack up 20 Mins. **Requires** an indoor performing area 4m x 5m wide.



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