

## SOCIAL INCLUSION OPPORTUNITIES

# INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

## *collection of ideas*

### MAISON DU BÈLÈ

The Maison du Bèlè was born in the town of Sainte-Marie in Martinique, in February 2003. The town of Sainte-Marie, a rural town of 20,000 inhabitants is renowned for its strong roots in tradition. Today, there is a strong presence of elders who grew up in the bèlè. It was to bring them out of the shadows and give them the place they deserve that the Maison du Bèlè was created. Thus, it sets itself the following objectives: to honor the elders, custodians of an ancestral tradition to put these elders in touch with the rest of the Martinican and foreign population to immortalize this tradition for future generations to share. It presents a permanent exhibition set up in February 2003, which highlights the Samaritans who distinguished themselves in the bèlè, by animating the districts of the city since their childhood during bèlè evenings.



The Maison du Bèlè operates at several levels:

- Maintaining tradition through the transmission of knowledge (courses, workshops, conferences, debates, shows, etc.)
- The residences crossed with artists of traditional music from Africa, Latin America and Asia.
- The dissemination of bèlè through tours in the Caribbean and Europe, then in the rest of the world.
- The establishment of the Bèlè Mundo festival, during which the bèlè will be strongly represented.



[/www.lamaisondubele.fr/presentation-de-la-maison-du-bele](http://www.lamaisondubele.fr/presentation-de-la-maison-du-bele)

## Maintaining tradition through the transmission of knowledge

All of the actions developed below are intended to ensure the transmission and maintenance of cultural values related to bèlè. From the most traditional pedagogy to the most informal meetings, the Maison du Bèlè is the place of meetings, information and dissemination. This translates into: 1/Internships and master classes; 2/conferences-debates; 3/shows and jam sessions; 4/meetings with other artistic disciplines; 5/the exhibitions of instruments, photos, videos and sound; 6/creation of a media library; 7/CD production of bèlè artists; 8/the residencies crossed with artists of traditional music from Africa, Latin America and Asia

Artists from the four corners of the planet live on average for one week at the Maison du Bèlè to share their artistic tradition and better understand that of Martinique. As with the bèlè, percussion and (or) dance are the meeting points for these artists. Workshops are offered during this week, as well as meetings with the masters of bèlè and an end of residency show. The Maison du Bèlè is keeping up with the time of the host country or continent by offering an exhibition, thus allowing the public to complete their knowledge of popular traditions.

### The dissemination of bèlè through tours in the Caribbean and Europe, then in the rest of the world



The Maîtres du bèlè tour outside Martinique on a regular basis, with the Metropolis as a starting point, a real hub of world music. French national stages and European institutional broadcasters should be associated with this broadcast. Identical work is being undertaken in the Caribbean. Secondly, the tours are extended to the rest of the world, with a preference for countries which have been the subject of a residency at the Maison du Bèlè.

### The dissemination of bèlè through tours in the Caribbean and Europe, then in the rest of the world

This event is essential for many reasons: It is a real showcase of the work accomplished at the Maison du Bèlè and the opportunity to produce on stage, in the company of other international groups, the Maîtres du bèlè and their young "students". The festival helps to communicate the Samaritan and Martinican artistic tradition nationally and internationally.