BARUA ZA UNGUJA VOL.1

...

Press Release....

Sound Architect Akoth Jumadi Announces *Barua za Unguja Vol. 1*: A Complex, High-Art Sonic Archive of Coastal Metamorphosis, Swahili Poetics, and Arab Classical Lineages.

www.akothjumadi.com

Title: Barua Za Unguja Album

Author: Akoth Jumadi

Executive production: RATENG’

Recording:

Zanzibar/Nairobi

Genre & Sub-genres: jazz,*Afro-fusion, World / Traditional, Experimental, Acoustic*, Taarab,kidumbak,chakacha,classical.

Culture / Language: *Swahili* ,dholuo and region (*East Africa / Kenya / Tanzania*).

Instrumentation: *Oud, Violin, Percussion (Kidumbaki/Chakacha), Vocal, bass,drums,percussion.guitar.*

Mood & Energy: *Energetic, Cultural, Spiritual, Rhythmic*,groove,ancestral

Summary

NAIROBI, KENYA – July 30, 2026 – Renowned musician, sound architect, and primary producer Akoth Jumadi has officially announced her forthcoming album, ***Barua za Unguja Vol. 1***, scheduled for full digital release on **August 13, 2026**. Born out of consecutive years using Zanzibar as a sanctuary away from Global Velocity the project is a deep, multifaceted sonic treatise—an intricate excavation of identity, threshold keepers,systemic boundaries, spiritual protection and reclamation of self.

Immersed in the historic halls of the Dhow Countries Music Academy (DCMA), Jam sessions , the legacy of Bi Kidude, and the Culture Musical Club, Akoth crafts a dense dialogue between Swahili poly rhythms, Arab string traditions, poetry ,classical swahili writing styles and Jazz .

Beyond an album, *Vol. 1* stands as an act of radical cultural archiving and self-accountability.

Release dates

Prior to the full album launch, Jumadi will release the album's final single, **"Kimeniramba," on August 7, 2026**, serving as an explosive, celebratory prerequisite to the project’s official arrival.

SINA MAWAZO and *ALEKO* First two releases from the Mini Album already Came out Mid this year.

"Deep work isn't built in abstraction—it comes from truly living it, and the only way out is through," reflects Jumadi. *"Stepping fully into the executive production seat was an immense honor, though navigating every facet of the sound creation brought its own heavy weight and creative challenges. I am deeply grateful to the brilliant producers, vocalists, and master musicians who lent their prowess and spirit to this vision. This album is dedicated to everyone out there currently finding their path, and to the people of Zanzibar—a place of breathtaking beauty and deep, layered complexity."*

***Barua za Unguja Vol. 1* —**
Track-by-Track Breakdown

- **Track 1: "Dua"**
  An atmospheric opening prayer constructed from intricate, multi-layered vocal harmonies. The soundscape mimics ocean tides, calling upon ancestral memory in a longing for absolution from water spirits.

Track 2: "Unanifaa"
A lush love song reflecting the deep historical and aesthetic dialogue between Arab and Swahili music. Featuring Syrian maestro Omar Alakabani on Oud and violin alongside Jumadi’s acoustic guitar and Swahili poetry, the track creates an intimate, multi-textured dialogue of affection.

Track 3: "Ananipenda"

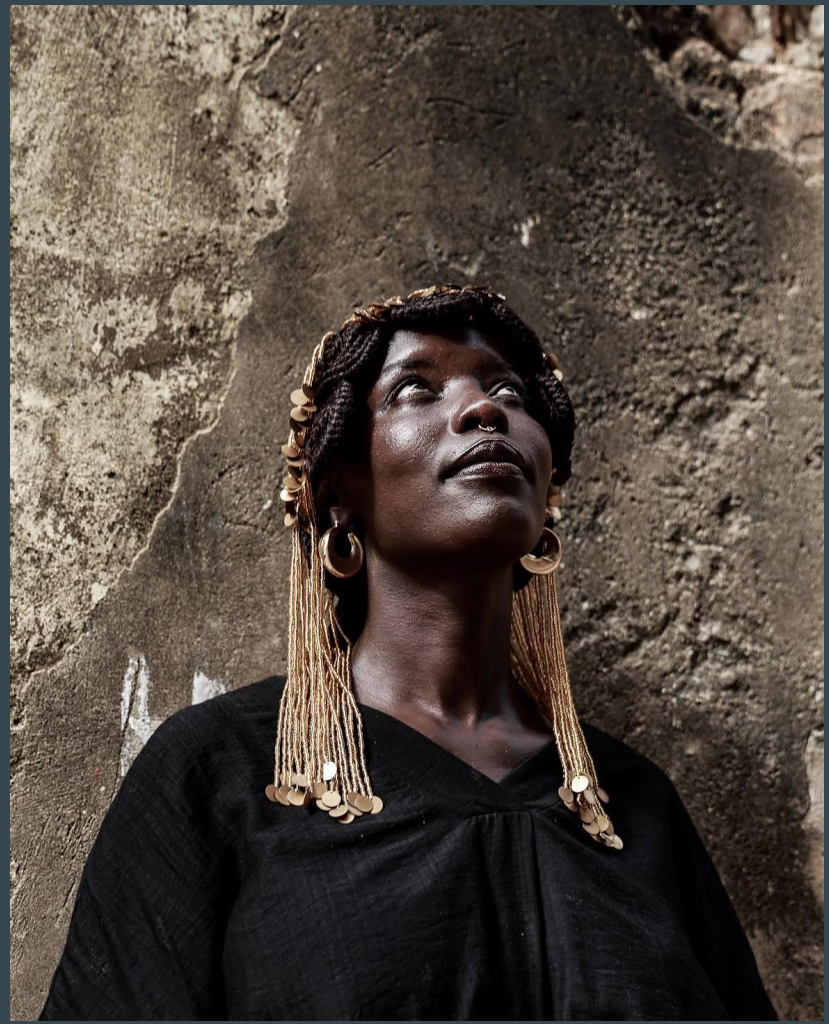
The emotional heart and soul of the album. Jumadi crafts an eerie, bold declaration of love—echoing the traditional, uninhibited public confessions historically voiced by women in Taarab culture.

Track 4: "Rudi Hapa"

A vibrant fusion of Swahili jazz interpretation and full-band groove. Beyond its rhythm, the track carries a sharp message of accountability, aimed directly at the threshold keepers whose systemic boundaries must be dismantled.

Track 6: "Sina Mawazo"

The lead single that set the trajectory for the project. Driven by soaring saxophone arrangements and backed by a tight production team, the track serves as an anthem of pure resilience—a declaration that no matter what life brings, peace remains intact.



Track 7: "Kimeniramba"
(Dropping August 7)

Translating to *"all hell has broken loose,"* this high-energy outro serves as both a pre-requisite single and an endless, euphoric jam. Built on infectious Kidumbaki percussion and Chakacha grooves, it delivers a triumphant arrival at the album's conclusion.

While ***Barua za Unguja Vol. 1*** thoroughly maps the sonic and emotional terrain of Zanzibar, it marks only the first chapter of a broader, ongoing archive—hinting at future volumes that will explore new geography, soundscapes, and sacred spaces.

Barua za Unguja Vol. 1 will be available across all major digital streaming platforms on **August 13, 2026**. "Kimeniramba" drops on **August 7, 2026**.

ALBUM CREDITS:

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER; Akoth ‘RATENG’ Jumadi

MIXING AND MASTERING ENGINEERS:Kimina Muindi,Derek Mboya, Rateng’.

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION: Omar Alakabani

VIOLIN,CELLO: Omar Alakabani
OUD: Omar Alakabani
MAIN GUITARS: Akoth Jumadi
LEAD GUITARS: MosesImani
DRUMS: Confidence Budala Malau
PERCUSSIONS: Nicole Pendo
BGVS: Nicole Pendo
BASS: Don Tambo
Songwriters: Akoth Juma Diana.

About Akoth Jumadi:

Akoth Jumadi is a Kenyan professional musician, producer, and sound architect. With a background in Sound Engineering, she bridges ancestral acoustic design—primarily the eight-stringed Nyatiti—with modern electronic production, live looping infrastructure, and community-rooted archiving initiatives.