

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FW 8772

andré  
charles & his  
quiqueya  
ibbo  
combo  
group  
of Port-au-Prince, Haiti

M  
1681  
H218  
C475  
A555  
1975

MUSIC LP



FOLKWAYS RECORDS FW 8772

**SIDE 1**

1. **Une Fille Pour Ma Gout (A Girl for My Taste)**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Electric guitars, drums, scraper)
2. **Marie** André Charles  
(Guitar, electric guitar, drums, scraper)
3. **Femme Qui Belle (Beautiful Woman)**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Electric guitars, rattle, drums, scraper)
4. **Ibo Combo (Ibo Combo Theme Song)**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Electric guitars, drums, scraper)
5. **A La Belle Bagaille (Beautiful Thing)**  
André Charles (Guitar, rattle)
6. **Plat Creole (Creole Food)**  
André Charles  
(Guitar, rattle, scraper, vocal)

**SIDE 2**

1. **Pendant Je Dormais (While I Slept)**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Electric guitars, drums, scraper)
2. **Bagaille Qui Belle (Beautiful Thing)**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Scraper, electric guitars, drums)
3. **Fé Acacia (Acacia Leaves)**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Scraper, electric guitars, drums)
4. **Jeannette Cherie**  
Denis Aristide Dimanche  
(Scraper, electric guitars, drums)
5. **Maman'm Coté Ou Yé? (Sweetheart,  
Where Are You?)**  
André Charles (Guitar, rattle)
6. **Cérémonie Farine (Ritual Song)**  
André Charles (Guitar, rattle, vocal)

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DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FW 8772



# ANDRÉ CHARLES & His Quisqueya Ibo Combo Group

LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## NOTES BY

Harold Courlander

Including André Charles, Denis Aristide Dimanche, Jean Vanco, Legitime Kavin, Frantz Brun, Alberta Paraison, Derou Gerard Charles.

Haiti has a wealth of music almost unparalleled elsewhere in the Caribbean, ranging from the traditional songs and dances of the countryside to the entertainment music of the urban centers. The dance music heard in Port-au-Prince sometimes draws for inspiration upon both the music of other islands and upon the folksongs and dances of the mountain villages. New songs are created every day by singers in dance bands, by street singers, and by the singing leaders of Coudoun cult centers. The repertoires of bands such as the Ibo Combo may change completely from month to month as new songs appear. Sometimes those new songs may be reminiscent of Spanish-style singing in the Dominican Republic or Cuba, or of old folk tunes heard in the fields and in peasant homes in the mountains.

A large segment of the city songs is composed of romantic themes, many of them nostalgic. André Charles who composes most of the songs his group performs, frequently names his pieces after women. It is difficult to mention a girl's name known to Haitians that is not a title for one of his tunes. And his other titles also reflect the romantic themes running through his repertoire. Thus we have "A la Belle Bagaille," or "Beautiful Thing," referring, of course, to a beautiful girl; "Marie"; "Femme Qui Belle"; or "Beautiful Woman"; "Jeannette Cherie"; "Maman'm:" "Coté Ou Yé?" or "Sweetheart, Where Are You?" and so on.

Here and there one hears songs rooted more in the countryside or in Vodoun religious tradition. "Plat Creole," for example, alludes to the food eaten in peasant country homes. It begins with the name Zaka (Azaka), an allusion to the special deity of country people and farmers, and recites the foods provided by Zaka for his "children." And "Cérémonie Farine" refers to a ritual of the Vodoun cult. This song normally would be accompanied only by rattle and by drums, but André Charles has introduced it here with his own guitar accompaniment.

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SIDE 1

1. UNE FILLE POUR MA GOUT (A GIRL FOR MY TASTE)  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with electric guitars,  
drums and scraper
2. MARIE  
André Charles, with guitar, electric guitar, drums  
and scraper
3. FEMME QUI BELLE ( BEAUTIFUL WOMAN)  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with electric guitars,  
rattle, drums and scraper
4. IBO COMBO (IBO COMBO THEME SONG)  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with electric guitars,  
drums and scraper
5. A LA BELLE BAGAILLE (BEAUTIFUL THING)  
Andre Charles with guitar, rattle
6. PLAT CREOLE (CREOLE FOOD)  
André Charles with guitar, rattle, scraper, vocal  
accompaniment

SIDE 11

1. PENDANT JE DORMAIS (WHILE I SLEPT)  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with electric guitars,  
drums, scraper
2. BAGAILLE QUI BELLE (BEAUTIFUL THING)  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with scraper, electric  
guitars, drums
3. FÉ ACACIA (ACACIA LEAVES)  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with scraper, electric  
guitars, drums
4. JEANETTE CHERIE  
Denis Aristide Dimanche, with scraper, electric  
guitars, drums
5. MAMAN'M COTÉ OU YÉ? (SWEETHEART, WHERE ARE YOU?)  
Andre Charles with guitar, rattle
6. CÉREMONIE FARINE (RITUAL SONG)  
Andre Charles with guitar, rattle, vocal accompaniment