

# Mp3 Adam Solomon - Mti Wa Maisha (tree Of Life)

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The best guitar tradition of the early 1960s with modern East African big band sound from Congo, Tanzania and Kenya, and beautiful lyrics from Mombasa, to create a most original style best described as Afro-Soul Rhumba. Indeed, instead of running for 11 MP3 Songs WORLD: African, WORLD: World Beat Details: MTI WA MAISHA (TREE OF LIFE) In Mti Wa Maisha (The Tree of Life), Professor Adam Solomon, who is featured on the Juno-award winning CD African Guitar Summit (CBC), combines the best guitar tradition of the early 1960s with modern East African big band sound from Congo, Tanzania and Kenya, and beautiful lyrics from Mombasa, to create a most original style best described as Afro-Soul Rhumba. Indeed, instead of running for the easy Soukous music that defined most of the 1990s, Solomon dips deep into the roots of rhumba that have nourished dance music in East and Central Africa since the early 1950s. He deftly resurrects the flickering fiesta guitar style pioneered by Henri Bowane and elaborated by Nico Kasanda on the tracks Rehema, Shemegi and Maneno Mengi. But for the purists who deify Kasanda as a guitar music legend, the sweet fiesta instrumental track appropriately titled Kasanda Remembered is to be savoured again and again. However, what defines the originality of this album is Solomons gift as a singer-songwriter. Where he once allowed his guitar to do the singing, his voice has come ashore, weaving the threads that stitch tradition and modernity. On the tracks Mapendo, Rikata and Huyu Niliye Naye, he finds soulful melodies on the shores of the Indian Ocean among the Swahili fishermen and the traditional farmers eking a living out of the soil. Retaining the simplicity and spontaneity that characterize communal songs among the Swahili, his voice breaks free from the shackles of being one of the best guitar talents from Continental Africa. In Mti Wa Maisha (Tree of Life), Solomon employs his beautiful guitar style to infuse life in the roots music, touching a new vibrancy, intimacy and range never embraced in his earlier recordings. The age of Afro-Soul Rhumba is heredance away to your hearts content. Opiyo Oloya Musicologist, Toronto, March 2006. adamsolomon.ca

----- It is a joy to hear Adam Solomon return to the full band sound of Tikisa. Music fans across Canada have scuffed dance floors to the sound of Adams guitar since the early days of the great Afronubians, and the music on this CD will have them jumping in the aisles

again. While the roots of Adams music run deep (no-one plays fiesta like the Professor), this tree has truly taken root in Canada and reflects its nurturing: from the Ethiopian restaurants Adam played when he first arrived in Toronto, through cross-country tours, to the massive audiences he has performed in front of with African Guitar Summit and others. Todd Fraracci Producer, African Guitar Summit (CBC) April 2006 ----- This is the long-awaited release from one of Canadas premiere African guitarists/songwriters, Adam Solomon and his band Tikisa. Mti Wa Maisha (Tree of Life) is a delectable sampling of styles from the African continent. The fruit of the tree includes classic Congolese rumba, soukous and the fiesta style pioneered by Congolese innovator Dr. Nico, along with a fusion of various genres, some that could be described as Afrobeat/soul. However the music is described, each genre is expertly woven into a tapestry of songs deeply rooted in Africa. Mti Wa Maisha is guaranteed to leave you uplifted, excited and delighted. Patsy Stevens, April 2006 adamsolomon.ca

----- Once again Adam Solomon emerges not only as a musician but an icon who uses music to tell the extraordinary "never forget" beautiful stories of love and soul search struggles. He also remains aware of the current events both abroad and in Africa when he places the civil war and HIV/AIDS agenda on the table through music. His lyrics speak of love that carries no boundaries, something which makes his music quite easy to relate to. Adam, who collaborated on the release of the African Guitar Summit CD in 2005, is also a proud Juno Award Winner. Listening to the CD Mti Wa Maisha (Tree of Life) ,which is creatively and masterfully done with his incomparable Tikisa band, you are without hesitation introduced to or reminded of rich and varied kinds of rhythms from East and Central Africa. The album contains 6/8 Chakacha beat, Fiesta, Mdundiko, Soukous and traditional a capella Swahili songs. The rhythms, which are complex, and the riffs of the lead guitar by the "Professor" himself are smooth and pleasant to the ear of the listener. This is non-stop entertainment both on-stage and off. The album Mti Wa Maisha (Tree of Life) is a must-have for everyone as it captures a sound that no other contemporary African-born musician in Canada has ever managed to do. For that reason Adam Solomon and Tikisa poses as a first class role model to all existing and upcoming musicians. Adams music comes from Kaya, a sacred and spiritual place, where we all belong. As an original African, he employs the oldest tradition on earth of sharing the rhythms and lyrics from generation to generation, griot-style, as well as updating them. This tradition makes his music style common yet very unique. Jeff Msangi, Blog Author adamsolomon.ca \_\_\_\_\_ The Professor

has returned to Kenyan roots music of the 70s, a time when African music was at its zenith. Adams versatility on this recording demonstrates his abilities to play chakacha, soukous, rhumba, afrobeat and fiesta. This is a good album that is representative of a an extensive cross section of African music. The Professor has done it! Otimoi Oyemu, President, Music Africa

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Professor Adam Solomon takes the listener on a musical safari throughout Kenya in his recording Mti wa Maisha (Tree of Life). The album includes the popular sounds of East Africa such as soukous and rhumba, along with coastal music like chakacha from Adams childhood home in the coastal city of Mombasa. Adam has helped to introduce Kenyan sounds to a Canadian audience and this latest recording has a polished edge to it, especially following the highly acclaimed African Guitar Summit album that the Professor has contributed to. A superb collection of songs. Nadine McNulty, Radio Broadcaster, Karibuni, CIUT 89.5 FM adam.solomon.ca

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