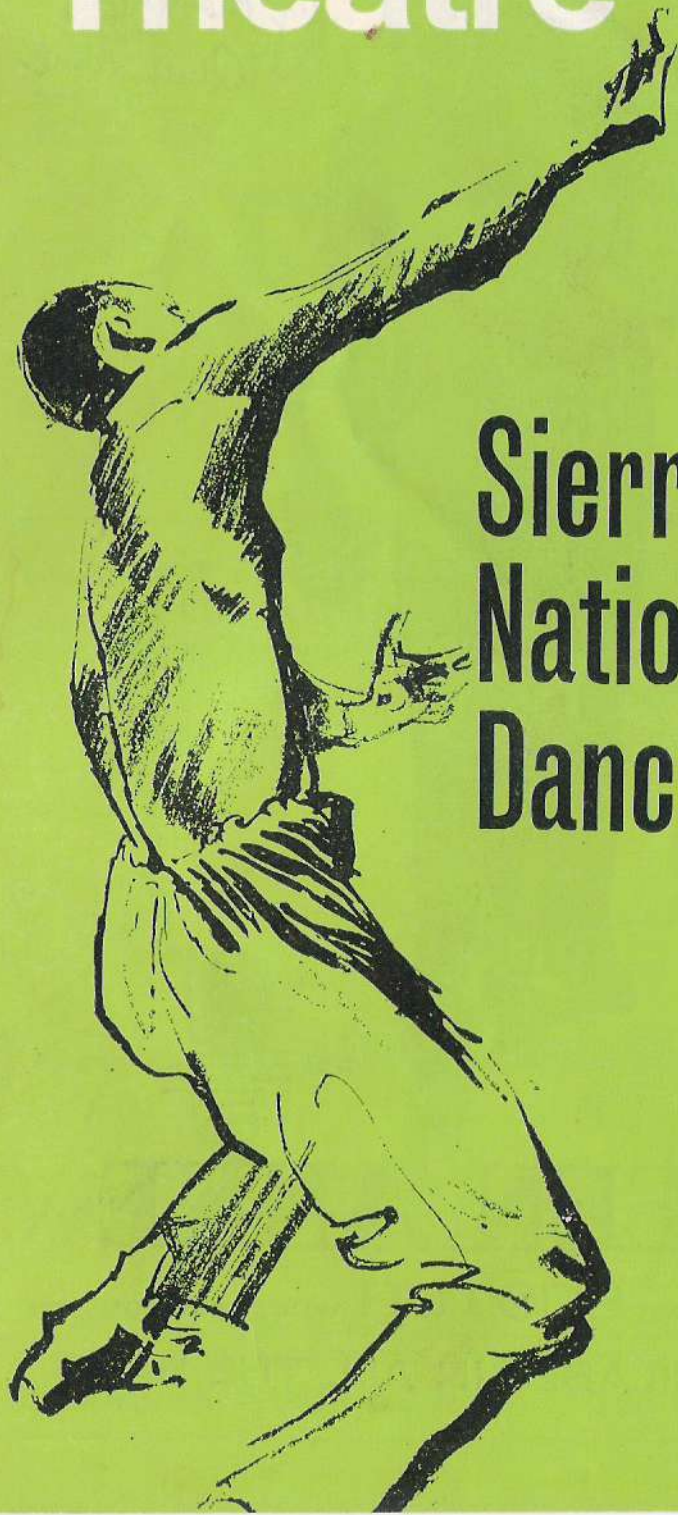


Sadler's Wells Theatre



**Sierra Leone
National
Dance Troupe**

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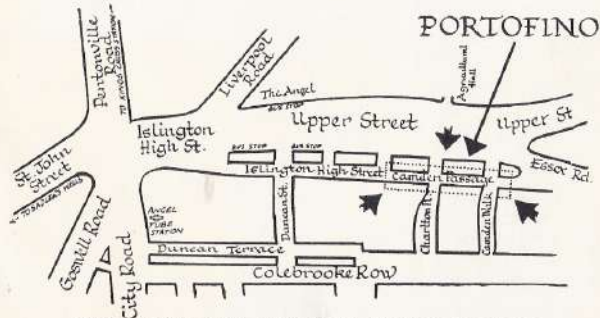
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Sadler's Wells Theatre

Catering Facilities

The following catering facilities are available from 6.30 until 7.30 (from 6.15 when the performance begins at 7 p.m.)

Grill Room at the rear of the Stalls

Cold Buffet and coffee and sandwich service in the Wells Room on the first floor

Coffee and sandwiches in the Upper Circle Bar

Bars available in the Main Foyer, Stalls, Dress Circle and Upper Circle before and during the intervals of each performance

THE SIERRA LEONE NATIONAL DANCE TROUPE





JOHN J. AKAR

John J. Akar wears many hats in his beautiful country of Sierra Leone. In addition to being the substantive Director of the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Service, he heads the Hotels and Tourist Board, the National Museum, the Monuments and Relics Commission and is the founder and director of the Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe.

Educated in Sierra Leone, the United States of America and England, Mr. Akar is a playwright (*Valley without Echo*, *Cry Tamba*, *The Silent Couch*, etc.) an actor, dancer and composer. He composed the National Anthem of Sierra Leone. Mr. Akar has directed many theatrical plays in Freetown where he is the head of the National Theatre Guild and produced and directed the National Dance Troupe at the New York World's Fair, the Commonwealth Arts Festival and on their current World Tour.

Mr. Akar's hobbies include collecting African art objects, old maps, African paintings, short story writing and dancing.

SADLER'S WELLS
THEATRE

Managing Director and Licensee Stephen Arlen

The Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe

Production Directed by
JOHN J. AKAR

Assistant to Director
Mohamed J. Tunis

Chaperon
Mabinti Kamara-Bangura

Interpreter
Mohamed Sheku Kande

Company and Stage Manager
Donald Ross

FROM TUESDAY 19th JULY 1966
FOR TWO WEEKS

Sadler's Wells Theatre was re-opened
by Lilian Baylis on 6 January 1931
Sadler's Wells Trust Limited works in full
association with the Arts Council of
Great Britain



Part 1.

"THE DRUMS OF SIERRA LEONE GREET YOU"

"THE DEATH AND CROWNING OF A PARAMOUNT CHIEF"

This is the story of a chiefdom town in Sierra Leone during the colonial days. The town's happiness and joy at harvest time is sadly interrupted by the wailing tones of a villager reporting the death of the Paramount Chief. There follows the traditional burial rites of the chief. After burial the town settles down to work and play as rival candidates campaign for the vacant chieftaincy. The Colonial Commissioner comes to crown the new chief in traditional fashion. The town then pays tribute in song and dance to the new chief.

INTERVAL

Part 2.

"THE BETROTHAL OF YARRI"

A powerful Paramount Chief had three beautiful daughters, the fame of whose beauty spread far and wide. One day two rival Chiefs paid him official visits to seek each a wife from among the girls. Both chose the same girl—Yarri. Perplexed by their choice, the father asked his daughter's opinion. Yarri asked that the two Chiefs and their followers compete in dancing and that the better would win her hand in marriage. The father suggested that the girls would join in any dance they fancied. But both sides danced so well that there was little to choose from. One of the chiefs displayed his skill on the guitar to win the attention of Yarri. Yarri's father asked the other two sisters to choose between the two rival Chiefs for their sister. Jealousy prevented them from making a choice. Finally, Yarri was called upon to choose her own husband, which she did. The father reconciled all existing jealousies and rivalries and openly celebrated the marriage.

FINALE—THE SIERRA LEONE NATIONAL DANCE TROUPE

SIERRA LEONE NATIONAL DANCE TROUPE DANCERS

Momoh Bangura	Lahai Kposowo	Barrie Tunata
Sainga Fenor	Fattu Kamara II	Sahteneh Barrie
Tarjoe Aminu	Fattu Kamara I	Jack Kamara
Nju Gardi	Yambay Kanu	Dumbuya Kamara
Nancy Puvandy	Nkoni Bangura	Sorie Suma
Fallah Sewa	Adama Kamara	Yarri Yillah
Satta Brima	Mbalu Yillah	Ansumana Kamara
Musa Kenema	Mamadu Mara	Fattu Yansaneh
	Musa Conteh	Allieu Johnny

MENDE ORCHESTRA

Musu Bangura	Shegureh
Sitta Mansaray	Sangbai Drum
Gibrilla Issa	Kele
John Kainessi	Jagbawai and Kongoma
Lamin Boima	

SUSU ORCHESTRA

Yelle Foday Kuyateh	Balangie
Yelle Modu Dumbuya	Botay Drum
Yelle Mamadu Turay	Sengbeh Drum
Alimamy Kamara	

LOKKO, TEMNE AND LIMBA ORCHESTRAS

Kondo Kargbo	Base Kele
Yindo Dumbuya	Billiniah Drum
Tinga Koroma	Billiniah Drum

FULLAH, KORONKO AND YALUNKA ORCHESTRAS

Bockarie Barrie	Jimberu Drum
Sahteneh Barrie	Hordeh Instrument
	Lahlah Instrument

WESTERN AREA

Ebenezer Calender	Guitarist
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The Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe

Although the Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe is officially only three years old, it has its beginnings in history. All the dances are traditional and therefore as old as Sierra Leone itself. My association with it started in 1957, when it was my pleasant duty to organise traditional indigenous dance performances for visiting dignitaries.

Three years ago, the Government of Sierra Leone was invited to participate in the New York World's Fair. I was both proud and happy to be charged with the task of recruiting a dance troupe

comprising 45 members representing as many tribes as possible of the country.

I toured all the provinces and districts, covering more than 1,000 miles, and in a six-week period, must have seen over 10,000 dancers from among whom I selected 150, and assembled them for training. After a series of competitive eliminations the troupe was finally brought down to the requisite number of 45.

We were almost apprehensive of our chances at the New York World's Fair. However, our fears were in vain as so successful was the troupe's five month stay in New York that the Press unanimously acclaimed it as the best at the Fair and we were, in fact awarded a Gold Plaque.

The current troupe was selected in similar circumstances for last year's Commonwealth Arts Festival, but due to the publicity that ensued from our performances at New York tremendous interest and enthusiasm were shown by competing tribal dancers to the extent that I must have seen over 20,000 from among whom I selected 300 for training; this number gradually dwindled to the present 45. The dancers, musicians and singers were drawn from our 13 major tribes from all parts of the country: the sunny mountains of Koinadugu district in the North; the exotic beaches of the Western area;



the rolling plains of the Southern province and the diamond rich chiefdoms of the Eastern province. Among them are some of the most exciting dancers ever to emerge from the continent of Africa. The beat of their drums tell the story of the origin of jazz. The various dances reveal the environment in which they were inspired and created. The baboon dancers from the Northern province simulate the mobility and agility of the forest beast. The



Fulah acrobatic dancers centuries ago developed a unique dance chiefly to break the monotony of watching cattle as the Fulahs were cattle-rearers. The traditional Spirit Devils were, and still are, the depiction of the various secrets of tribal rituals. Their dances evoke fear or laughter, depending on the situation. There are dances of fertility, birth, marriage and death — the inevitable cycle of life.



Sadler's Wells Theatre

Manager	Leonard James
Assistant Manager	Antony Barton
Usherette Manageress	Ethel Dellow
Box Office Manager	Peter Hampson (TER 1672/3)
Master Carpenter	Syd Kingham
Chief Electrician	Ray Dixon
Property Master	Deryck Varley
Librarian	Ronald Brooks
Adviser on singing	Joseph Hislop
Archivists	Raymond Mander and Joe Mitchenson
Press Officer	Helen Salomon (BRU 6563/8)

The 20th Annual Report 1964/65 of the Arts Council of Great Britain is published under the title, "Policy into Practice" and copies may be obtained at the Book Stall in the foyer. Price 2s. 6d.
The Vic- Wells Association, Entrance fee 5s., Annual subscription 15s. Particulars from the Hon. Sec., c/o Sadler's Wells Theatre or from the Library Assistants in the Sadler's Wells Room on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 6.30 p.m. to the end of the first interval.

Smoking is not permitted

The Management reserves the right to refuse admission and to make any alteration in the programme without previous notice

Patrons are reminded that the taking of Photographs during the performance is not allowed

In accordance with the requirements of the Lord Chamberlain: 1—The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors and such doors must at that time be open. 2—All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions. 3—Persons shall not in any circumstances be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways intersecting the seating or to sit in any of the other gangways. If standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, it shall be strictly limited to the number indicated in the notices exhibited in those positions. 4—The safety curtain must be lowered and raised in the presence of each audience

In the interests of Public Health this Theatre is disinfected with Jeyes' Fluid

THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

COVENT GARDEN

COVENT GARDEN OPERA AND THE ROYAL BALLET

JULY, 1966

Monday 18th at 7.30 p.m.

LES SYLPHIDES

Chopin/Fokine

Grahame, Farley, Williams, Conley

THE INVITATION

Seiber/MacMillan

Ruane, Wall, Grahame, Grater

RAYMONDA ACT III

Glazunov/Nureyev after Petipa

Wells, Wall

Conductors: Lawrence, Fry

Tuesday 19th at 7.30 p.m.

THE MAGIC FLUTE

Mozart

Carlyle, Geszty, Robson, Haywood,
Minton, Guy; Wakefield, Dobson,
G. Evans, Kraus, D. Ward

Conductor: Balkwill

Wednesday 20th at 7.30 p.m.

SWAN LAKE

Tchaikovsky/Ivanov and Petipa/Hurry

Beriosova, Musil

Conductor: Lawrence

Thursday 21st at 7.30 p.m.

GISELLE

Adam/Coralis and Perrot

Anderton, Farley

Conductor: Lawrence

Friday 22nd at 7.30 p.m.

THE MAGIC FLUTE

Mozart

Carlyle, Geszty, Robson, Haywood,
Minton, Guy; Wakefield, Dobson,
G. Evans, Kraus, D. Ward

Conductor: Balkwill

Saturday 23rd

No Matinee

Saturday 23rd at 7.30 p.m.

MOSES AND AARON

Schoenberg

Vaughan; Richard Lewis, Lanigan,
Robinson, Kelly, Godfrey, Garrett

Conductor: Solti

Monday 25th at 7.30 p.m.

THE MAGIC FLUTE

Mozart

(Last performance this season)

Carlyle, Geszty, Robson, Haywood,
Minton, Guy; Wakefield, Dobson,
G. Evans, Kraus, D. Ward

Conductor: Balkwill

Tuesday 26th at 7.30 p.m.

SWAN LAKE

Tchaikovsky/Ivanov and Petipa/Hurry

Beriosova, Musil

Conductor: Fry

Wednesday 27th at 7.30 p.m.

MOSES AND AARON

Schoenberg

Vaughan; Richard Lewis, Lanigan,
Robinson, Kelly, Godfrey, Garrett

Conductor: Solti

Thursday 28th at 7.30 p.m.

GISELLE

Adam/Coralis and Perrot

Wells, Wall

Conductor: Lawrence

Friday 29th at 7.30 p.m.

MOSES AND AARON

Schoenberg

(Last performance this season)

Vaughan; Richard Lewis, Lanigan,
Robinson, Kelly, Godfrey, Garrett

Conductor: Solti

End of Opera Season

Saturday 30th at 2.15 p.m.

LA FILLE MAL GARDEE

Hérold/Ashton

Last, Cooke, Grater, Gordon,
G. Grant

Conductor: Fry

Saturday 30th at 7.30 p.m.

LA FILLE MAL GARDEE

Hérold/Ashton

Nerina, Wall, Legerton, Emblem, Sale

Conductor: Lawrence

End of Ballet Season

BOX OFFICE: COVENT GARDEN 1066

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a cornucopia
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