



CENTER FOR WORLD MUSIC

AND RELATED ARTS



Martha Thom

Martha Thom taught and performed Shona dance for the Center for World Music from 2012 to 2013. A member of the Zimbabwean music and dance troupe Mbira dzeMuninga, she is an impeccably skilled traditional dancer, *hosho* (rattles) player, and singer. Her energy and skill are hard to match. Martha began performing in primary school and continued to dance in various school-organized performing groups through 1992, when she joined the Shingayi Traditional Dance Group in Harare, the capital city of Zimbabwe.

Martha has taught student groups and private lessons at the prestigious College of Music in Zimbabwe. In 2003 she was invited to join the famous Zimbabwean performing group Chiwoniso & Vibe Culture. (Chiwoniso Maraire was a world-renowned songwriter and karimba player of traditional and modern Shona music and the daughter of Dr. Dumisani Maraire who introduced Zimbabwean music and dance to Americans in the 1970s.)

As a teacher and a performer, Martha Thom enjoyed several residencies and tours of the United States, appearing at universities, K-12 schools, traditional Zimbabwean music and dance festivals, and community-organized workshops.