



## SEYDINA INSA WADE:

SEYDINA INSA WADE (pronounced Saydeena Ansa Waad) is a monument of modern Senegalese music, a songwriter whose lyrics and melodies have influenced all of Senegal's major artists, not to mention Youssou N'Dour, Baaba Maal, Ismael Lo, Les Freres Guissé,

Pape and Cheikh and more recently a new generation of rappers including his nephew El Hadji Man of the group Daara J.

Born in Dakar, 1948 into a Lebou fishing family, Seydina grew up in the popular quarter of Gueule Tapée near the port of Soubédioune. Seydina refers to the Gueule Tapée area as the "Harlem of Dakar", where most of the well-known musicians were born and bred in the neighbourhood including members of the Orchestra Baobab, Charley Ndiaye and Abdoulaye Mboup. In 1966, his next group, Calypso made their debut appearance at the famous Festival Des Arts Nègres organised in by President Léopold Sédar Senghor, which welcomed musicians and artists from the diaspora.

Seydina established himself as the pioneering voice of Senegalese folk music sung in Wolof. His lyrics raised controversial social issues that were prevalent at that time such as circumcision and slavery. But the songs including his early hit "Khandiou" were also charming portraits of Senegalese life and its people, sung with style and humour.

The high point of Seydina's early career was the formation at the beginning of the 1980s of the group TABALA, an acoustic trio which included the talented young guitarist Oumar Sow and a promising percussionist called Idrissa Diop. Those who attended their innovative shows agree there has not been an acoustic group to equal them before or since.

An album called "Yoff" was recorded and a patron, Eric Sylvestre, organised a tour of France, Switzerland and Italy. Subsequently, Seydina Wade and Idrissa Diop stayed in Paris where Seydina spent six years with the group Xalam II in the esteemed company of the legendary musicians guitarist Cheikh Tidiane Tall, keyboard players, Henri Guillabert and Jean Philippe Rykiel and fellow singers Coundoul and Souleymane Faye. Their innovative blend of African music and jazz makes a significant contribution to the story of modern Senegalese music.

The CD "Xalima" (pronounced "Halima") also reunites Xalam II members Seydina Wade, Souleymane Faye ("Samme") and Jean Philippe Rykiel. Jean Philippe Rykiel will be well known to African music fans as the arranger on Salif Keita's album "Soro". It includes the Frédéric Rousseau/Seydina Insa Wade collaboration, "Ginkgo Biloba"

From the mbalax rhythms of "Mag du Caaxaan" to the dance grooves of "Ginkgo Biloba", Seydina moves with the times to create memorable tunes and audacious arrangements which assure him his rightful place in the galaxy of contemporary Senegalese stars.

## WHAT THE MEDIA ARE SAYING:

"This for me was the highlight of the festival. Wade had a quiet passion and warmth that were completely unique - he was also a wonderful communicator in the intimate space of the World On Your Street tent. Shows how far you can go with two guitars, a voice and some real artistry. Beautiful."  
~Matt, Spectator at WOMAD 04~

"For fans of Senegalese and West African music, the pairing of Wade (pronounced Waad) and Sow is big news indeed."  
~Andy Morgan, BBC Reporter for WOMAD 04~

"But as usual, the West Africans stood out as having just that extra, intangible something, something altogether human and rich and inspiring. Sow and Wade are veterans of the Senegalese scene, who have witnessed and influenced the rise of Youssou N'Dour and Baaba Maal. The emotion of their reunion for Womad was infectious, and a reminder that in a scene with ever slicker production values, two acoustic guitars, a singer (Wade) and some genuine communication can still take you to the furthest places (not to mention dress sense — Wade wins my prize for the coolest threads in Reading)."

~"Matthew Shorter, Fly: Global, Music, Culture"~



SEYDINA INSA WADE

## NEW RELEASE:

New releases include Seydina Insa Wade's latest album "Xalima".  
Digital CD: BPP 00024 UPC: 689 232 084 202

Blue Pie has also created some very exciting dance remixes by DJ Stickleback aka Ben Heppel, tracks "So" and "Wade In" both features Seydina Insa Wade. These will all be available via our digital distribution partners around the world.



blue pie productions  
artist's biography.

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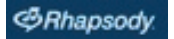
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STAYAROUND: Type "Seydina Insa Wade" in search at [www.stayaround.com](http://www.stayaround.com)



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