



Various Artists

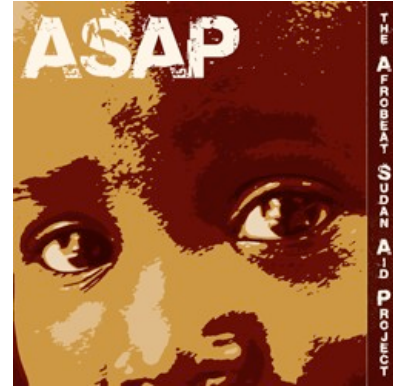
ASAP: Afrobeat Sudan Aid Project

3.5 out of 4 stars
(MODIBA)

ASAP: Afrobeat Sudan Aid Project

Review by Nate Dow

Friday, February 18, 2005



This is more than an all-star Afrobeat compilation. As the first production of MODIBA, a group founded by two Wesleyan University students to aid social and economic empowerment in Africa, it's a fund-raiser with 100 percent of the proceeds going to provide food and shelter for the ravaged citizens of Sudan.

Tony Allen and Dele Sosimi, veteran members of the late Fela Kuti's legendary Afrobeat band, offer stellar contributions from their musical vaults. Allen's classic version of "Progress" even includes Kuti on sax, while Sosimi's "Turbulent Times" is vital and gripping.

Additional contributions from emerging stars Keziah Jones and Wunmi and two New York City collectives, Antibalas and Akoya Afrobeat Ensemble, give "ASAP" a modern bent by melding hip-hop rhythms into an eclectic Afrobeat mix of funk, soul and jazz.

Available exclusively on iTunes in digital form and at the producers' Web site (www.modiba.net) on CD, "ASAP" is a collection that will please both Afrobeat devotees and newcomers. "ASAP," in fact, showed its mass appeal shortly after its release by cracking iTunes' Top 30 with virtually no advance publicity. MODIBA's healing mission is off to an auspicious start. Download: "More Consideration" by Kokolo.

Read more about ASAP at www.modiba.net