

# Spinning Translocal:

## A Discography of Central and West African Hip Hop

JENNY MBAYE

Since its emergence in Senegal in the mid-1980s hip hop has become a translocal cultural phenomenon in francophone West and Central Africa. It is the only musical genre shared by the entire region – from Nouakchott to Yaoundé, Niamey to Cotonou, Dakar, Abidjan, Bamako, Ouagadougou and everywhere in between – contrary, for instance, to Malian Mandingo music, Ivorian Zouglou or Senegalese Mbalax.

The following discography is an introduction to contemporary francophone hip hop. It is extremely difficult to compile such a selection and many deserving hip hop artists from West and Central Africa do not appear on this discography. However, contemporary tracks (2005-2010) of some of the pioneers of the movement, as well as promising emerging artists, have been chosen in attempts to represent the great diversity in the genre. The list is far from exhaustive and necessarily subjective.

For the purposes of this discography, the countries under review are: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Gabon, Guinea (Conakry), Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo.



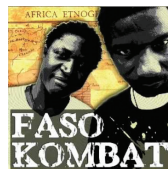
Artist: Djanta Kan  
 Title: *Avoude*  
 Album: Doto  
 Country: Togo  
 Release Date: 2005  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/djantakan>



Artist: Lord Ekomy Ndong (Mauvaizhaleine)  
 Title: *Jour J*  
 Album: Jour J (single)  
 Country: Gabon  
 Release Date: 2009  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/ekomy>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AUZzrHTzCME&feature=related>



Artist: Smockey  
 Title: *Faut pas chauffer le chauffeur*  
 Album: CCP: Cravate, Costard, Pourriture  
 Country: Burkina Faso  
 Release Date: 2010  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/smockey2>;  
<http://www.myspace.com/smockeyonline>;  
<http://smockey.fr/smockey2/>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=butJO-zDQcU>



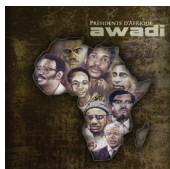
Artist: Faso Kombat  
 Title: *Boin Maanin*  
 Album: Z'enfants de la patrie  
 Country: Burkina Faso  
 Release Date: 2010  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/fasokombat>  
 Video Clip: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PN\\_VIMjufZY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PN_VIMjufZY)



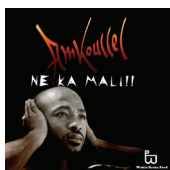
Artist: Sista Fa  
 Title: *Milyamba*  
 Album: Sarabah: Tales from the Flipside of Paradise  
 Country: Senegal  
 Release Date: 2009  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/sisterfa>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSHvTsvW11>



Artist: Ardiess (feat Zeynab)  
 Title: *Combien de temps?*  
 Album: La recharge  
 Country: Benin  
 Release Date: 2007  
 Website: <http://www.ardiess5.net>; <http://www.myspace.com/ardiessposse>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnQuL7xgW-k>



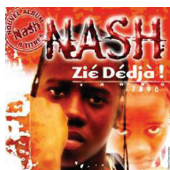
Artist: Didier Awadi (feat Doudou Ndiaye Rose)  
 Title: *Dans mon rêve*  
 Album: Présidents D'Afrique  
 Country: Senegal  
 Release Date: 2010  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/didierawadi>; [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Didier\\_Awadi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Didier_Awadi)  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blbeT8ZFxno>



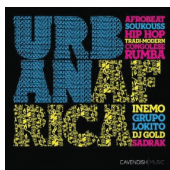
Artist: Amkoullé  
 Title: *Kalan*  
 Album: Ne Ka Mali!!  
 Country: Mali  
 Release Date: 2010  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/amkoullé>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.vimeo.com/14342121>



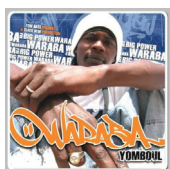
Artist: Daara J Family  
 Title: *Tomorrow*  
 Album: School of Life  
 Country: Senegal  
 Release Date: 2010  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/daarajfamilyofficial>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bV4qTlyw2SQ&feature=related>



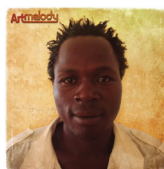
Artist: Nash  
 Title: *Respectons notre corps*  
 Album: Zié Dédjà!  
 Country: Ivory Coast  
 Release Date: 2008  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/nashnouchy>



Artist: DJ Gold (ft. Zion Riddim Killah)  
 Title: *Jeux de jambes*  
 Album: Urban Africa  
 Country: Burkina Faso  
 Release Date: 2010  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/goldnbeazrecords>



Artist: Waraba  
 Title: *Nagioubagne*  
 Album: Yomboul  
 Country: Mauritania  
 Release Date: 2006  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/warababigpower>



Artist: Art Melody  
 Title: *To Biiga*  
 Album: Art Melody  
 Country: Burkina Faso  
 Release Date: 2009  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/artmelodyrecords>  
 Video Clip: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_944I8KXwi0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_944I8KXwi0)



Artist: Moona  
 Title: *Toutes les femmes de ta vie*  
 Album: A fleur 2 maux  
 Country: Benin/Niger  
 Release Date: 2009  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/moonahiphop>; <http://moonamusic.skyrock.com/>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moona>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4QNaUe-8As>



Artist: Negrissim'  
 Title: *My People*  
 Album: La Vallée des Rois  
 Country: Cameroon  
 Release Date: 2009  
 Website: <http://www.myspace.com/negrissim>;  
<http://www.negrissim.net/>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuWXjErjH94>

#### Supplements:

Artist: Degg J Force 3  
 Title: *Lever le Rideau*  
 Album: Street Live in Conakry, Boulbinet (short documentary)  
 Country: Guinea (Conakry)  
 Release Date: 2009  
 Website: <http://www.deggjforce3.com/>;  
<http://www.myspace.com/deggjforce3>  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVldJtJszeQ>

Artist: AURA  
 Title: *Bienvenue à Poto-Poto*  
 Album: Afrolution vol. 2  
 Country: Various  
 Release Date: 2000  
 Website: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AURA\\_\(United\\_Artists\\_for\\_African\\_Rap\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AURA_(United_Artists_for_African_Rap))  
 Video Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qf1OamO1vg>