

### Artistic Profile of Praise Ekeng

**Praise Ekeng is a native of Cross river state in Nigeria, a prolific dancer, teacher, instructor, percussionist & choreographer.**

**As a dance artist, he has travelled to many places in showcasing the vibrant art of African dance, music, and culture. Praise Ekeng has employed dance as the oldest and most viable tool for economic, body, psychology and mentally enhancement as well as educate and train dozens of kids and adult about Dance & African culture.**

**After studying dance and embracing it from an early age, He graduated of University of Calabar in 2002 with a major in choreography. He proceeded to learn more in South Africa at the famous Market Theater in Joburg after being employed by the National Troupe of Nigeria (NTN)**

**Praise Ekeng has taken part in many festivals, shows and lecture/demonstrational classes. He has toured United States, South Africa, Germany and Seoul Korea, just to mention but few.**

**Trained under the leadership of Arnold Udoka & Ahmed Yerima, he has proceeded to work with many dance teachers like Baba chuck Davis (AADE), Peter Dance Badijo, Dr. Ojo Rasaki , Niyi cooker, and many others. His first major dance choreography was futured in the play “Then she said it” by Tes Owueme and funded by Ford Foundation which toured Africa and the U.S**

**Many works to his credit are: Arts alive (South Africa 2001), Commonwealth heads of government meeting (Abuja, Nigeria 2003) The all African games (2003), Intel international science fair, Dance across Birmingham, major Dance competitions and many more.**

**Praise Ekeng has worked with the Cross River state dance troupe, Unical Dance, National troupe of Nigeria, Manga Dance, Dance Africa, Body language. He created and collaborated with many professionals’ entities. He is a music minister at the Redeemed Christian church of God, creator and host of African & American Music Extravaganza, event aim at gathering people of all religious beliefs in the community to promote unity and enhance communal integrity through dance and worship. He volunteers for the Cincinnati Symphony Classical Root mass choir, Nuway foundation and more.**

**Praise Ekeng’s dream is to be the voice of the eldest, viable and vibrant art form (Dance & African culture). He is married and is raising a community of dancers and singers.**