



Djembeschool

African Music Education for All

drums

Why Djembeschool Drums?



Our drums are manufactured at the Fagaru Percu workshop in Dakar, Senegal. 'Fagaru' translates from the Wolof word meaning 'be prepared to face Life with will and personal commitment'. The company has grown steadily over 15 years and is committed to producing high quality professional instruments, made by musicians for musicians. The instruments are hand-made and tuned by skilled craftsmen to a professional level. The craftsmen who work at Fagaru Percu are musicians themselves and take great pride and pleasure in making these drums.

The history of Fagaru Percu began in 1994 when Geoffrey Vernier moved to Senegal where he studied traditional African percussion under the master Maïssa Tioubou (soloist with the National Ballet of Senegal from 1972 to 1980). As well as learning to play to a high level he was taught the traditional skills of percussion manufacture which led to the formation of a company dedicated to producing high quality professional drums.

Fagaru Percu is committed to the environment and makes sure that trees are replanted and veterinary fees are paid in respect to the good husbandry of the animals providing the skins. The "Dimba" and "Nime" hard woods are used for their resonance and hardy resistance over time. All the drums are hand carved and painted. These drums are sold on a 'Fair Trade' basis and the craftsmen who manufacture them are receiving a fair and decent income.



We have experience of buying from other providers and know all the potential pitfalls and frustrations of buying through unknown suppliers. Our aim is to make your purchase of an original instrument as simple and stress free as possible, thus allowing you to enjoy playing it for many years.

Fagaru Percu supplied drums to many schools and Universities through Sewa-Education between 2000 and 2005 and we always found that the instruments were of consistently high quality. This is why we chose to continue this partnership. The instruments that we market should not be compared with the large number of poor-quality drums that have flooded the market in recent years, many of which are not even made in Africa.

The cost of the instruments you buy will be slightly higher than some other suppliers but the quality of the wood, rope and skin and the workmanship of the drums is evident. You're welcome to come and try the instruments before you buy.

Full size Djembes are 31-33cm in diameter and come with a high quality zipped padded case with shoulder straps. The medium Djembes are 28cm in diameter and come with protective skin covers. Our Dunun come as a set of three (Kenkeni, Sangban, Doununba) and bells and sticks are included for each. Sets of three Dunun stands are also available.

