East-West WEEKLY.
Everything Afro-Beat

20th - Oct - 2020

THE RISE OF THE #ENDSARS *Movement*

#SARS MUST END

The Special Anti-Robbery Squad

The Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) is a branch of the Nigeria Police Force under the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department which was founded in 1992. This squad was created to perform faceless operations such as undercover operations against crimes associated with armed robbery, car snatching, kidnapping, cattle rustling, and crimes associated with firearm that were taking place in Nigeria.

SARS has abused its duties since inception by mishandling power through unlawfully arresting, harassing, kidnapping, detaining, murdering, raping and extorting the citizens they are meant to protect.

The Nigerians' life that have been terminated in the hands of the SARS include Chibuikwe Anams, Tiyamiu Kazeem, Ifeoma Abugu, Christian Ugwuoke, Aneka Okorie, Tina Ezekwe, Fredrick, Solomon Eze, Ayomide Taiwo, Godspower Edoha, Kolade Johnson, and Chima.

Activists such as Segun Awosanya have been fighting to bring an end of the police brutality since 2017. The #EndSars campaign that started on social media was brought up to enable different people to speak up and bring an end to the torture and misconduct of the SARS.

Other cities around the world have also joined in the demonstrations. Nigerians in these states are extending their disappointment on what is happening in Nigeria and showing patriotism of their homeland by continuing the #EndSarz protest as a global movement. The cities include Canada, Berlin, Geneva, London, Ireland, Cologne, Washington, New York, Dallas, and Paris. To add on, Nigerian musicians have also joined in the #EndSars protests by releasing songs and commenting on Twitter to show their anguish and bitterness. These include Burnaboy, Ajebo Hustlers, Davido, Wizkid, Tiwasavage, Olamide etc.

SARS
AM I NEXT?

Sound Review.

AMA SERWAH GENFI

Amaarae

Ama Serwah Genfi aka Amaarae is a Ghanaian – American artist known for her soothing melodies, multi coloured hair and captivating music videos. Commonly associated with acts like Santi and Odunsi (The Engine), Amaarae is part of Africa's first growing alte movement.

Born 1994 in New York, Amaarae grew up alternating between staying in Ghana and America. She credits her time in Atlanta and the influence of founding Trap artists such as Gucci Mane, Young Jeezy etc. for her half rap half singing style of music. She started making music while at college in Atlanta with her first Major project coming in November 2007 with her EP Passionfruit summers. The EP quickly gained traction on the African music scene with Amaarae being named Apple Music Africa's Favourite New artist in April 2018 among other accolades.

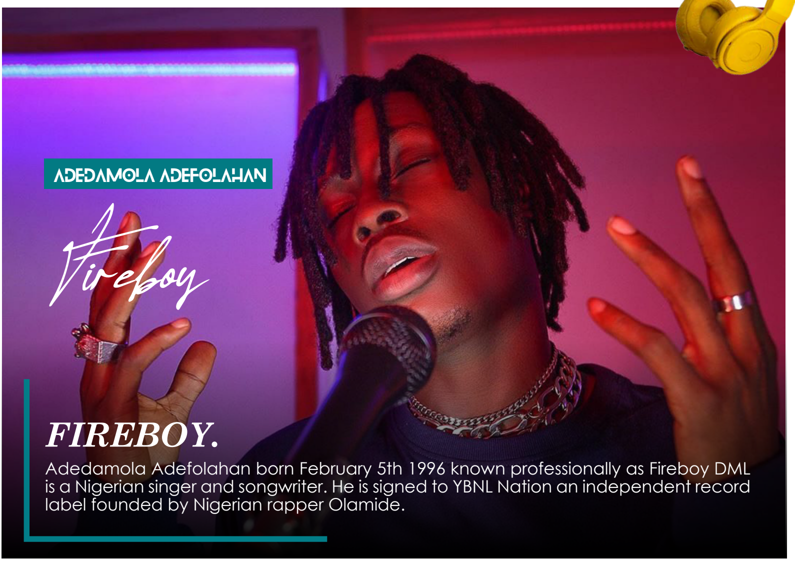
Amaarae also grew her fan base collaborating and performing with other upcoming artists on immensely successful projects such as Rapid Fire with Santi and Hectic with Odunsi (The Engine).

The extremely stylish Amaarae captures the attention of anyone lucky enough to listen to her music with her soft yet assertive voice; her latest single Fancy is surely one to watch out for with Amaarae herself describing it as "It's about being a bad bitch. It's about feeling good about yourself and about your life." Delivered with cocksure, out of this world visuals that are nothing short of exhilarating.

Amaarae also teased about her upcoming 12-track album "The Angel You Don't Know" describing it as being different from Passionfruit summers stating "What I really like about this project is that it's so colourful, and goes through so many different emotions, but at its core – it's really just a statement to say, 'I'm here and I'm not going anywhere, and everyone's gonna have to get used to me.'"

Check out more of Amaarae's music on all streaming platforms or on her YouTube channel Amaarae.

4 Ur Ears Only



ADEDAMOLA ADEFOLAHAN

Fireboy

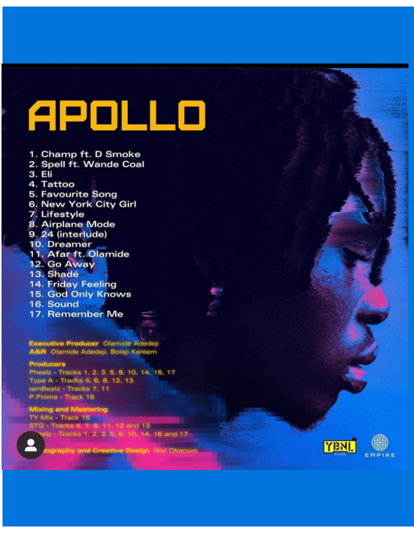
FIREBOY.

Adedamola Adefolahan born February 5th 1996 known professionally as Fireboy DML is a Nigerian singer and songwriter. He is signed to YBNL Nation an independent record label founded by Nigerian rapper Olamide.

His debut studio album Laughter, Tears and Goosebumps was released in 2019. He won Listener's Choice and was nominated for song of the year "jealous" at the 2020 Sound city MVP Awards Festival.

On August 19th 2020, Fireboy released his sophomore album titled "APOLLO". In this album, Fireboy plays with more sounds as there's more versatility with the music on this album than there was on LTG. In "APOLLO", the songs cut across various genres: Afro-house, Afro-pop, disco, R&B and the usual sultry guitar sound that we heard on most of the songs on LTG.

It's a gamble because although his fans know that he can handle any sound/beat – like he showed in songs like "Omo Ologo" and "Vibration" – they still expect, and are comfortable with, songs like "What If I Say", "Need You" and "Like I Do". When he released "New York City Girl", it seemed like listeners would be getting the sound they were used to.

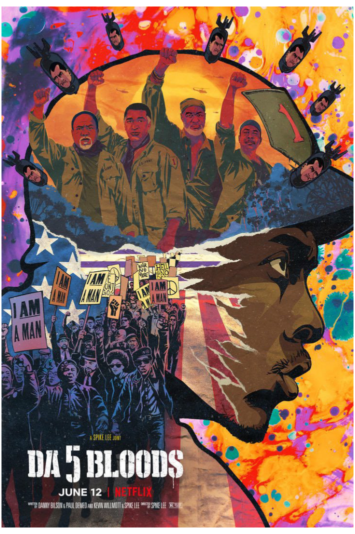


However, with the release of "Eli" and "Tattoo" right after - and with both songs sounding completely different from each other and New York City Girl - it became clear that listeners would not be able to predict what direction Fireboy would take with the songs on "APOLLO".

Below is the track list of Apollo and we hope that your ears enjoy the sound;

1.Champ ft D smoke
2.Spell ft Wande coal
3.ELI
4.Tatoo
5.Favourite song.
6.New york city girl.
7.Lifestyle.
8.Airplane Mode.
9.24(Interlude)
10.Dreamer
11.Afar ft Olamide.
12.Go Away
13.Shade
14.Friday feeling
15.God only knows
16.Sound
17.Remember Me.

Movie Review.


I AM A MAN
WAR NO MORE
A SPIKE LEE JOINT
DA 5 BLOODS
JUNE 12 | NETFLIX
WRITTEN BY DANNY BILSON & PAUL DEMEO AND KEVIN WILLMOTT & SPIKE LEE DIRECTED BY SPIKE LEE

DA 5 BLOODS

Da 5 Bloods is a 2020 American war drama film directed, co-produced, and co-written by Spike Lee. It stars Delroy Lindo, Jonathan Majors, Clarke Peters, Johnny Trí Nguyễn, Norm Lewis, Isiah Whitlock Jr., Mélanie Thierry, Paul Walter Hauser, Jasper Pääkkönen, Jean Reno, and Chadwick Boseman.

Da 5 Bloods was originally written by Danny Bilson and Paul De Meo in 2013 and the script was re-worked by Lee and Kevin Willmott following the pair's successful collaboration in BlacKkKlansman in the year 2018.

The film focuses on four young Vietnam veterans; Paul, Otis, Eddie, Melvin; who are searching on their squad leader called Norman. They call themselves 'Blood' and begin searching for the remains of their squad leader and the treasure they buried while serving there.

The movie that was released by Netflix in 2020 received positive reviews with critics praising its direction, story, themes, cinematography and Lindo's performance, with critics regarding it as a very "impactful" film.

Lifestyle

AFRICAN FOOD AND WHERE IT ORIGINATES

Even though Africa is often referred to as if it were a country, Africa is actually a continent. There are dozens of African cultures and from each come different types of traditional foods.
There's no one "African" cuisine, but there are hundreds of yummy local delicacies. Let's take a look at the top 6 traditional African foods and where they originate.

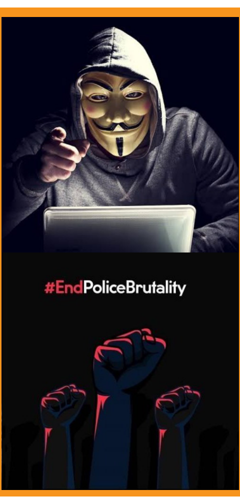
KATOGO (UGANDA)

Katogo is one of those breakfast delicacies that start your day off in great spirits. Directly translated, Katogo means mixture. It is basically assorted foods cooked together. Katogo can be served with fresh salads and this creates a beautiful tasty outcome that keeps you satisfied until the late afternoon.

Preparations

1. Peel, chop, and clean your green bananas and set them aside
2. Sauté onions in a cooking pot until they attain a brownish colour. Add salt and tomatoes and stir for 1 minute. Add your green bananas and continue stirring for another one minute. Add water two cups, and cook for 8 minutes under medium heat
3. Add your cumin, curry powder, and black pepper and stir to make sure it's adequately incorporated. Simmer for two minutes, then taste if the spices are consistent.
4. Add your beans, meat, offals, or any other sauce of your choice in your pot and simmer.
5. Garnish with coriander and enjoy with black tea, coffee, rice, or flatbread

Have You Heard?



'ANONYMOUS' HACK INTO THE POLICE DATABASE

A group of hackers called 'Anonymous' hacked into government websites and collected multiple information as connected to the police brutality that's been happening in the Western African country, Nigeria.

"Anonymous hacks multiple government websites in solidarity with #EndSARS protestors and retribution for violence by police," the group tweeted late on Wednesday. Even though the group didn't review the websites that were hacked, they gave the police approximately 72 hours to end police brutality or the information be exposed.

The hacktivist's handle which is temporarily restricted by Twitter ended its message five days ago by telling the Nigerian government to "expect us". Anonymous released information including names, addresses, emails and bank accounts of SARS police officers across the country.

CHRISTIANO RONALDO TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

The Portuguese football player by names of Christiano Ronaldo tested positive for corona virus on Tuesday. He is well and under isolation as sources confirm.

The 35 year old played for Portugal against France in the Nations League on recently and against Spain in a friendly.

Football clubs, players and associations around Europe have all been rocked to the core following the coronavirus outbreak over the past months.

The Premier League, along with the EFL and the FA, announced a postponement of fixtures until April 4th on Friday morning.

However the other footballers that acquired corona virus include Daniele Rugani, Evangelos Marinakis, Benjamin Mendy, Mikel Arteta to mention but a few.

STANBIC BANK SAGA

Stanbic Bank
A member of Standard Bank Group

Stanbic bank has been hit again with another fraud after being on spot for selling a client's mortgages property to the top employees.

Stanbic bank executives are being accused of colliding with bank staff to sell off client's mortgaged property which had been advertised for auction as discovered by reports.

The property in question belongs to Macdowel Ltd which is a Ugandan company. "We mortgaged our properties at Plots 1,3,4,5 and 6 Works Close, Luzira to Stanbic Bank (U) Limited as security for a loan advanced in 2017. We have since paid off the entire loan, but the bank has refused to release our titles," says Ms. Odongo in the letter to police.

Under section 39(2) and (3) of The Mortgage Act, the sale of mortgaged property by a bank to its employees is a crime punishable by imprisonment of not less than 24 months.
It is argued that the collider was an insider from Stanbic bank who sold the McDowel apartments to executives of Myriad Ltd for as low as 1billion Ugandan shillings.

The registered executives include: Kenneth Kitungulu, Executive and Head, Global Markets; Lawrence Kaweesa Global Business Manager; Allan Muhinda Interest Rates Dealer; Daisy Nitwe-Corporate, Treasury Sales Dealer and Emmanuel Rukeeba Head Products and Analytics. Others are: Maureen Kembabazi Katwebaze who works with Stanbic IBTC Bank, Nigeria, and Thaib Lubega, a Thaib has an account Treasury Manager at Uganda Development Bank, but previously working at Stanbic as a Treasury Manager.

Prior to the incidence of selling property to executives, the bank was allegedly sending large amounts of money to different mobile money users through the bank wallet.
It's alleged that some people hacked into the bank's system and wired out large amounts of money transferring them to other people's mobile money and bank accounts.

The bank suspended the online banking transactions since Friday last week to carry out more investigations. The bank apologised for the inconveniences as it forwarded the following message; "Dear customer, transactions for bill payments, bank to wallet and wallet to bank cannot be processed at this time. We apologise and are working to restore this service"

TECH NEWS

Apple has released its newest collection of iPhone 12. The iPhone 12 and iPhone 12 mini have powerful features at an affordable price tag. Sold alongside the iPhone 12 Pro and iPhone Pro Max, the iPhone 12 and 12 mini is ideal for anyone who doesn't need Pro camera features.

This is the cheapest line-up in all iPhones history with the iPhone 12 mini costing $699. The top of the line iPhone 12 Pro Max displaying 6.7 inches starts at $1,099. The company has confirmed that the whole range of iPhone products in 2020 will be 5G-ready, allowing you to enjoy super-fast download and browsing speeds on your phone.

All four handsets feature a new design, including new colours, and there are a variety of changes to the camera on the rear, the power inside each phone and other features.

Health

GLOBAL HAND WASHING DAY.

Global Handwashing Day which is celebrated every 15th of October annually serves as a platform to raise global awareness on the importance of hand-washing with soap. With the coming of the COVID-19 pandemic which affected every country worldwide, handwashing provides a spark in providing the simplest ways to prevent the spread of the virus.

This year's Global Handwashing Day theme is Hand Hygiene for All, calling for all of society to achieve universal hand hygiene now and for the future.

Global Handwashing Day 2020, the Permanent Missions of Finland and of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, in collaboration with UN-Water, the Global Handwashing Partnership, WHO and UNICEF, are co-convening a high-level virtual event, "Global Handwashing Day – Accelerating Toward Hand Hygiene for All" to be held on Thursday, October 15, from 6:00PM – 7:30PM BST. The meeting aims to drive global, regional and national action on hand hygiene during the ongoing COVID-19 response and in the future to achieve the SDGs

East meets West

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