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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS (CIMCIM)

WANTED: Names and addresses of collectors and institutions with collections of musical instruments for new, revised editions of the International Directory of Musical Instrument Collections (first published 1977), and the Survey of Musical Instrument Collections in the United States and Canada (1974). The 'Directory' is a project of CIMCIM, a committee of the UNESCO-sponsored International Council of Museums. The 'Survey' is being prepared by a committee of the American Musical Instrument Society.

Private collectors and institutional collections whose names are received will be sent an information form to fill out and return. Private collectors concerned about security and privacy may have their collections listed anonymously, with only city, state or province, country and a description of the collection. Collectors who choose this kind of listing can have requests to visit screened by a nearby institutional collection.

Please send names and addresses of collections which are NOT in the United States and Canada to the general editor of the Directory, Barbara Lambert, 201 Virginia Rd, Concord, Mass. 01742, USA, and information on North American collections to William E. Hettrick, Music Dept, Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y. 11550, USA.

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MUSIC AT MMABANA CULTURAL CENTRE, P.O. Box X2170, Mafikeng, Bophuthatswana (South Africa). Achilles Mukasa Bukensa writes:

Mmabana is a unique establishment in that under its roof is housed a wide spectrum of disciplines, social services and activities designed to give the members of the community education, self-development, recreation and entertainment.

One such facility is the Music Unit, whose aims are, among others, to provide its participants with a balanced music programme which will enable them to develop their musical talent, enhance their interest in the subject and give them the opportunity of making and enjoying music together.

The programme comprises the following: General musicianship and theory, Instrumental music, Vocal music, Experimental music and Fun with Music (a class for the very little ones). We also organise from time to time special lectures, master classes and workshops given by guests of established repute. During the past five years a number of performing groups, choir, orchestra, big band, xylophone, mbaqanga, recorder, etc, have been developed by tutors and students. Apart from internal examinations, students who are interested may register for the Trinity College or Associated Board examinations.

Mindful of the fact that the Batswana - like many other African societies - have been eroded by external influences, Mmabana, as a cultural centre, attaches great importance to the preservation and development of the traditional performing arts. We are busy laying a firm foundation for the establishment of viable programmes that will facilitate this important process.

Our Traditional Dance Section has been successful in training youngsters the traditional dancing and singing styles of the Batswana. The troupe has become very popular and is invited to provide entertainment at many functions, thus playing a twofold and vital role: popularizing the art as well as educating the uninformed about Tswana performance art. We have also embarked on a project of collecting and transcribing Tswana folk songs, which it is our intention to publish in booklets for schools in the near future.