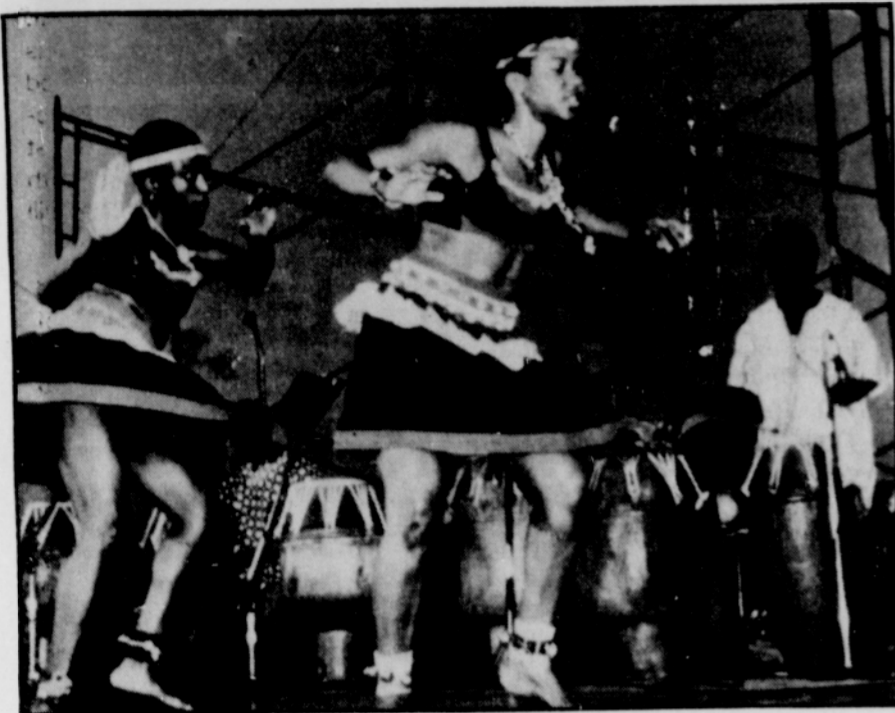


Public Radio Celebrates Black History Month: Music From African to the Americas



WASHINGTON, D.C. — Over the centuries the richly varied music of Africa, traveled to various part of the Americas, blending with other cultural influences and customs to produce a striking range of musical styles.

In celebration of Black History Month in February, National Public Radio's "Horizons" explores the legacy of the African musical heritage, focusing on African music in the United States, Cuban religious music, the Brazilian samba, and African-American hymns. "Music: From Africa to the Americas," a series of four half-hour documentaries in stereo, is hosted by musician Taj Mahal.

"Horizons", a weekly half-hour documentary series, may be heard on NPR member stations across the country. Check local listings for broadcast times.

"The legendary Taj Mahal is an ideal host for this examination of the fascinating musics of Africa," says "Horizons" series producer Donna

Limerick. "A brilliant musician and ethnomusicologist, Taj Mahal has explored many African-derived musical styles during his more than 20-year musical career, including Caribbean music styles, early jazz, and African antecedents of the blues."

Traditional and innovative African music created by African-American musicians is featured in the series' first program. The slave era destroyed many African musical traditions which African-American musicians later relearned in an attempt to preserve their cultural heritage. Among such musicians in New York is Nana Yao Opare Dinizulu.

The distinctive traditions of Cuban religious music are explored in the second "Horizons" documentary. Music plays a crucial role in "Santeria," an originally West African religion in which the gods are summoned through dance, prayer, drumming, and song. Combining elements of African worship and Catholicism, Santeria still is prac-

ticed in Cuba, throughout Latin America, and in the United States.

Master drummer and Santeria priest Milton Cardona plays his music for "Horizons" listeners, explaining how each sound in the Santeria musical ceremony has a specific meaning related to the god being worshipped. A Puerto Rican, Cardona currently lives in New York.

In Brazil, African rhythms and Portuguese influences have combined to produce the Brazilian samba, which is the subject of the third program celebrating Black History Month. Cyro Baptista, a samba musician in New York, shares his insights on the samba, which is not one but many musics, representing many regions in Brazil. The documentary features different sambas from Rio de Janeiro and Bahia, and music by "Roots of Brazil," a group dedicated to the performance of traditional Brazilian music.

African musical traditions also influenced the singing of Protestant hymns during the slave era in the United States. The fourth "Horizons" documentary in February discusses how the techniques of "lining out" hymns originated when slaves sang hymns in the fields and in rural churches, with each line dictated by a lead singer and then echoed by the congregation. The style has become more elaborate over the years — with the voices of the lead singer and the congregation overlapping in intricate melodies and rhythms — and is demonstrated on "Horizons" with recordings of Dr. C.J. Johnson of Atlanta and his family.

Producer of "Music: From Africa to the Americas" is Karen Jefferson. "Horizons" is a program of NPR's Department of Specialized Audience Programming. Series producer is Donna Limerick. Executive producer is Frank Tavares.

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Became a manual worker at the
age of nine.**

**Selected to develop
Tuskegee Institute
from 1881-1915.**

**An outstanding leader
in education.**

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BILL TEBEAU

An Oregon Engineer and Educator Making Oregon History

The Oregon Department of Transportation is proud to pay tribute to one of its own, Bill Tebeau.

Bill Tebeau was the first black engineer to work for the Department of Transportation. He began his career with the Highway Division in 1948, after graduating from Oregon State University with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Bill began his ODOT career as an Engineering Aide in Baker, Oregon. He retired in 1984, as the Highway Division's Planning Survey Engineer.

He was a cornerstone for the planning and research of Oregon's highway construction and improvement programs, and was responsible for mapping Oregon's cities, counties, and urban areas.

Developing Today's Engineers

"Bill Tebeau has had more influence on the education, professional development and mentorship of ODOT employees than any other individual," stated Bob Bothman, Director of ODOT.

Tebeau has taught at Chemeketa Community College since 1958. "My boss wanted to get his engineering license," recounted Tebeau, "which required an organized course of study. He asked me to teach the class."

Tebeau's boss passed Tebeau's course. Since then he has taught classes in engineering, land surveying, hydraulics, economics, engineering mechanics, chemistry and thermo-dynamics.

Tebeau teaches the Engineer-In-Training Review, the Professional Engineering Review, and the Land Surveying Review.

Working with the Association of Engineering Employees, Bill wrote the Study Guide for the state's examination for Engineering Aide and Highway Engineer positions.

The Jefferson High School Program

Bill's commitment to education did not stop at ODOT. He was committed to the Jefferson Program, which recruited high school seniors at Jefferson and prepared them to pass the engineering aide examination.

Tebeau and other ODOT engineers taught math classes at the school, and conducted field classes, such as surveying, starting in the ball fields and parks of Northeast Portland.



Students were employed during the summer on survey crews. A number of students in the Jefferson Program found permanent jobs with the Highway Division.

Looking Back

Bill has been named Employee of the Year by the Oregon State Employees Association (now OPEU) and Teacher of the Year by Chemeketa Community College.

After the statewide "Christmas flood" of 1964, the Highway Division asked Tebeau to organize and staff the Division's first Hydraulics Unit—which determines the size and type of drainage structures necessary for highways to cross waterways.

Tebeau was also asked to work with a private consultant to determine the cause of the collapse of the John Day Bridge.

Standing out in the mind's of ODOT's employees, is the direction, advice, and encouragement they have received from Bill—and the model he has provided management on how to treat employees.

The Oregon Department of Transportation

