YOUSSOU N’DOUR’S PLAYLIST

11 Daara J Family
‘Bayi Yoon’
From KOOL Music
Youssou N’Dour saw the international potential of this conscious rap duo right from the start. In this song they talk about the dangers of the wrong side of life and how to return to a rightful path.

12 Okzharp & Manthe Ribane
‘Dear Ribane’
From African JU1 UK jubilant
Youssou adores this South African duo: “I find it audacious, it shows that Africa has no cultural frontiers, it mixes genres effortlessly. That’s the future for me.”

13 Dip Doudou Guiss
‘Sama Dome’
From Dixie & Bolasenз Плутус Мен
Senegal’s current biggest hip-hop sensation, and one who takes his role in society as seriously as his music. “Dip has been exemplary as a role model” for the youth of the country.

14 Maabo
‘Yaa Ko Waral’
From Yoko Yoko
Maabo is the wife-and-husband duo of singers Mia and NFU. “They are a true mix of tradition and modern pop,” says Youssou of one of Senegal’s most glamorous couples.

15 Salif Keita
‘Soro (Afriki)’
From Zanzibar
The song that launched Malian star Salif Keita in the West is also one of Youssou’s favourites. “What an extraordinary voice! He’s one of those rare vocalists who sings without complex.”

BONUS TRACK!
16 Burland
‘Gender Wayang’
Wax Records
The Brighton-based music producer and DJ, Tom Burland, is the winner of the Songlines Remix Competition. Read more about him on p19.

Youssou’s most recent album celebrates a career that yanks traditional mbalax sounds into the 20th century by seamlessly mixing tama and sabar percussions with Cuban and Western pop, largely thanks to an ageless voice

Turn to p74 for the full interview with Youssou N’Dour

Songlines digital subscribers can download Top of the World & Playlist tracks and sleeve artwork. See p44 for details.