

Kadialy Kouyate descends from a long line of Southern Senegalese *griot*, or *jali* [story-teller musicians] highly respected in West African society as poets and musicians -- rather in the tradition of our own troubadours -- who would travel the country using song, music and poetry to relay oral history, current news, and social affairs.

The Kora is a unique 21 or 22-stringed instrument sculpted from the fruit of a calabash tree with cow skin stretched over it to form a resonator. The bowl is attached to a hard wood neck and strung with leather. The sound can be likened to a harp or guitar.

Kadialy, who lives in Hoxton, came to Europe in 2003 after spending some years teaching at Dakar University. He attended the Guildhall School of Music and now, apart from public performances on the BBC, WOMAD, O2 Centre and the Royal Festival Hall, he teaches at SOAS, University of London

<http://kouyatekadialy.com/>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/KKsoundarchive>

<https://www.instagram.com/kadialy/>



