



Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

## ***Minokan Festival preserves and celebrates the song, dance, drumming, and traditions of Haitian Lakou Soukri***

*Haitian cultural group Fanmi Asòtò and NY's Oldest House bring you 2nd annual festival celebrating the Lakou Soukri tradition, including food, dancing, drumming, singing, and more*

The *2nd Annual Festival Minokan* takes place Saturday, August 24, 2019 at the Wyckoff House Museum, starting at 2 pm. This festival will share the musical and culinary practices of the Lakou Soukri lineage, which predates Haiti's Independence in 1804. Officiated by preeminent Haitian songstress and Vodou Priestess Sirene Dantor, the festival is guided by her vision of preserving and sharing these long-standing traditions with American youth.

Dantor's goal is to shine a light on the omnipresence of vodou, which is often misunderstood in Western culture. As she explains, "Vodou is how you live your life. It's in the trees, it's in the air, it's in the water. It's how you drink, how you eat, it's how you respect yourself and each other. It doesn't matter where you're from. Vodou is life."

All are invited to share in and learn about the sacred vodou celebration. For newcomers, we recommend arriving at 2:00 pm, for an artist talk by Mahalia Stines on *Ayiti Tonma Genesis*, an historical quilt depicting the origins of the Republic of Haiti. Learn about the Kongo roots of the Lakou Soukri with Abou Barka and Markus Schwartz Soukri. Discussions, demonstrations and workshops of traditional musical instruments will be led by Sirene Dantor Rene, Yatande Boko and Carline Ruiz. Starting at 4pm Haitian dancer, Nadia Dieudonné will perform and teach traditional Haitian dances. The festivities will conclude with a set by Dantor's band, Fanmi Asòtò, followed by the final Lakou Soukri ceremony in the Kongo tradition. Traditional Haitian food and beverages will be available for purchase.

**Ticket:** Free Admission

**Date/ Time:** Saturday, August 24th, 2019, 2-9PM

**Address:** The Wyckoff House Museum, 5816 Clarendon Rd, Brooklyn, NY 11203

**Website:** [wyckoffmuseum.org/minokan](http://wyckoffmuseum.org/minokan)

**Images:** [PRESS FOLDER](#)

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Festival Minokan is part of the [Protest Garden Project](#), made possible in part by the Lincoln Center Cultural Innovation Fund, which is generously supported by The Rockefeller Foundation and administered by Lincoln Center.