

# Screening & Discussion

## The Highlife Heritage Concert 2022

March 13, 2024 @12:00PM

Room E9

Department of Music  
University of Ghana

### Discussion:

The Politics of Popular Music Heritage & What's the 'Pop' in Popular Music Heritage?"

### Moderation:

Dr. habil. Markus Coester & Kofi Kudonu, M.A.

### Discussants:

Prof. D. Avorgbedor, Dr. Abena Kyere, Dr. Eric Sunu Doe and Grace Takyi

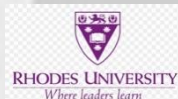
The **Highlife Heritage Concert 2022** took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 in Accra/Ghana at the University of Ghana's ETS Drama Studio. It came out of the collaboration between the Music Department of the University of Ghana and the *Beyond the Digital Return* research project of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth. Organised and directed by Dr. Markus Coester and Kofi Kudonu, a member of the project's research team in Ghana, the concert featured musicians who are cooperation partners of this project. It relates to Dr Coester's collaborative research on "The Revitalization and Sustenance of Highlife Jazz" and "Highlife 'Heritage'."

Artists featured in the concert were the Adaha Dance Band, The Kundum Trio, Akablay's Abiza Band, the Ghana Police Band, and the Pop Band of the Music Department of the University of Ghana. The concert was filmed and recorded live and the concert film has been edited with the intention to create a research document as well as a live concert video. Feedback from performers and audiences so far tells us that the concert was quite a success.

After the screening of the concert film we will discuss our research approach of retrieving digitalised musical heritage from archives for re/performance as done in this performance, and start a critical discourse on this multi-faceted cultural process. We also want to reflect on the politics of popular music heritage and find some answers to the question "What's the 'Pop' in Popular Music Heritage?"

Performers of the night are invited to participate.

The event is part of *Beyond the Digital Return: New Heritage/s, Sustainability and the Decolonisation of Music Archives in South Africa, Kenya, and Ghana* of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth/Germany and ongoing collaboration with the University of Ghana.



UG Department of  
Music Pop Ensemble