Press Release
For immediate release
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Note to Editors: High-resolution photos available at http://uniontheater.wisc.edu/press/index.html

BASSEKOU KOUYATE AND NGONI BA STRUMMING ACROSS THE WORLD—AND AT THE SETT

Bassekou Kouyate and Ngoni Ba will be performing at the Sett on Friday, January 24th, 2014 at 8 pm. More information is available by calling the Box Office at 608-265-ARTS (2787). Tickets are as follows: $22 for General Public, $19 for Memorial Union Members, $19 UW-Madison Faculty & Staff, $19 for Non UW-Madison Students, and $10 for UW-Madison Student (with ID). Youth tickets are $14 with purchase of adult ticket. Buy your tickets early. Buy online, call the Box Office at 608-265-ARTS (2787), or purchase in person at the Campus Arts Ticketing box office in Vilas Hall, 821 University Ave. Buy your tickets early, as prices are subject to change.

From the war-torn country of Mali, where Islamic extremists have barred musicians from playing, the Grammy-nominated Bassekou Kouyate and his band, Ngoni Ba, continue to
offer their beautiful music. Kouyate started playing the ngoni, a traditional Malian lute-like instrument, at the age of 12. His album, Jama Ko, was a “cry for peace and tolerance” between Islamic and Christian communities. According to The Independent, “Kouyate's electrification of his ngoni lute is just as effective a sign of resistance: fed through a wah-wah pedal, his serpentine, fleet-fingered lead lines gain a fresh, assertive power.” See for yourself in the videos here.

Kouyate and Ngoni Ba’s tours have brought them to some of the most renowned venues in the world. From performing alongside Paul McCartney at the Granary Square, to Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Center, the group has played all over the world and will return to Madison on Friday, January 24th in the Sett at Union South, with the show kicking off at 8pm.

Bassekou Kouyate and Ngoni Ba are presented by Wisconsin Union Directorate’s Performing Arts Committee and supported by WORT.