US Tour 2017
Bio

From its debut concert, captured live on the 2013 release entitled ASWAN, it was clear that the Nile Project was something completely new. National Public Radio named the recording one of five “Must Hear International Albums.” Fast forward a few years – through tours in Africa, Europe, the US and UAE – and almost all major media outlets agree that the Nile Project is much more than just a band.

The New York Times described it as “a committed, euphoric international coalition.” Afropop Worldwide calls it “seductive and beautiful […] nothing short of revolutionary.”

One of the tightest cross-cultural collaborations in musical history, the Nile Project brings together artists from the 11 Nile countries, representing over 450 million people, to compose new songs that combine the rich diversity of one of the oldest places on Earth. Kindred harps and resonant lyres from the river’s sources in East Africa and Ethiopia to its deltas in Sudan and Egypt have reunited to learn new musical modes while buzzing timbres and ingenious polyrhythms support vocals in more than ten languages.

On the surface, the Nile Project blends traditional musical idioms into one seamless Nile sound. But look a little further and you’ll begin to see a 35-member musicians Collective modeling contemporary organizational concepts such as systems thinking, network theory, and participatory leadership.

The Nile Project is pioneering a new approach to transform transboundary water conflicts by using music to ignite cross-cultural empathy and spark environmental curiosity. And its collaborative model offers a blueprint for new ways in which Nile citizens can organize themselves to strengthen the sustainability of their river. In an evolving series of interlocking programs that spring from the concert experience, the project works to inspire, educate and empower Nile citizens to collaborate on developing innovative solutions to the challenges at the root of their water conflict.

Full Bio at www.nileproject.org/music
From our Tours

Europe Tour 2016
“Transforming areas of conflict into a network of humanity that inspires and empowers”
BBC Radio 3
“Next time Trafalgar Square...”
London Evening Standard

Africa Tour 2016
“The impressive collective of colourful musical troubadours dazzled everyone with their spontaneous and infectious sounds”
Cairo Scene

US Tour 2015
“Musical ambassadors and diplomats.”
BBC
“A model for cross cultural dialogue and cooperation.”
Guardian

“Seductive and beautiful music [...] Nothing short of revolutionary.”
Afropop Worldwide

“The Nile Project performed one of the most exciting and impactful residencies that we’ve done at Hancher. They captured the imaginations of college students, school kids, and a large part of our community through a wide range of discussions and activities. They were extremely generous with our audiences and performed fascinating music with the highest energy.”
Jacob Yarrow, University of Iowa – Iowa City, IA

“This has been one of the most rewarding projects I have ever been involved in in 20 years in the business. Just an amazing, giving, brilliant group of people. I’ve learned something new every single day! (And I’m having so much fun...).”
Natalie Neuert, University of Vermont – Burlington, VT

Musicians

Adel Mekha
Vocals
EGYPT

Ahmed Omar
Bass Guitar
EGYPT

Asia Midany
Vocals
SUDAN

Dave Otieno
Electric Guitar
KENYA

Ibrahim Fanous
Kraar/Vocals
SUDAN

Steven Sogo
Ikembe/Guitar
Bass/Vocals
BURUNDI

Mohamed Abozekry
Oud
EGYPT

Kasiva Mutua
Percussion/Vocals
KENYA

Michael Bazibu
Adungu/Percussion
Endongo/Endingidi
UGANDA

Selamnesh Zemene
Vocals
ETHIOPIA

Saleeb Fawzy
Vocals
EGYPT

Nader El Shaer
Kawala
EGYPT
Discography

Recorded at the Nile Project's first live concert in Aswan. The album was named among NPR's "5 Must-Hear International Albums" of the year.

“A committed, euphoric international coalition”
The New York Times

“Producing harmony in a divided world”

“a collaborative spirit flow”
The Washington Post

“a multinational intensity”

More press coverage at
www.nileproject.org/press