Patience Chaitezvi, Mbira player
(last name phonetic pronunciation “Chai - tej - ee”)

Patience Chaitezvi, one of Zimbabwe’s rare women mbira players, is a highly acclaimed musician and teacher. Patience plays traditional mbira music of Zimbabwe both in ceremonies and in performances internationally. In three successful tours in North America (2008, 2009 and 2011) Patience has delighted audiences with energetic performances, and demonstrated her ability to explain complex musical and cultural concepts to her students.

Patience was immersed in deep Shona culture from a very young age. Her mother is a traditional healer and spirit medium, and as a child, Patience began performing mbira alongside her brothers in traditional ceremonies, which struck many with amazement and wonder since it is a very unlikely role for a young girl.

A teacher by profession, Patience teaching style is gentle yet precise, informed by many years of experience. Patience is a high school teacher in her home town in Chinhoyi, where she is known as an advocate for orphaned students. As well as mbira music, Patience also teaches singing, drumming, and dancing--all integral to mbira music.

For more information contact: PROFESSOR KATHERINE LEE, kiylee@ucdavis.edu