



**FULA FLUTE "Mansa America" CTN-002**

*Release date: December 9, 2008*

A duo of 'vocalizing' *tambin* (african flute) masters lead this neo-traditional vocal and instrumental ensemble through a repertoire that bridges Africa and the New World. The YouTube hit song "Obama" epitomizes the spirit of the album in its cross-integration of the ancient Mande praise-song in the service of honoring the new American President. Daring horn arrangements bring the African sound into modernity while *griot* epics pay respects to the roots.

Fula Flute previously released to substantial critical acclaim the seminal self-titled CD "Fula Flute" in 2002. That led to performances such as the opening of Zankel Hall and a concert there the following season with El Hadj Djeli Sory Kouyate, widely-respected balafonist, Dean of Mande musicians. Music from "Fula Flute" has, and continues to be, a staple of Guinean radio-television and movies, and the track "Keme Bourema," was licensed to the recently released "Desert Blues III." Fula Flute has put the *tambin* on the map and inspired a new generation of players around the world.

With *Mansa America*, this six-piece virtuoso ensemble offers twelve tracks of high-level, uplifting music. But more than that, *Mansa America* is a mind altering experience.

Mulatta/Completely Nuts Records

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