

Saturday, November 7, 2015, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Youssou N'Dour



Youri Languette

Tonight's program will be announced from the stage and performed without intermission.

This performance is made possible, in part, by an anonymous Patron Sponsor.

Cal Performances' 2015–2016 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

Youssou N'Dour & Le Super Étoile de Dakar

Youssou N'Dour	<i>vocals</i>
Ibrahima Cisse	<i>keyboards</i>
Birame Dieng	<i>backing vocals</i>
El Hadji Faye	<i>percussion</i>
Babacar Faye	<i>percussion</i>
Moustapha Faye	<i>keyboards</i>
Moustapha Gaye	<i>guitar</i>
Pascale Kameni-Kamga	<i>backing vocals</i>
Abdoulaye Lo	<i>drums</i>
Papa Ngom	<i>guitar</i>
Jean-Jacques Obam Edjo'O	<i>bass</i>
Alain Oyono	<i>saxophone</i>
Moussa Sonko	<i>dancer</i>
Assane Thiam	<i>tama</i>



BORN IN DAKAR, Senegal, in 1959, Youssou N'Dour is a passionate singer, composer, bandleader, and producer whose powerfully expressive voice transformed the *mbalax* music of his native Senegal with influences from Cuban *rumba*, reggae, and Western hip-hop, jazz, and soul.

Mr. N'Dour returns to the United States in November 2015 with his band, the Super Étoile, with which he has recorded and toured the world for nearly 30 years. With his traditional *griot* percussion, Wolof oral histories, and

Afro-Cuban arrangements, Mr. N'Dour performs as a cultural ambassador for Senegal. He was named "African Artist of the Century" by the English publication *fRoots* and included in the *Time* 100, the magazine's annual list of "the hundred men and women whose power, talent, or moral example are transforming the world."

Mr. N'Dour's direct and powerful stage presence translates into a strong medium for the messages that have defined his career. His voice has launched Senegalese social movements (e.g., 1994's "Set" as a rallying cry for urban youth activists). His songs have inspired international support in the fights against malaria (2009's "Fight Malaria") and for women's rights (1989's "Shaking the Tree," with Peter Gabriel). His work as a UNICEF ambassador and as a global pop star, dubbed "the world's most famous singer" by *Rolling Stone*, have marked his worldwide impact. He was the subject of the documentary *Youssou N'Dour: I Bring What I Love*, about Senegal's divided reaction to his Grammy Award-winning album *Egypt*, a deeply spiritual album dedicated to a more tolerant view of Islam. In 2013, he was awarded Sweden's prestigious Polar Music Prize.

In 2012, Mr. N'Dour assumed the office of Senegal's Minister of Tourism and Culture under President Macky Sall.