

Sama Ouara

(last edited on 24 December 2020)

Sama Ouara (*Sama Wara*, *Samawara*) is the name of a rhythm from the country of the Bobo, which today lies in the border area between Mali and Burkina Faso. The title refers to several things: For example, it is the name of a plant that releases those sticky balls that stick to your clothes. But it is also the name of a dance that the (Bobo) women like to dance. The meaning of both comes together in this balafon piece. All Bobo, all over the world, know the dance in which the knees are alternately brought to and from each other. Then one leg is swung sideways out, followed by the other leg to the other side. "It is the woman I love; come and dance! "

In the lyrics of the song it is explained how a boy who likes and wants to approach a girl should do that; He treats her with respect!

Yaro you ha o wee pwa lo wa

(when a boy likes a girl,)

Twa njou twa ti, o pwalo wa

(he should caress her once, and twice)

Sama Ouara wa bi ri té, Sama Ouara wa bi ri té

(*twa njou* = once, *twa ti* = twice)

Sources: Youssouf & Kassoum Keita, Konsankuy, Mali 2012

Hakiri Koeta, Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso 2015

Although we first learned pattern A during the workshop, Youssouf and Kassim played with pattern B as a guide during their "version natural". Pattern was used by the Kassim (soloist) during the singing.

Possible percussion accompaniment:

(1st two inspired by "Samawara", album Aira Yo, from 'Famille Dembelé')

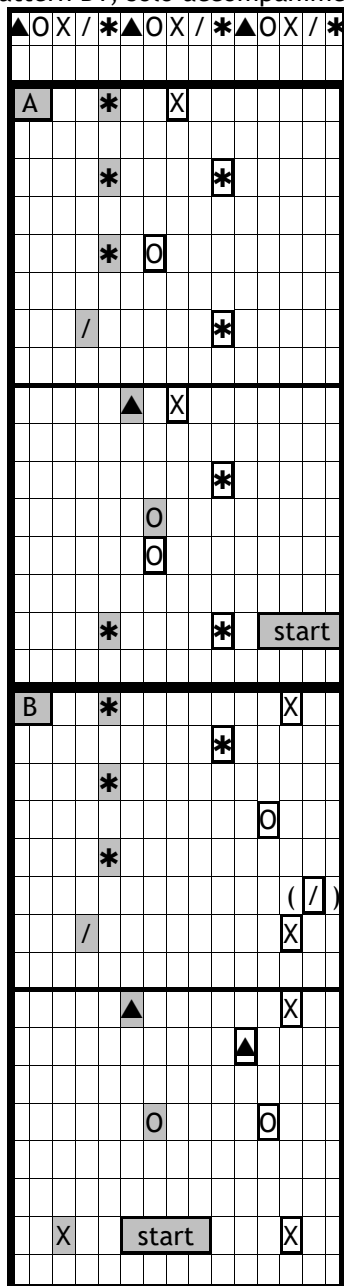
Bara / djembé	T T	S S	T T	S S
Baradoundoun	T T		T T	S S
Shekere		X	X	X
alternative pattern 1	T	T	T S S	T T S
alternative pattern 2	T T	T T	S S	S S

Melody & Son
(song exactly follows the melody!)

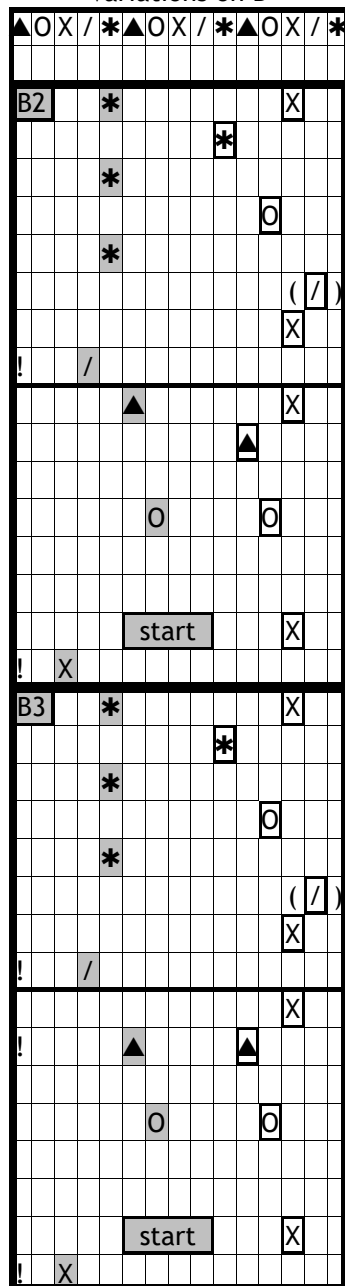
		/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲
you				*				*					*	
ha				*				*					*	
o				*				*					*	
wé			/				/							
pwa			X		1 st	X		2 nd		▲				
lo			X		1 st	X		2 nd		▲				
wa			O		1 st	O		2 nd		*			*	
twa				*				*					*	
njou			X				X							
twa			/				/							
ti			O				O							
o														
		▲				▲								
pwa			X				X							
lo			X				X							
wa			O				O							
		*				*								

		/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲
ma	*			*										
oua	*			*										
ra		O				O								
wa	/			/										
bi		▲				▲								
ri			X				X							
té		O				O								
sa	*			*										
ma	*			*										
wa	*			*										
ra		O				O								
wa	/			/										
bi		▲				▲								
ri			X				X							
té		O				O								
ya	start	X					X							
ro				*				*					*	

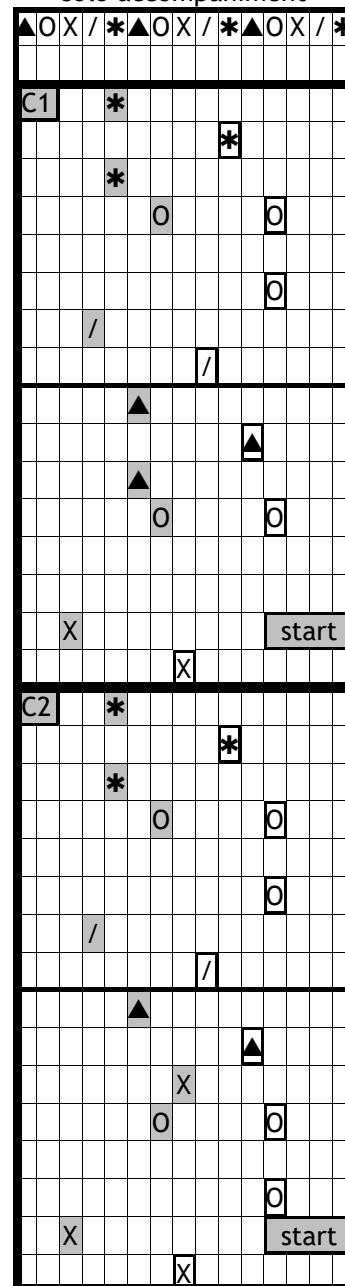
Pattern A, accompaniment
Pattern B1, solo accompaniment



Pattern B2 & B3
variations on B



Pattern C1 & C2
solo accompaniment



Pattern D & E
solo accompaniment

