

HABIB KOITÉ & BAMADA

Album Title: Fôly!—Live Around the World

Producer(s): Michael De Bock, Daniel Boivin

Genre: WORLD

Label/Catalog Number: World Village 468021

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Malian guitarist/singer Habib Koité is without question one of the most gifted and compelling performers on the contemporary Afropop scene—and this joyous, vibrant two-disc set serves as affirmation of his place of pride. Fusing gentle, almost singer/ songwriter-like vocals with high-energy playing that draws its inspiration from myriad Malian styles, Koité and his band Bamada soar through a collection of their hits. Highlights include the gently propulsive currents of "Ma Ya," the eminently danceable beats of "Nanale" and the sly wit of "Cigarette Abana" (the song that rocketed Koité to stardom across West Africa). This specially priced set lasts for well more than two hours. Of course, when spent in such good company, the time passes in a flash.—AT