

# Gansango Dance:

Inspiring Audiences through  
African Dance and Culture

Gansango Music & Dance draws on the stunning talent of a multicultural group of local and international dancers and musicians presenting traditional and contemporary dance and music from West Africa. The company is directed by Etienne Cakpo, originally from Benin and now a teacher and choreographer in Seattle, Washington. Gansango offers performances, instruction and school assemblies for all ages, grades and venue sizes. We interweave African drumming, percussion, dance and cultural education.



**La Calabasse**  
Seattle Art Museum October 2007



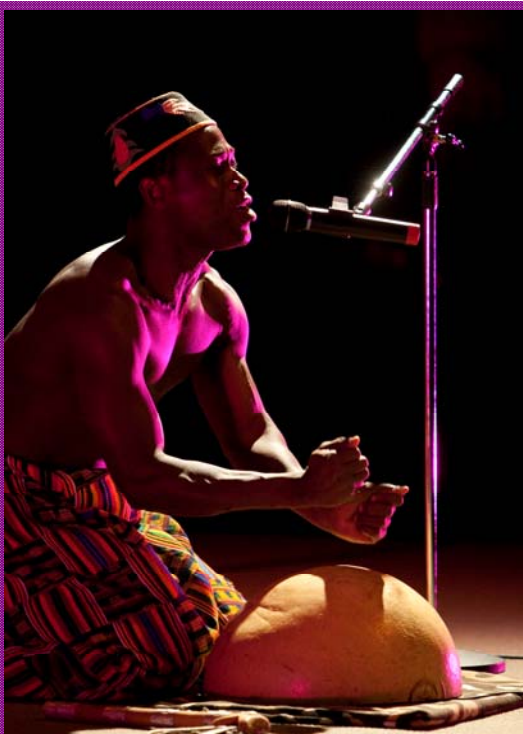
**Third Place Commons World Music Festival**  
October 2009

Traditional dance from Benin is featured, including Vodoun ritualistic dances, regional social ceremony dances, such as the Chenkoumé dance from Savalou, and royal historical dances such as the Zehli dance from the late 1800's. Live kora (21-string harp), djembe (drum) and percussion accompany modern dance arrangements based on traditional movement and rhythms while costumes from West Africa provide color and cultural context for the dance.



**Performance for children**  
Ridge Romp March 2008

Contact us now to book a show or a  
residency for 2010 or 2011!  
Email: [gansango@yahoo.com](mailto:gansango@yahoo.com)



**Caravan**  
Center for Spiritual Living 2009



**Performances for children & families**



**Spirit of West Africa Festival May 2009**

On stages of all sizes, for audiences of all ages, Gansango showcases the vibrancy of African music and dance



**La Negra Noche, Medellin, Colombia**  
August 2009



Alki Elementary School May 2009

Gansango  
brings  
Africa to  
schools



We invite some volunteer students to try out African dance moves



Yakima Valley Community College,  
September 2009



The students' favorite part is seeing their teachers get up and dance!  
The Meridian School May 2008



Spirit of West Africa Festival May 2009

Versatile and skilled  
instruction for all ages -  
We make learning fun



Rhythm & Moves: Year-long residency at  
Seattle's World School (SBOC) 2008 & 2009



Workshops for youth through  
libraries & schools



Workshop in Traditional Beninese Dance  
Seattle World Rhythm Festival  
2003



Centrum - residency for middle school students 2008, 2009