

producer, James Parkin

World Routes in Madagascar – Programme 2 of 6

Prog 1 BROADCAST on RADIO 3 on 16/1/10

All recordings made on location in Madagascar in September 2009

The texts in boxes are “postcards” – ie studio links, read out and recorded in the studio once back in London, by Lucy Duran (the presenter). Postcards are a kind of condensed text of facts and reflections that fill in missing bits of information, and provide context for the listener. They help to “turn a corner” between one section of the programme to another.

00:00: Opening – Lucy and Paddy walking up the hill to Ambohimanga and describing the location

01:58: Music (283)

Rakotozafy Tromba Tune

Composed by Rakotozafy

Performed by Justin Vali & Paddy Bush

BBC Recording made at the Hotel Victory, Tulear, 14th September 2009

Dur: 52”

02:48: Music (191) (extract, under speech)

Arivo Modi Masaondro

Trad

Performed by the Malagasy Orkestra

**BBC Recording made at the Le Paille en queue Hotel, Tulear
10th September 2009**

Dur: 57”

Lucy:

Last week on World Routes, I was introduced to the extraordinary music of

Madagascar by one of this island's most extraordinary musicians: Justin Vali. Using his Malagasy Orkestra he demonstrated a whole variety of the island's musical traditions. This week, I've started a journey of my own to discover some of that music in its true context. Justin's with me, and so is a great friend of his; someone he calls his brother. An instrument-maker, musician, producer and – it's fair to say – a Malagasy music fanatic: Paddy Bush. Starting in the capital on the high central plateau of Madagascar, Justin and Paddy had brought me to the Ambohimanga royal palace, transporting me back centuries and filling the place with the music that Malagasy kings and queens would once have listened to.....

03:45: Music (11)

Afindrafindrao

Trad

Performed by Justin Vali and Ensemble

BBC Recording made at Ambohimanga Palace near Antananarivo, Madagascar

On Thursday 3rd September 2009

Dur: 3.17

07:02: Lucy and Paddy (4.05)

11:07: Music (9)

Mahagaga

Trad

Performed by Justin Vali and Ensemble

BBC Recording made at Ambohimanga Palace near Antananarivo, Madagascar

On Thursday 3rd September 2009

Dur: 54"

12:01: Lucy et al (2.41)

14:42: Music (16)

Miangaly

Trad

Performed by Justin Vali and Ensemble

BBC Recording made at Ambohimanga Palace near Antananarivo, Madagascar

On Thursday 3rd September 2009

Dur: 3.42

18:22: Lucy et al (4.10)

22:32: Music (21)

Blue Sky

Trad

Performed by Justin Vali and Ensemble

BBC Recording made at Ambohimanga Palace near Antananarivo, Madagascar

On Thursday 3rd September 2009

Dur: 4.30

27:02: Lucy et al (1.19)

28:21: Music (23) (3.17)

Izahay sy Malala

Trad

Performed by Justin Vali and Ensemble

BBC Recording made at Ambohimanga Palace near Antananarivo, Madagascar

On Thursday 3rd September 2009

Dur: 3.17

31:36: Postcard (1.30)

Lucy:

Justin Vali and some of Madagascar's top musicians performing the piece Izahay sy Malala which translates as My darling and I. That was recorded specially for World Routes at the Ambohimanga royal palace about an hour outside Madagascar's capital Antananarivo.

[Music: 278]

Times were hard when we were in Madagascar in the Autumn of 2009. The country was in the middle of a terrible political crisis: supermarkets were looted, cars burnt out, international aid was slipping away and expats were leaving their beloved homes and friends and returning to Europe or other parts of Africa. As night fell, the city felt like it was on the edge – temperatures on the high plateau are low, the streets were largely deserted, and we were told not to drive around after nine.

The next morning, my guides – the musicians Justin Vali and Paddy Bush – drove me about half an hour outside Tana – as the capital's known – to Justin's Madagascan residence, and waiting there for us, was a group of very special musicians....

33:26: Lucy with Paddy (1.51)

35:17: Hiragasy section

Track 4 – Generic chorus

37.32: Track 2 - Lucy & Sera chat over T2, talking about speech from leader at beginning of T2

- Speech introduces the Group Tarika RASOASOMANGA BERTHINE from Ambohimandroso
- asks for the audience to give donations of money.
- he explains the theme of the show “don’t be happy criticizing other people, but look at your own life first”

Up to 1.26 to talk over, then....

Chorus in T2 (Singing by the women - religious theme “it’s wrong to hate”) (3.12)

42.11: Track 4 – Lucy, Paddy & Sera chat over T4 and discuss its content (4.00 incl music peaks)

- The lyrics repeat the theme of the performance: gives funny examples of the woman called Razanavao who really enjoys criticizing Rainijao, when her own family is not a good example.
- Use of funny anecdotes and very illustrative scenes.
- The singing incorporates clever use of rhyme where the lead singer shouts the first word of the phrase and the rest of the chorus sings the whole phrase.
- A long litany about how bad the mother in law is, how short dresses replace long ones, how young people do not listen to advice anymore etc.

46.06: Track 7 – Lucy & Sera chat over the top of this speech from the leader

- Speech by Troup leader saying the Troup needs to rest a little bit so he will tell a short story
- very interesting anecdotes about various contradictory observations about religion and the arrival of the Christian sects, health and life in general.
- Rhymes and clever use of words are very important to show his skills with the Malagasy language for getting the audience’s maximum appreciation.
- (this refers to track 8...) about dyed hair..... before black hair, now coloured...if badly done, looks like hay or voron-dolo (owl)... about how she thinks she’s great and fights with everybody, but her behaviour is atrocious ...

- about how people dress, not only the young ones – but old ones!...no longer wearing longer dress... so cannot sit anymore because skirt is too short

48:03.....into music, track 8....

Track 8 – Lucy, Paddy and Sera discuss content...

- **Most interesting** anecdote about religion interfering with our traditional practices like the Famadihana (re-burial of our dead).
- If you appreciate what we say, then clap. If you have a bit of money, give it to us.

52:00: Lucy giving money (2.00)

54:00: Lucy and Paddy (2.29)

56:30: Hiragasy Music (43'')

57:13: Trail to next week (30'')

Next week on World Routes I continue my journey along the high plateau of Madagascar and visit the small remote village where one of my guides, the musician Justin Vali was brought up. There he performs with local musicians, I find out more about the cult of the spirit house, and we record a session with these guys who normally play their flutes for the all-important reburial ceremonies – central to life on the magical island of Madagascar

57:43: Music to end tbc (30'')

58:15: End