

PRESS KIT  
2012

**GIWAYEN MATA**

DANCE . PERCUSSION & VOCAL ENSEMBLE

" I FELT A POWER IN THE DRUMMING, AS IF  
I WERE BEING CALLED, TALKED TO, AND  
CLAIMED BY DISTANT  
ANCESTORS.....SOMETHING NEW THAT I  
NEVER EXPECTED TO FEEL."



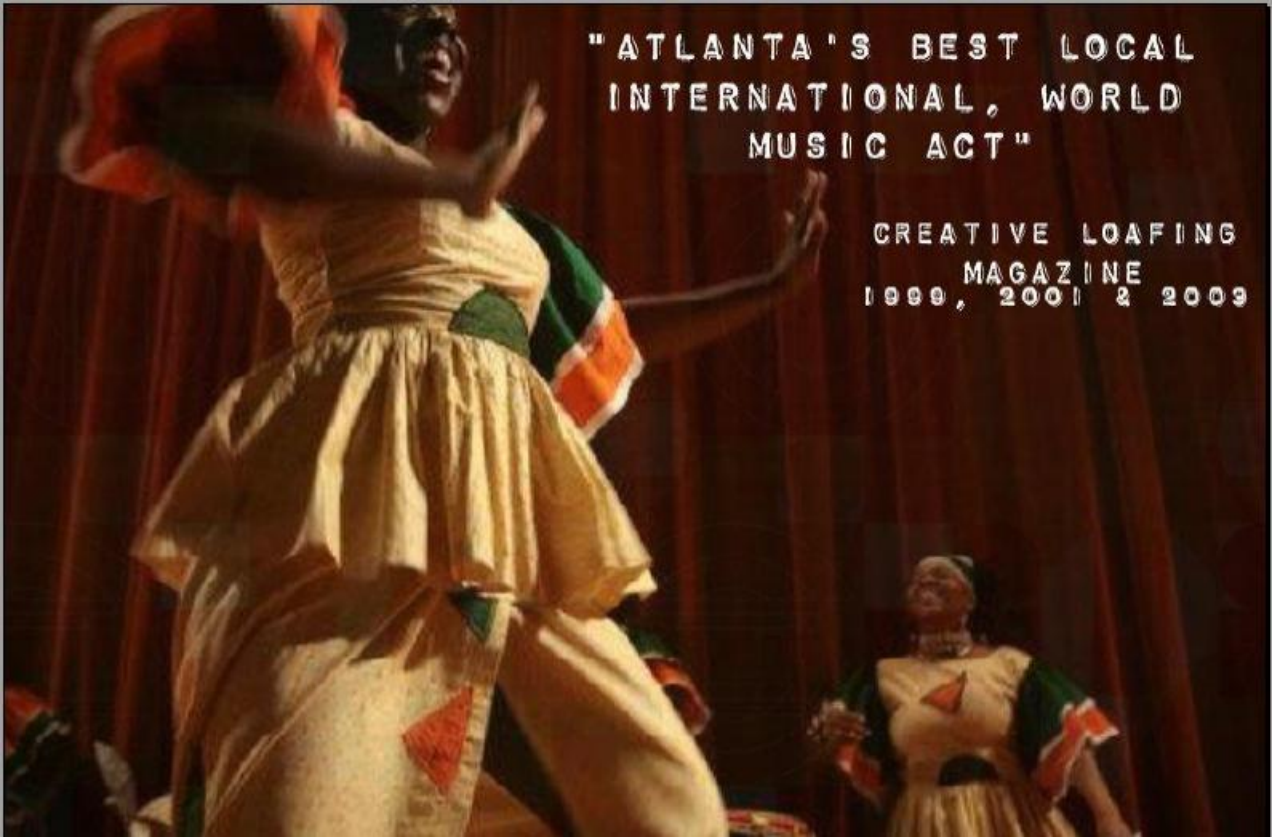
## ABOUT

For nearly 20 Years, GIWAYEN MATA, Inc., a dynamic, soul-stirring, all-sistah dance, percussion, and vocal ensemble has 'wowed' audiences in Atlanta and throughout the nation with high-energy-filled performances, workshops and classes.

Dedicated to perpetuating the study and teachings of African cultures through dances, rhythms, and songs of Africa to audiences of all ethnicities, ages, and backgrounds, the West African Hausa named GIWAYEN MATA "Elephant Women" celebrates and uplifts women, the community and the planet.

Founded by Omelika Kuumba, Zuri Sami Ra Maati Jordan, Sarahn Henderson and seven other women of color, the 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization has been recognized by USA Magazine and was voted Atlanta's "Best Local International / World Music Act" by Creative Loafing Magazine. The nation embraced them on NBC television network reality series "America's Got Talent", their drums set the rhythm of the sell-out theatrical production of "For Colored Girls" directed by Jasmine Guy, and they embraced cast members of BRAVO cable network top-rated reality series "Real Housewives of Atlanta" with a high-energy African dance experience.





"ATLANTA'S BEST LOCAL  
INTERNATIONAL, WORLD  
MUSIC ACT"

CREATIVE LOAFING  
MAGAZINE  
1999, 2001 & 2003



"JASMINE GUY  
DID AN  
EXCELLENT JOB  
IMPLEMENTING  
DANCE AND  
DRUM."

- ATLANTA  
JOURNAL  
CONSTITUTION

GIWAYEN MATA Inc.'s Director and Co-Founder Omelika Kuumba, as percussionist, and Yakini Horn, Dancer/Actress, as "Lady in Blue" were cast in the stage production of 'FOR COLORED GIRLS'; Directed by Jasmine Guy. Starring Nicole Ari Parker, Robin Givens and Crystal Fox.



"PEOPLE ARE  
STILL RAVING  
ABOUT THE  
PERFORMANCE AND  
WANT MORE!"

-LYNNETTE M. SMITH  
THE WEATHER CHANNEL



# CALENDAR

2/18/12 Drum Workshop w/ Weedie Braimah  
3:00 pm  
Afrikan Djeli  
933 Lee ST (Lower Level) Atlanta 30310

3/3/12 Male Dance Auditions  
3:00 pm  
Spelman College Read Hall  
350 Spelman Lane Atlanta 30314

3/25/12 Dance Workshop w/ Ayo Alston  
3:00 pm  
Dance 411 Studios  
475 Moreland AVE Atlanta 30316

4/15/12 Dance Workshop w/ Ronald K. Brown  
3:00 pm  
Dance 411 Studios  
475 Moreland AVE Atlanta 30316

6/17/12 Salute To Our Men Concert  
3:00 pm  
Southwest Arts Center  
915 New Hope RD Atlanta 30331

## RIDER REQUIREMENTS:

### Ensemble Size: 18 members

adequate parking for unloading purposes for vehicles \* at least two insured stage hands/movers \* a 30-ft deep sturdy wooden or a marley floor surfaced performance level stage \* a 25 ft deep (20 ft wide x 1 ft height) lecture/workshop stage \* Stage P.A. microphone, electrical outlets, front and side lighting, full track mono (preferably house speakers), on-stage monitor with announcement microphone, basic lighting plot, 3 drum mics, 5-7 floor mics, hanging mics (or 3 vocal mics), and a fly in bar to hang our company banner \* dressing room with table, a chair for each performer \* dressing room clothing racks or closets \* vegan, dry fruit or fresh fruits and vegetables, and healthy dairy-free refreshments.





# CONTACT

**NAME:** Sis. Omelika Kuumba, Co-founder/Director

**PHONE:** 404-604-9364

**ADDRESS:** 416 Pegg Road SW Atlanta, GA 30315

**TWITTER:** giwayenmata

**FACEBOOK:** giwayenmata

**YOUTUBE:** giwayenmataTV

**WEBSITE:** giwayenmata.org

