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### *Front cover:*

Albert Ssempeke with his son John, outside the National Theatre, Kampala, Uganda, 6 Jan 1997 (photo: Andrew Tracey. See the article by Andrew Cooke and James Micklem in this issue). Probably the most versatile Ganda traditional musician with an especially deep knowledge of the court music of the Kabakas of Uganda, Albert is the son of a gatekeeper at the palace of Muteesa II. He and his brother Serwanga had much opportunity to learn instruments of the court, beginning with the music of the flute band. He is expert on most other Kiganda instruments including the harp, fiddle, bowl lyre, xylophones, drums and the rare *ennanga* harp. Formerly a colleague of Evaristo Muyinda at the Uganda Museum he is currently traditional music advisor at the National Theatre but also finds time to run his own band of musicians which is hired for weddings and other ceremonies and which has in recent years delighted audiences in Europe and Scandinavia.

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