

Chasaya Sichilima

Famed for his smooth silky vocals and unique dance moves, Chasaya Sichilima brings energy and enthusiasm to his shows. His smooth silky vocals take the listener to the Kalindula, Manchancha, and Zambezi heartlands of Zambia . He sings with soul and performs with fiery passion!

Chasaya was born in the Copperbelt city of Zambia in Ndola, fondly called the “Friendly City”. He is regarded as one of Zambia’s best singers, songwriters and performers. He has been inspired and influenced by a number of Zambian and foreign artists such as The Witch, Ackim “The Voice” Simukonda, Teddy Chilambe, PK Chishala, Tabu Ley Rochereau, Salif Keita, Lokua Kanza, Luther Vandross and Peabo Bryson, just to name a few. These influences have allowed Chasaya to develop a sound that incorporates rhythm and blues with traditional Zambian folk music.

A fresh voice of the Zambian music renaissance, Chasaya played alongside the Sakala Brothers and Rapper Louie X, fellow Zambians at Afrofest in 2004 in a show widely acclaimed as a breakthrough for Zambian music in North America. Sichilima has also collaborated with Juno award winning jazz artist Kenny Kirkwood, recording artist Brian Allosery, Zambian artists Pontian Kaiche, Michael Munali, and has performed alongside Papa Wemba and the Royal Drummers of Burundi.

Chasaya is riding high on the critical acclaim of his sophomore album Walasa! The album is a collection of nine songs that features Sichilima’s silky vocals with a unique blend of contemporary and traditional rhythms. Walasa in the Zambian languages of Bemba and Nyanja means, “You have hit the target”, or “You have hit the nail on the head”. Walasa encompasses contemporary sounds that have influenced many African artists in the Diaspora.

The songs “We Kaela” and “Moombe Wabacisya” from his debut album “Inspirationally Yours” were featured on a compilation album of African artists in Canada titled “Bana Ya Africa”. Another song “Zambia” was the subject of media debate as an alternative to the country’s national anthem.

In 2006, Chasaya made a cameo appearance in Zambia’s leading soap Loose Ends. His outstanding performance culminated in being voted by TV viewers as the Loose Ends Best Guest Actor award for 2006. He was also a winner of the Cuban Salsa Dance Championships in the UK in 2001.

Chasaya’s band, the Mosi-O-Tunya (meaning the “Smoke that Thunders” the local name for Zambia’s Victorial Falls) Vibes are a collection of some of the most accomplished musicians from Ecuador, Germany, Kenya, Ghana and Canada .Their interpretation of Zambian music is simply magical.