



“ BAda BAda BAda (shhh!) HEY!
BAda BAda BAda (shhh!)...”

Ndoto

a dream becomes reality

By Alison Feuerwerker

“ Now we are no longer children, we are tiny ants! We must escape from the elephant. Ready? Jump, roll, run! Very good!”

Rehearsals are underway for Ndoto. This exciting collaboration between Umoja Music School, Community Arts Trust and French artist Colette Albiolo will include music composed by Umoja teacher Danielle Williams, choreography by Umoja director Tiana Razafy-Rozencwajg, dancing, singing, drumming, instruments, and visual art. Umoja Music School offers music lessons to students of all ages in Arusha. Community Arts Trust, Umoja’s partner organization, coordinates the Umoja Ensemble, a traditional music ensemble at Albehije and Maasai Joy primary schools in Arusha.

Ndoto is the Swahili word for dream. Through music and movement, Ndoto tells the magical tale of children who transform into ants. As ants they gather food, run from elephants, dig into the earth, and fly through the air. Umoja’s children will dance, sing and play instruments against a backdrop of projected images: Colette Albiolo’s diachromie.

Albiolo describes her work: “Diachromie are art pieces conceived for projection on a giant screen. The works originate from paint and engraving on glass. Later they are digitalized, enabling me to modify shapes and colours.” Ndoto was conceived during a conversation between Williams and Albiolo “Colette described her passion for