



For Immediate Release:

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**Nile Project Musicians Convene for
2016 Nile Gathering & Africa Tour**

The Nile Project's 4th Nile Gathering is taking place in Aswan, Egypt from January 23 to February 9, 2016. Nile Project musicians will then set sail on their second Africa Tour, performing concerts and leading workshops in Egypt, Ethiopia, and Kenya.

Since its first gathering in January 2013, the Nile Project Collective has grown to feature 34 musicians from the 11 countries sharing the longest river in the world. "This year, we are excited to invite Danny Mekonnen as our new Musical Director as well as 8 new artists from Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Tanzania," said Mina Girgis, Nile Project Producer & CEO. "We are also using this tour to launch our University Programs in Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania."

The Nile Project has designed an innovative musical process that allows its artists to self-organize by leveraging each other's strengths in order to unearth a unique sound representative of the Nile watershed as a whole. By creating award-winning music within a participatory leadership framework, the Nile Project Collective provides a blueprint for new ways in which Nile citizens can organize themselves across sectors to generate creative and mutually-beneficial system-wide solutions in response to their shared hydro-political challenges.

During the 4th Nile Gathering, 15 musicians from Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda will exchange musical techniques and collaborate on composing new repertoire that combines their diverse languages, instruments, rhythms, and modal systems. These new songs will culminate in "Tana" - the Nile Project's third album due for release in 2017. This year, the Nile Project is partnering with Santuri Safari on an electronic music track in parallel with its traditional collaborations. Two electronic music producers from Germany (Jan Shulte) and South Africa (Emile Hoogenhout) will join the Nile Gathering to work on this year's Nile Remix.

The Gathering will end with a visit by Swiss singer Bastian Baker who will perform with the Nile Project during the Aswan concert on February 10th.

Moving beyond the music, the Nile Project will be holding a series of workshops to engage students in better understanding the social, cultural and environmental dimensions of Nile sustainability. These workshops will also be an opportunity for attendees to learn about the project's Nile Fellowships - a year long program for 24 student leaders at universities in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

New Musicians:

Asia Madani / Sudan / Vocals, Percussion

Claude Ciza / Burundi / Percussion, Ikembe, Vocals

Endalekachew Nigusie / Ethiopia / Masenko

Mohamed Kamal / Egypt / Electric Guitar

Msafiri Zawose / Tanzania / Limba, Zeze, Filimbi, Percussion, Vocals

Rapasa Nyatrapasa / Kenya / Ongeng'o, Nyangile/Sanduk, Nyatiti, Adungu, Obokano, Vocals

Roza Kifle / Ethiopia / Vocals

Saleeb Lowza / Egypt / Vocals

Returning Musicians:

Adel Mekha / Egypt, Nubia / Vocals, Percussion

Ahmed Omar / Eritrea, Egypt / Bass, Tanbour

Dawit Seyoum Estifanos / Ethiopia / Krar, Bass Krar

Kasiva Mutua / Kenya / Percussion, Vocals

Michael Bazibu / Uganda / Entongoli, Adungu, Endingidi, Percussion, Vocals

Nader El Shaer / Egypt / Kawala, Keytar

Sophie Nzayisenga / Rwanda / Inanga, Vocals

For more information about the Nile Project musicians, please visit this [link](#).

Tour Dates:

February 10	Open Air Theater in Aswan, Egypt
February 11	Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt
February 18	Royal Club Mohamed Aly in Cairo, Egypt
February 20	African Investment Forum in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt
February 22	National Theater in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
February 25	Wilder Fest in Rift Valley, Kenya
February 28	Alliance Francaise Gardens in Nairobi, Kenya

Workshop Dates:

February 06 Nile Museum in Aswan, Egypt
February 16 SDC Headquarters in Cairo, Egypt
February 29 Wangari Maathai Institute in Nairobi, Kenya

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