Welcome to the Ubuntu experience! This festival is designed to simulate a typical African community celebration. Though Ghana will be the area of cultural concentration, the festival will highlight some of the essential cultural norms, aesthetics and values that are common in African societies, i.e., hospitality, call and response, audience participation, polyrhythm and the community circle. The success of any African celebration is tied to the number of attendees and the extent of participation. For a moment, imagine an African community celebration where neighbors, friends, and colleagues attend and instantly get enveloped into the experience. Be our guest. - Nii Armah Sowah

**Dedication**
Special dedication to: Senior Instructor Emerita Leticia Williams. “Mama Tish” was the pioneer of African dance in the CU Dance program, and established the foundations upon which we celebrate today. A special thank you to all my collaborators. I couldn’t have done it without the support of the wonderful collaborators who have supported and/or held my hands through this journey. - Nii Armah Sowah

**Special Thanks**
Wendy Franz, The 1000 Voices Community, Vanessa Roberts, Michelle Ellsworth, Bud Coleman, Erika Randall, Gesel Mason, Donna Mejia, Dr. Amma Y. Gharley-Togbo Kootin, the entire Dance faculty and staff, Kenneth Kootin, Kate Hubka, Steve Van Zandt and the UMC Events team, Sarah Adler, Hana Christenson and the CU OnStage team.

**For Further Reading**

**Artistic Team**
Director and Choreographer: Nii Armah Sowah
Teaching Assistant to the Director: Kenneth Kootin
Dramaturg and Narrator: Vanessa Roberts
Research Assistants: Rachel Dodson, Keilani Fugua, Erin Liebhard
African History Consultant: Myles Osborne
Scenery Designer: Stephen Balgooyen
Lighting Designer: Christopher Waller
Projections Designer: Jason Banks
Sound Designer & Audio Engineer: Jesse Manno
Sound Assistant: Luke Manno
Costume Coordinator: Brenda King
Pre-Show Film Maker: Brian Musa Cunningham

**Production Team**
Producer: Wendy Franz
Technical Director: Anja Hose
Stage Manager: Jamie Holzman
Assistant Stage Manager: Alberta Shulman
Props Coordinator: Amanda Herrera
Assistant Costume Coordinator: Connie Lane

**Musicians**
Lead Drummer for Agbekor and Gahu: Maputo Mensah
Lead Drummer for Kpanlogo: Mawuenyega Mensah
Lead Drummer for Fume Fume: Atta Addo Vanderpauye
Drummers: Alhya Sylla, Koffi Toudji, Adjei Abankwa, Nii Okine Ayeetey

All audience members are invited to an informal African feast immediately following the festival in W150 in the University Theatre Building.

Glenn Miller Ballroom
Saturday, April 19 at 2 p.m.
All dancers and willing audience members

Gahu*

Originally a dance for marriage ceremonies of the Yoruba of Nigeria, Gahu is now a recreational dance performed in some Ewe communities in southeastern Ghana, Togo and Benin on various social occasions.

Dancers
Dina Al-khadhra, Amalia Arguello, Alexa Brown, Maxie Chacon, Lucia Cordovano, Kirsten Dahlberg, Lauren Dailey, Thea Grosvold, Conor Guoald, James Hostetter, Jessica Huffman, Nica Jacobson, Austin Kootz, Tao Li, Jackson Lincoln, Purit Martosudarmo, Adella Miller, Genziana Pandolfo, Nicole Rudat, Hanadi Salamah, Robert Sinn, Lauren Skae, Jayden Stewart, Katie Strevey, Shelby Sullivan, Ali Taylor, Waverly Weeks, Adam Zika

Fume Fume*

Fume Fume is the most recent of all the recreational dances of the Ga people of Accra, Ghana. Created in the 1970s, most of the dance movements and instrumental patterns used in Fume Fume are derived from a number of traditional Ga religious dances, namely, Kpele, Akom, Tigari and Otu.

Dancers
Satya Akquah, Korry Antos, Stephen Blaskowski, Keana Cowden, Angelo Delano, Kellani Fuqua, Mora Guskkin, Juliette Jansen, Kelsey Mac Kenzie, Amy Millen, Toluwanami Obiwale, Ngidi Osman, Stephanie Padron, Emily Pietruszka, Maria Sacchi, Jeanette Sharp Oakes, Ken Sheddlo, Nan Wang, Kim Weaver, Kun Yang

Kpanlogo*

Kpanlogo is the most popular recreational dance of Ga youth of Accra. As an offshoot of older Ga dances, i.e., Gome, Kolomashie and Oge, Kpanlogo became very popular in the wake of Ghana’s independence from Great Britain in the mid-1950s. Today, Kpanlogo is performed frequently around Accra and other parts of Ghana on social occasions.

Dancers
Eva Adler, Haile Baker, Grace Boll, Katie Dyer, Kelly Fuge, Brea Graber, Ben Greiner, Kahdija James, Kelsey Krutsinger, Kathleen Kurtenbach, Taryn Lee, Amanda McMahan, Danielle Meltz, Michaela Moore, Adrienne Mowry, Ashley Rasnick, Leigh Salamon, Samantha Salters, Mackenzie Senn, Kate Speer, Vanessa Weingarten, Katherine Woolley, Kayla Zelisko, Tianlun Zhao

*A indicates opportunity for audience participation. In addition to the warm-up, audience members will be invited to join the final portions of Gahu, Fume Fume, and Kpanlogo.