

Janka Nabay

and the Bubu Gang

BUILD MUSIC

“...thanks to technology, imagination and the forces of globalization, the Bubu sound is working its mysterious, mesmerizing magic on the world. This is one way old traditions survive: in the hands of single-minded visionaries.
-NPR *All Things Considered*

Nabay’s weathered but agile voice is the kind of instrument that would likely sound at home on a sparse field recording... (but with the band) the music sounds so intensely modern it’s practically futuristic.
-Pitchfork



College Radio campaign by Distiller
Indi Press campaign by Rock Paper Scissors
Extensive U.S. touring
Format: CD/LP/Digital
Release Date: March 24, 2017



LP: 6 80899 0086-1-7 LP Price: \$19.99



CD: 6 80899 0086-2-4 CD Price: \$13.99

1. Kadiatu
2. Build Music
3. Santa Monica
4. Popeneh
5. Bubu Dub
6. Angbolieh
7. Game Ova
8. Sabanoh (Interlude)
9. Sabanoh 2017
10. Stop Jealous
11. Tek Lak la Gben ba Kun
12. Combination



“All I am about is making history,”

says Janka Nabay. After a string of cassette releases, Nabay became a star of electronic bubu music back home in Sierra Leone. But he was soon forced to escape his homeland’s explosive civil war in the 1990s. Over the years, Nabay gradually rebuilt his musical life in the United States while supporting himself working at hotels and fried chicken restaurants. Nabay’s bubu music may sound futuristic, but its existence spans centuries. The original bubu is cloaked in mythology: as legend has it, a young “bubu boy” took the music from witches 500 years ago, brought it to the public at large, and sacrificed his own life in the process. Over time, bubu evolved into a music played collectively on percussive instruments and bamboo horns. Upon the arrival of Islam in Sierra Leone, the hypnotic sound of bubu music was adapted for processions during Ramadan. As Janka says: “Bubu is an old, old music, but people don’t know about it. You can add new things into the beat if you know it really well, and make your own sound out of it.”

JankaNabay.com

LuakaBop.com