

PRESS RELEASE



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AFRICAN SPIRIT

UK TOUR

1 February – 2 March 08

WINNERS 2006 Grammy Award for Best Traditional World Music Album

Images available from www.sowetogospelchoir.com

In a brand new show premiered at the Edinburgh Festival 07, Soweto Gospel Choir will visit 26 UK towns and cities in February & March in 2008. A sell-out success in August AFRICAN SPIRIT will open at London's Royal Festival Hall on 1 February. The recent **Grammy** award winners will also travel to Ireland and Northern Ireland in March as part of the show's world tour.

For the first time the Choir will not only perform *a capella* in this new show but will also be accompanied by their four piece band and will feature costumes and dance routines not previously seen. Repertoire will include songs that deal with the many different aspects of the human spirit, whether the religious spirit (gospel songs), the spirit of love for another (**Bob Dylan's 'I'll Remember You'**) or the spirit of living in harmony together (*'World in Union'*). Featuring 26 incredible singers, dancers and drummers, AFRICAN SPIRIT is guaranteed to stir your soul and capture the beauty and passion that is Africa.

'Wonderful ... you have never seen or heard such infectious joy' Brian May

This exciting new show coincides with the new album of the same name, launched earlier this year. The album is a warm and exotic collection of moving traditional South African spiritual music, South African pop, American gospel and popular inspirational songs from around the world.

'Spectacular' New York Times

Since their sell-out debut at the Edinburgh Festival in 2003, Soweto Gospel Choir have won critical acclaim and performed to full houses around the world, sung alongside **Bono**, **Peter Gabriel** and **Jimmy Cliff** and been heralded as the most exciting group to emerge in world music in recent years. This was confirmed when they picked up their 2006 Grammy Award for Best Traditional World Music Album (for their second album 'Blessed'). As well being support act to the Red Hot Chili Peppers this summer they have recently finished recording with **Robert Plant** in New Orleans for the **Fats Domino** tribute album.

For further information

Cameron Duncan

t. 07971 572550

cam@cameronduncan.co.uk

TOUR INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 08

Friday 1	Royal Festival Hall, LONDON
Sat 2	Symphony Hall, BIRMINGHAM
Sun 3	Philharmonic Hall, LIVERPOOL
Mon 4	The Lowry, SALFORD
Tues 5	The Orchard Theatre, DARTFORD
Thurs 7	De Montfort Hall, LEICESTER
Fri 8	St George's Hall, BRADFORD
Sat 9	New Theatre, OXFORD
Sun 10	Mayflower Theatre, SOUTHAMPTON
Tues 12	Royal & Derngate, NORTHAMPTON
Wed 13	Theatre Bryceinog, BRECON
Thurs 14	Fairfield Hall, CROYDON
Fri 15	Marlowe Theatre, CANTERBURY
Sun 17	Wycombe Swan, HIGH WYCOMBE
Mon 18	New Victoria Theatre, Woking
Wed 20	Everyman Theatre, CHELTENHAM
Thurs 21	Corn Exchange, IPSWICH
Fri 22	The Alban Arena, ST ALBANS
Sat 23	Forum Theatre, MALVERN
Sun 24	Theatre Royal, BATH
Tues 26	Assembly Halls, TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Wed 27	Warwick Arts Centre, COVENTRY
Thurs 28	Corn Exchange, CAMBRIDGE
Fri 29	Princess Theatre, Torquay

MARCH

Sat 1

Assembly Rooms, DERBY

Sun 2

Theatre Royal, NEWCASTLE

**New Album 'AFRICAN SPIRIT' now out
through Shanachie Entertainment www.shanachie.com**