

African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora



**FESTIVAL
GUIDE 2011**

Real education means to inspire people to live more abundantly, to learn to begin with life as they find it and make it better.

History does not furnish a case of the elevation of a people by ignoring the thought and aspiration of the people thus served.

The only way to elevate people is to help them to help themselves.

Carter G. Woodson 1875 - 1950
The second African American to receive a PhD from Harvard University in 1912 and Founder of Black History Week in 1926

61% of all Caribbean and 83% of all African heritage children in the UK are educated in London schools.

Education is a lifetime investment, seconded only by the virtue of kindness!

Adjani Okpu-Egbe, 2011

The ability to create is natural.

Emamoke Ukeleghe, AACDD

FESTIVAL GUIDE 2011

?Choices!



*African & African-Caribbean
Design Diaspora*

Diversity enriches our society. But it is also a creative and business imperative. The creative industries suffer when they cannot draw on our creative people, whatever their ethnicity, gender or location. Yet the industries don't always reflect the diversity in their own employment practices - Ensuring such diversity will continue to require some Intervention whether through education and training, outreach work, spreading good practice or awards which recognise the most diverse firms. We will work with the industry to identify suitable projects, and fund them where appropriate.

Creative Britain: New Talents for the Economy, DCMS - Department of Culture, Media and Sport 2008



'A Modern Portrait Of Britain'
Michael Mapp, Photographer
www.michaelmappphotography.co.uk

There is such an incredible array of creative talent within the black community - undiscovered, unpromoted, unnoticed. Let's see it!

Clemens Hackl, Creative Director AACDD

Editorial

?Choices!

As per when does every one of us have a conscious choice of who we want to be, what we want to do and which type of life we want to lead? And if and when we are finally facing such choices, from where can we make them?

There are facts with which we are born and which cannot be changed, such as our race and our gender.

At the time of our birth, we cannot influence the nationality, the country, the place or the social and economic environment into which we are born - although we can do this at a later stage. And while we are children, our ability to make choices of our own is crucially restricted by age, inexperience and potential to fend for ourselves.

Moreover, at any age, external circumstances can seriously impact on our so-called freedom of choice to take our life into a different direction from the one of our childhood and adolescence. The ties of family, friends, religions, traditions, habits and economic contexts are not so easy to ignore, especially if they have formed perhaps the only network of support in a world otherwise perceived as hostile.

To choose a life different from the one we are used to and that might estrange us from the only support structures we know - good or bad - requires courage, mental and emotional strength, determination and frequently sacrifice. What it can bring is often unknown and uncertain. And, of course, for some the choices are easier than for others.

I do not think there is a better example of someone who made that choice at a time when he had to fight against every imaginable obstacle - racial, economic, social, intellectual and academic - in late nineteenth and early twentieth century America than Carter Godwin Woodson (1875-1950), the second African American to receive a PhD from Harvard University in 1912, Founder of the Black History Month in 1926 and one of the 100 Greatest Black Americans in history.

The AACDD 2011 Guide is dedicated to this truly unique visionary man in the history of the Black Diaspora and his groundbreaking achievements at a time and under conditions few diaspora Africans in the Western World today can even imagine.

Especially in view of the recent events in London and other parts of the United Kingdom, Carter G. Woodson still stands out as a man who made the choice of a peaceful path trying to change the perceptions of those whom he considered responsible for the discrimination, oppression and demeaning of the Black man not only in America, by studying and disseminating the great achievements of African cultures as the cradle of mankind throughout human history. ■



Karin-Beate Phillips

British European Design Group,
African & African-Caribbean
Design Diaspora

London, August 2011

*In the long run
there is not much
discrimination
against superior
talent.
It constrains men
to recognize it.*

Carter G. Woodson (1875 - 1950)



Statue of Carter G. Woodson in Huntington,
West Virginia, USA Source: Wikipedia

A choice to remember - Carter Godwin Woodson



Portrait of Carter
G. Woodson as
a young man.

Source:
Wikipedia

Carter Godwin Woodson was born December 19, 1875, in New Canton, Virginia, as one of nine children of former slaves James and Eliza Riddle Woodson. His father moved his family to Huntington, West Virginia, when he learnt that the town was building a high school

for blacks. Coming from a large, poor family Carter had to earn his living as a coal miner, which left little time for school. Largely reliant on self-instruction, he was seventeen when he finally mastered the fundamental common school subjects. In 1895, already aged 20, he entered Douglass High School, where the brilliant young man received his diploma in less than two years.

Having taught at various schools in Fayette County, the twenty-five year young teacher became Principal of Douglass High School in 1900. He went on to earn his Bachelor of Literature Degree in 1903 by taking part-time classes at Berea College in Kentucky. He left America to work as a school supervisor in the Philippines until 1907. After his return he attended the University of Chicago receiving an A.B and A.M. in 1908.

Carter G. Woodson was a member of the first black fraternity Sigma Pi Phi, the first African-American Greek-lettered organisation founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 15, 1904,

when black professionals were not offered participation in the professional and cultural associations of the white community. He was also a member of Omega Psi Phi, the first African-American national fraternal organisation founded at the historically black Howard University, in November 17, 1911.

His outstanding academic career was crowned by completing his PhD in history at Harvard University in 1912, where he was the second African-American to earn a doctorate. Carter G. Woodson continued teaching in public schools before he joined Howard University as a professor. In 1919 he became Dean of the University's School of Liberal Arts, leaving this position two years later to take over the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at West Virginia State College.

Convinced that the role of his own people in American history and in the history of other cultures was either being ignored or misrepresented among scholars, Carter - along with Alexander L. Jackson and three associates - founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History on September 9, 1915 in Chicago to support research into the neglected past of African Americans.

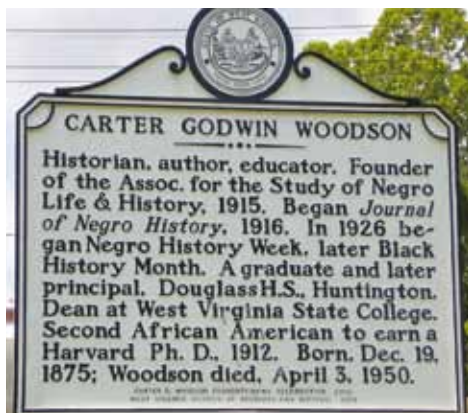
In January 1916, he launched the *Journal of Negro History*, which was renamed the *Journal of African American History* in 2002 and is still published by the *Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)*.

He also became affiliated with the NAACP - *National Association for the Advancement of Colored People* in Baltimore - the African-American civil rights organisation formed in 1909 'to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination'. The name of the NAACP - retained in accordance with tradition - uses the once common term 'coloured people'.

The NAACP bestows the annual Image Awards for achievement in the arts and entertainment, and the annual Spingarn Medals for outstanding positive achievement of any kind, on deserving African Americans.

Carter G. Woodson devoted his life to historical research to preserve the history of African Americans. He noted that African American contributions 'were overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them'. 'Race prejudice', he concluded, 'is merely the logical result of tradition, the inevitable outcome of thorough instruction to the effect that the Negro has never contributed anything to the progress of mankind'.

His far-reaching activities included the founding in 1920 of *Associated Publishers*, the oldest African-American publishing company in the United States. This enabled publication of books concerning blacks, such as *The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861*,



Source: Wikipedia

Roadside historical marker biography of Woodson.

A Century of Negro Migration (1918) and *The History of the Negro Church* (1927), which may not have been supported in the rest of the market.

His book *The Mis-Education of the Negro* (1933) is still one of the most pertinent books on the effects of 'white' education for black people and has sold over one million copies since its publication. *The Negro in our History* (1922) reached its eleventh edition in 1966, when it had sold more than 90,000 copies.

In 1937 he created the *Negro History Bulletin* developed for teachers in elementary and high schools and published continuously since its first appearance.

Woodson was not afraid to tackle controversial subjects using the pages of *Negro World* to contribute to debates. His insistence on defining a category of history related to ethnic culture and race resulted in clashes with some of his contemporaries, who felt it was wrong to teach or understand African-American history as separate from more general American history.

'History does not furnish a case of the elevation of a people by ignoring the thought and aspiration of the people thus served.'

Carter G. Woodson, 'father' of black history

For them 'Negroes' were simply 'darker skinned' Americans with no history apart from that of any other. Thus Woodson's efforts to get Black culture and history into the curricula of institutions, even historically Black colleges, were often unsuccessful.

In February 1926, Carter G. Woodson initiated the pioneering 'Negro History Week' to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Negro History Week was later extended to the full month of February and renamed Black History Month.

Carter G. Woodson remained focused on his work until his death from heart disease in April 1950 at the age of 74. He is buried at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Suitland-Silver Hill in Maryland, USA.

His Washington D.C. home has been preserved and designated the *Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site*. Although his most visible legacy is perhaps the fact that schools have set aside a time each year to focus upon African American history, his

determination to further the recognition of the Negro in American and world history has inspired countless other scholars.

Sadly, his most ambitious work, a six-volume *Encyclopedia Africana*, was still incomplete at his death.

In 1992, the Library of Congress, to which he had donated his collection of 5,000 items from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, held an exhibition entitled *'Moving Back Barriers: The Legacy of Carter G. Woodson'*.

In 2002 Malefi Kete Asante, the African-American scholar, historian, philosopher, Professor in the Department of African-American Studies at Temple University in Philadelphia (where he founded the first PhD programme in African American Studies), author of more than 66 books and founding editor of the Journal of Black Studies' widely known for his philosophy of Afrocentricity named Carter G. Woodson on his list of 100 Greatest African Americans. ■

Karin-Beate Phillips

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***Real
education
means to
inspire people
to live more
abundantly,
to learn to
begin with life
as they find it
and make it
better.***

Carter G. Woodson
(1875 – 1950)

*I love Ghana,
Ghana is beautiful
Do not be afraid
dont be alone
all good people
Ghana if you were alive i would tell you:
Ghana you are lovely
your beautiful
your exotic
your bright
your hot
yellow, red, green and black star
your music makes me relax
but i have one question to ask, are your
red ants poisonous ?
Ghana, Ghana,
Hotels,
Hotel rooms
Room service
Hotel drinks
Emmanuel, Elizabeth,
Streets
Poor people
sad people
Happy people
scared people
Fan-ice, yummy yummy in my tummy
taste good
No food is bad
grand dads hotel is lovely
bright, hot, beautiful
DD and KK, are nice
helpful, unbelievable.
They like beyblades
Ghan ghana, the land of survivors
women protected by men
mothers protecting children
God is our saviour
He protects everyone.
Butterflies
birds
shimmering bushes
bubbles
2 bats flying around the restaurant
whilst malachi hides under the table
woman selling chocolates on the streets
near traffic lights
mr ernest in his yellow taxi
Oh how i love Ghana*

Inspire to aspire

The African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative - www.aacdd.org

Statistical research shows that minority ethnic groups are significantly under-represented in the overall arts and design scene in the UK. 2010 Design Council research reveals just 7% of designers are from a minority ethnic background. The AACDD Initiative will give the majority of designers showcased their first opportunity to exhibit on an international stage and to network with the broader design community.

Source: BEDG Proposal for the Arts Council England, March 2010

What we want to do

London is one of the greatest multi-cultural and creative cities in the world, with international inspiration feeding into the city's design community.

Yet although the power of diversity to stimulate creativity is well established and despite this incredibly rich resource, the UK design industry remains stubbornly mono-cultural, with many different parts of London's broader community unable to gain employment, access support and showcase talent. This is especially true for London's black ethnic community.

The established British design scene, moreover, requires new blood to maintain and expand its global position.

Black British design offers a new source of talent that can be mobilised to enrich the UK design scene - both aesthetically and commercially.

These objectives fall closely in line with the recommendations of the DCMS Creative Britain Report of 2008 and the Mayor of London's Commission on African and Asian Cultural Heritage, which states 'improvements in infrastructure and support are necessary to realise the creative potential of London's cultural diversity.' MCAAH, September 2008

A Point of Celebration for Black Creative Talent

A point of celebration is required to demonstrate the quality of creative thinking derived from London and the UK's small but significant African and African-Caribbean design community. This should provide a positive insight into design skills, engage and inspire others and create a promotional platform for designers working in London, the UK, Africa and the Caribbean.

Background AACDD Initiative

In the spring of 2010 the British European Design Group BEDG - www.bedg.org - proposed to organise a series of events in partnership with the London Design Festival LDF - www.londondesignfestival.com - to celebrate African and African-Caribbean creative talent.

2010 and 2011 Programmes of Events

The first of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora AACDD - www.aacdd.org - series of events were staged in September and October 2010 engaging the broadest possible range of creative talent to benefit from the Festival. The Programme has since rapidly grown into a much larger multi-disciplinary event schedule with national and International activities for 2011.

It will culminate in a comprehensive event programme spanning part of the London Olympics and the London Design Festival in August/September 2012.

The past and present series of exhibitions are, however, only one aspect of the AACDD Programme, which also features other supporting events, such as workshops, seminars, lectures, conferences and various AACDD Award Schemes.

AACDD Information and Communication Resources and Social Networking

Social networking through the complimentary resources of the AACDD website and regular newsletters supports the aim of the Programme, exploits the impact of the exhibitions and provides ongoing stimuli for stakeholders such as funding bodies, potential sponsors, designers and others.

AACDD Aims and Objectives

- **Promote** a greater awareness amongst the British public regarding the creative talent of the African and African-Caribbean diaspora in the UK
- **Enrich and expand** the overall British design and art scene through the increased involvement of African and African-Caribbean creative talent
- **Make** educational institutions in the UK more aware of the promising potential of African and African-Caribbean creative talent and the need to foster and engage it
- **Use** the 2012 Olympics platform to promote African and African-Caribbean creative talent alongside its undisputed sporting talent
- **Build** bridges between black British designers and those residing in Africa and the Caribbean to allow both sides to benefit from such a cultural and creative exchange



The Audiences

In terms of the target audience, 46% of the UK's black and ethnic minority population (BAME) live in the London area. Of these, 380,000 are of African origin, 344,000 of African-Caribbean origin and 60,000 defined as 'other black'.

There are a further 110,000 people of African-Caribbean/English mixed heritage recorded as based in London. This provides a large potential audience base and talent pool from which to select event participants and visitors.

Involving as many of this group as possible in the London Design Festival experience will be one of the main AACDD objectives.

A secondary source of creative talent and a potential audience is the broader African and African-Caribbean diaspora in other EU countries. The 2-3 million residents of African and African-Caribbean descent residing in France and the 0.5 million African and African-Caribbean residents in the Netherlands are within easy reach of London.

Participation

AACDD is about promoting black British design and creative talent. BEDG will provide the organisational resources to promote a variety of creative individuals, studios and SMEs to ensure maximum impact through the design, management and promotion of the events.

Links with other relevant organisations will be made, working with hundreds of small groups across London, Europe and the world. The stakeholder groups, particularly black design talent, will be engaged directly to assist in the selection of exhibitors, the design and presentation of the exhibitions, workshops, lectures and conferences, marketing and communications.

By 2012 we expect to have forged close partnerships with local communities, educational institutions and other organisations working in similar sectors in selected neighbourhoods where large black populations exist. ■

'There is so much creativity and dynamism in African and Caribbean culture and AACDD seems to be a great platform to promote this.'

Nana Ocran, TimeOut Nigeria

Questions & Answers

What is AACDD?

The African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora - www.aacdd.org - is a three year Programme initiated and managed by the London based not-for-profit organisation British European Design Group. It has been set up to promote the creative skills, whether academically or traditionally trained, and the commercial potential of ethnic minorities of African and African-Caribbean descent in the UK as well as their creative counterparts in Africa and the Caribbean.

Who funds AACDD?

AACDD is co-funded by the London based not-for-profit organisation British European Design Group and the Arts Council England / Lottery Fund - www.artscouncilengland.co.uk.

Who are the main AACDD partners?

AACDD works very closely with the London Design Festival as its main partner organisation, a number of community and cultural organisations in London and in the UK as well as nine African and Caribbean nations.

Why London?

London is one of the leading multi-cultural cities and one of the most creative hothouses in the world. Despite this huge potential the UK creative industries have remained surprisingly mono-cultural, with many different parts of London's broader community unable to gain employment, access support and showcase their talent. This is especially true for London's black ethnic community.

AACDD aims to showcase, nurture and develop this talent to mainstream audiences in the UK and around the world.

How will AACDD expand?

One of the main priorities of 2011 and 2012 will be to extend the AACDD's geographical reach into other parts of the UK with high percentages of black ethnic minorities as well as globally through calls for entries directed at higher academic institutions, institutional and social networks (incl. young offenders), the internet and personal contacts.

By 2012 AACDD aims to have an even larger series of events promoting black creativity in the widest sense to run parallel to the 2012 Olympics. In this way AACDD has the ability and intention to become a major tourist attraction built around England's black creatives and their heritage partners in Africa and the Caribbean.

What will happen after the Olympics?

The overwhelmingly positive response to AACDD so far has convinced the organisers that the Initiative needs to have permanent foundations. This involves creating a legal structure for AACDD to hand over the activities to those whom it most concerns – a cadre of designers and artists from black minority background. This will allow the work that has so successfully begun to continue and grow to further encourage, empower and train black diaspora descendents in the creative industries. ■



'Cork Chart'
Yemi Awosile
Textile Designer
www.yemiawosile.co.uk



'Drawing with light'
Robertson Lindsay
Architect, Designer, Photographer
www.vivarco.co.uk



'L01 Chaise'
Herman and Fola Morgan
Architects and Designers M-A&D
www.m-ad.co



'Dovetail Stool'
Taslim Martin
Sculptor, Furniture Designer, Artist
www.taslimmartin.co.uk



'African & Diaspora Cinema'
Berjo Mouanga
Visual Artist, Graphic Designer
<http://berjomouanga.prosite.com>



'Rescuing the Supermodel'
'Reverie'
Adjani Okpu-Egbe
Fine Art
www.adjaniarts.com

Dalston, Hackney

The London Borough of Hackney lies to the north-east of the City of London; Tower Hamlets, to the south; Islington to the west and Haringey to the north. On the east, the River Lee forms the boundary with Waltham Forest;

Hackney possesses a rich mix of cultures and traditions. Popular destinations include Shoreditch, a thriving cultural fringe of the City of London with a wide range of restaurants, bars, nightclubs and comedy venues. The area is filled with thriving street markets including Petticoat Lane, Brick Lane and Ridley Road in Dalston, which offers goods from across the world. To the north of the borough are Upper and Lower Clapton, Stamford Hill and Stoke Newington.

To the east are the large open spaces of the Hackney Marshes and the districts of Hackney Wick and Homerton. Light Industries employing over 3000 people have been claimed from this area to allow the land around the River Lea (the eastern boundary) to be used for the 2012 Summer Olympics, making the area one of the Host Boroughs for the games.

Hackney has one of the most ethnically diverse populations in London totalling 216,000 according to the 2009 census. 21% of the population are below the age of 15. Of the resident population, 44% people describe themselves as White British. 15% are in other White ethnic groups, 25% are Black or Black British, 9.4% are Asian or Asian British, 4% describe themselves as 'Mixed', and 3% as Chinese or Other. ■

www.hackney.gov.uk

***Almost 80%
of the increase
in the working
age population
during the
next decade
will consist
of people
from black
and minority
groups.***

Hackney, in common with other parts of East London, is the home to large numbers of very talented artists and designers from the African and African-Caribbean heritage communities.

Hitherto, they have often worked in the shadows, unrecognised for the richness and quality of their creativity and the commercial potential of their work.

The African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative brings the work of these talented artists and designers into the foreground and places it firmly within the wider context of British cultural life. For this, the Initiative is to be applauded.

David Blagbrough, Director,
Inspire! the Hackney Education Business Partnership
www.inspire-ebp.org.uk

2010 Festival Revisited

In only three weeks since the first 2010 AACDD exhibition opening more than 20,000 visitors have seen the 9 events in various London Boroughs.

'What an eye opener into African and African-Caribbean culture'

'Art in its purest form'

Work by over 100 designers and artisans of African and African-Caribbean descent from Great Britain, Africa and the Caribbean.

'A unique blend of culture'



*Creative
Origins*



'A feast for the senses'

*'Can only be from Africa.
Beauty, passion, culture combined.
Truly beautiful work.'*

'A soul-enriching experience'

'Inspiring'

African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Festival 2011 Venues

100%Design

Earls Court Exhibition Centre
Warwick Road
London SW5 9TA

Re-Loved Lounge

@ *100%Design*

September 22-25

See Page 44

Hospital Club

24 Endell Street
Covent Garden
London WC2H 9HQ

Reaching out through art
- *The AACDD*
@ *Creative Capital*

September 23

19:00 - 21:00

See page 47

Dalston Eastern Curve Garden

13 Dalston Lane
Hackney, London E8 3DU

Workshops:

- "Black Breeze - African Masks"
- "DIY Drums - Cajun & Bench"

See page 99

Bargehouse

Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
South Bank
London SE1 9PH

?Choices! -

AACDD 2011 Festival

@ *Bargehouse*

September 9-25

Mon-Sun: 11am-6pm

Admission free

See page 32



Bargehouse is owned and managed by Coin Street Community Builders | www.coinstreet.org

Bargehouse

Around 1900 a power station was built on the site of Oxo Tower Wharf to supply electricity to the Post Office.

In the late 1920s it was purchased by the Liebig Extract of Meat Company which demolished much of the building but extended its riverside frontage - look carefully next time you visit and you will see where it bends.

The company made the famous OXO beef cube and its architect, Albert Moore, incorporated the design as windows on a tower to get around a ban on skyline advertising!

At that time the building was named Stamford Wharf and was London's second highest commercial building. Meat, delivered by barge, was passed through loading bays (which you can still see on the riverside) into cold stores, then processed and packed.



Entrance to main gallery and floors

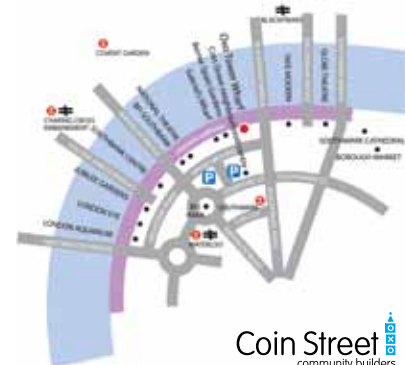


By the early 1970s the building was derelict, apart from the production of 'long eggs' for insertion into meat pies.

By the time Coin Street Community Builders bought the Wharf, the only activity related to two barges used as a floating helicopter port. The first act of the new owners was to close the heliport and bring peace back to the riverside!

An initial contract carved out a two-storey arcade as part of the construction of the riverside walkway. In 1988 a second contract demolished the middle of the building and part of the Bargehouse.

In 1991 a third contract repaired the basic structure of the building. Only after this was any bank willing to lend money for the main refurbishment contract. ■



Coin Street
community builder



***'Choice is a nonentity,
when there is only one option.'***

Bevan Agyemang, Photographer, 2011

Inspire to Aspire

This is the first time in its entire history that the London design scene will host such a comprehensive showcase of unique multi-disciplinary black talent with more than one hundred submissions from the UK, Africa, the Caribbean, USA, Canada, Japan and Europe.

61% of all Caribbean and 83% of all African heritage children are educated in London schools.

The mind does not take its complexion from the skin.

Frederick Douglass

We are all African! Humanity, the human race, was born in the African continent.

*Anselmo Pelelmbe,
Graphic Designer 2011*

The AACDD 2011 Programme of Events across London organised by the British European Design Group as partner of the London Design Festival is a celebration of creativity and innovation showcasing the best of black talent throughout all creative disciplines.

We are one, our cause is one, and we must help each other; if we are to succeed.

*Frederick Douglass
(1818 – 1895) escaped
slave, social reformer,
orator, writer and statesman*

Coinciding with the Mayor's Thames Festival, the London Design Festival and 100% Design in September, the main focus of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Festival 2011 '*CHOICES*' will be the series of exhibitions and events at the Bargehouse, Oxo Tower Wharf on Southbank.

The exhibitions include multi-disciplinary mixed media, fine art, sculpture, graphic design, illustrations, photography, film, videos and music, architecture and interior design,

furniture, lighting, interior design accessories, home furnishings and textiles, fashion and fashion accessories, jewellery and crafts as well as live performances and workshops.

The BRITISH EUROPEAN DESIGN GROUP takes great pride in supporting emerging artists, designers and artisans of African and African-Caribbean origin and getting their talent visibly represented within the mainstream UK design scene through its three year *African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora* Initiative in partnership with the London Design Festival.



Floor plan

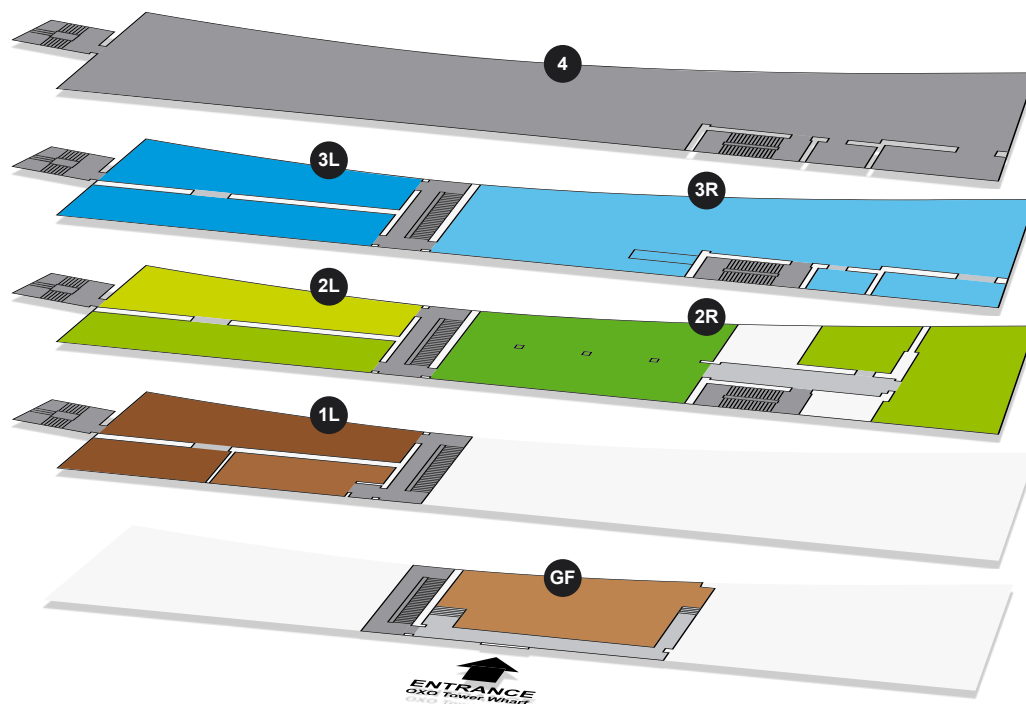
Bargehouse Festival 2011 September 9-25

For nearly three weeks all floors of the listed Bargehouse of the Oxo Tower Wharf complex will be transformed into a 'Treasure Trove' of creativity showcasing the amazing artistic talent of more than one hundred British and international artists and designers from the African and African-Caribbean Diaspora communities in the UK and overseas.

The exhibitions include multi-disciplinary mixed media, fine art, sculpture, photography, graphic design, illustrations, book art and publishing, film, videos and music, furniture, lighting, home textiles, ceramics, interior design accessories, architecture, interior design, fashion, fashion accessories, jewellery, performances and workshops.



*African & African-Caribbean
Design Diaspora*



GF

Ground Floor Gallery

Installation:
Furniture,
Sculpture,
Lighting

1L

First Floor Left

Exhibition:
Fine Art,
Graphic Design,
Photography,
Sculpture

Media Room:
Film, Video,
Projections, Music

2L

Second Floor Left

Installation:
• 'Below the
Surface'
• ARC Magazine

Exhibition:
Furniture, Lighting,
Interior Design,
Architecture
Fine Art,
Graphic Design,
Photography

2R

Second Floor Right

Exhibition:
Furniture, Lighting,
Interior Design,
Ceramics,
Jewellery,
Silversmithing

Installation:
Architecture
Ceramics,
Jewellery
Architecture

3L

Third Floor Left

Exhibition:
Fine Art,
Outsider Art

Installation:
Olu Shobowale

3R

Third Floor Right

Exhibition:
Textiles,
Fashion, Fashion
Accessories
Graphic Design,
Photography

4

Fourth Floor

Performances

Exhibition:
Fashion,
Textiles, Fashion
Accessories
Fine Art,
Graphic Design,
Photography

*46% of England's
black and minority
ethnic population
live in London.*



Below the Surface

A photographic project aiming to shed light on the real life in African and African-Caribbean communities in London

Installation Second floor

Bargehouse
Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
South Bank
London SE1 9PH

September 9 - 25
Mon-Sun: 11am - 6pm
Admission free



FUJIFILM
JESSOPS
YOUR PICTURES. OUR PASSION.

Disposable cameras were given to young people from various areas, communities and backgrounds in London, including young offenders and those at risk of social exclusion, with the task of documenting their lives.

A vehicle for young people to discover photography and art in general as a form of self-expression, the project aims to tell a story of what we normally do not see: a story of the struggle with social prejudice and misunderstanding, of hope and expectations, of families and relationships, told by young individuals from their point of view; thus giving us a unique insight into 'life below the surface'.




The main installation at the Bargehouse is one massive picture wall compiled from all pictures taken, a collage of life's colourful facets within the African and African-Caribbean communities in London. ■



UNITED GRAPHICS

Vinyl Cutting Digital Printing on a wide range of materials:

- Self-adhesive vinyls
(matt & gloss white, clear vinyl,
frosted vinyl)
- Wall paper media
- PVC banner media
- Transparency
- Photo paper
- Photo cotton
- Canvas

-  Design and Production
 Advice to ensure that
 desired effects are
 achieved within budget
 Applications and
 installation on site

UNITED GRAPHICS

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M: +44(0)7771 892717
E: info@united-graphics.co.uk

Our Clients include:

Vivienne Westwood, Designers Guild,
William Yeoward, Hermes, French
Connection, Nicole Farhi, British
European Design Group, Stone Island,
CP Company, Y3



TEDxSoweto 2011 - The Future is Inevitable

*Live broadcast from the independently
organised TEDx conference in Soweto*

The future will shock and surprise in equal measure. Take connectivity. The line between 'me' and 'we' will continue to blur as ubiquitous links become the dominant feature of life.

What form will society evolve into – a network of diversity or a global Ubuntu? Augmented reality and artificial intelligence beckon; will we harness technology to transcend our human abilities or will machines become more like us? Traditional institutions break down everyday and new and virtual ones emerge everywhere.

**Who gets to make the new rules?
Where do we draw the new boundaries?
What new paradigms will govern as we
gravitate east? Can we grow our economies
without destroying the planet? ■**

Broadcast Media Room

Bargehouse
Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
South Bank
London SE1 9PH

September 24
10am - 6pm
Admission free

TEDxSoweto
xx independently organized TED event

Forever forged, forever becoming

ARC Magazine, in collaboration with the AACDD, presents a collection of works by established and emerging visual artists and photographers from the Caribbean and its diaspora.

Exhibition Second floor

Bargehouse
Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
South Bank
London SE1 9PH

September 9 - 25
Mon-Sun: 11am - 6pm
Admission free

ARC Magazine
Editor-in-chief: Holly Bynoe
holly@arcthemagazine.com

This collection investigates the awakening of the artists' experience in order to unite, and at times criticize, stereotypical representations of 'Caribbeanness'.

Formal elements of portraiture are met with revised ideas of self, occupation and presence. Resolve and ownership are present in the faces, inhabited spaces and the 'new' landscape, one that is internal, often collaborative and highly deliberate.

This platform provided to ARC by the AACDD allows us to celebrate and be proud of our intangible and tangible heritages while building a deeper, more precise, understanding of the value and need for artists' works.

We hope this will be a site of stimulation and sharing – to expand ideas of creative self-expression and uniqueness.

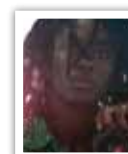
And we hope that the work resonates and calls into question the repeating face of the Caribbean – forever forged, forever becoming.



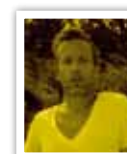
Kwesi Abbensetts
Guyana



Terry Boddie
St. Kitts



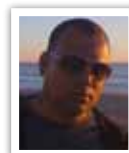
**Malaika
Brooks-Smith-Iowe**
Grenada



James Cooper
Bermuda



Gerard H Gaskin
Trinidad



Roger Gibbs
Curacao



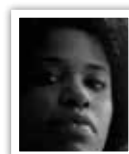
Nadia Huggins
St. Vincent



**Madeleine Hunt
Ehrlich**
Jamaica



Marlon James
Jamaica



**Mariamma
Kambon**
Trinidad



Mark King
Barbados



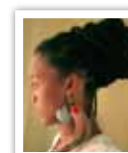
Charl Landrevu
Suriname



Manuel Mathieu
Haiti



Lavar Munroe
Bahamas



Adachi Pimentel
Dominican Republic



Radcliffe Royce
Jamaica



Keisha Scarville
Guyana



Lara Stein Pardo
Cuba



Stacey Tyrell
St. Kitts



Rodell Warner
Trinidad



The Re-Loved Lounge @ 100%Design

The transformation of a 96m² space using African and African-Caribbean design inspiration in fabrics, colour schemes and accessories.

Installation

100%Design

Earls Court Exhibition Centre
Warwick Road
London SW5 9TA

September 22 - 25

100%design®



From the 22-25th September 2011 some of the African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora designers will be collaborating with 100%Design and the British European Design Group to transform a 96m² space and create a playful and eclectic sitting area - the 'Re-Loved Lounge' using African and African-Caribbean design inspiration in fabrics, colour schemes and accessories.

The brief for the AACDD designers has been to 're-love' and 'up-cycle' discarded furniture, transforming it once again into desirable objects for the home thus, challenging the ethos of a throw-away consumer society.

The 'Re-Loved' Lounge at 100% Design will consist of three zones, which will blend formal and informal seating areas providing a mixture of furniture for eating and relaxing. ■



Titi Abiola

Designer
www.titayo.com

Chijioke Aguh

Product and Furniture Designer
www.designedbychiji.com

Yemi Awosile

Textile Designer
www.yemiawosile.co.uk

Juliana Dugbaley

Textile Designer
www.anabatey.com

Yinka Ilori

Furniture Designer
yinkalr@yahoo.co.uk

Laurence Kanza

Home Furnishings Designer
www.lapetitecongolaise.com

Herman and Fola Morgan

Architects and Designers M-A&D
www.m-ad.co

Julie Kouamo

Textile Designer
www.juliekouamo.com

Taslim Martin

Sculptor, Furniture Designer, Artist
www.taslimmartin.co.uk

Ameena McConnell

Textile Artist
www.ameenamcconnell.wordpress.com

Alexander Mulligan

Furniture and interior designer
www.alexandermulligan.com

Emamoke Ukeleghe

Textile Designer
www.emamoke.com

Anthony Walters

Ceramic Artist
www.cecilware.tumblr.com



Proud supporter of the
African & African-Caribbean
Design Diaspora Festival 2011!

TO THE POINT



Clemens Hackl Design | Branding & Multimedia
www.clemenshackl.com

Reaching out through art

Evening panel discussion on the therapeutic and economic potential of art and design

Hospital Club
24 Endell Street
Covent Garden
London WC2H 9HQ

The AACDD @
Creative Capital
September 23
19:00 - 21:00

Art in whatever context, form or medium can be an indispensable tool to cope with our feelings, dreams and perceptions, helping us to channel positive or negative emotions into the anonymous open.

Man is a visual animal! Long before sound, smell, feel or taste reach our brain, the visual impulse is absorbed and processed! More than any other sensation a picture can imprint itself onto our mind as an undeletable memory of joy or sadness, delight or horror.

This is why images have been one of the oldest, most powerful forms of communication, reaching us even today through sparse rock and cave drawings by early man to the onslaught by modern media in a globally visualised world.

Long before psychiatry in modern medicine rediscovered art and music as a way of dealing and possibly treating traumata and transient and permanent mental disorders, men has been aware of the inspiring, soothing, healing and soul expanding power of art and sound from ancient religious ceremonies to the integration of art and music into our primary school curricula.

Cameroonian artist Adjani Okpu-Egbe, who has fought the severe emotional effects of physical uprooting, displacement, rejection and isolation, has found art and writing as the outlet for his frustrations and unbroken energy saving him from self-destruction. He feels that recent events 'could be a tragic, ironic cry for help. An aggressive call for many more scouts to be ejaculated into our street to scavenge for talents, a call for mentors, a cry for the provision of many more easily accessible and affordable means of expression and education! As a self-taught expressionist artist, what I want to say is that there is *HOPE* in my department.'

The Koestler Trust, the UK's best-known prison arts charity, has always worked on the principle that – 'to make our society safer, it pays to channel offenders' energies to positive ends, to build their self-worth and help them learn new skills. The arts are an especially effective way of engaging with offenders who feel alienated from mainstream education and employment, and there is growing evidence that the arts can help in changing offenders' lives.



THE LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL 2011

The AACDD Art & Design Radar

When we posted our AACDD Call for submission of work by artists and designers of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora at the beginning of 2011, we never imagined the response we would have!

Like the radar symbolised by our logo, the call reached out all over the world from the UK to Europe, Africa to the Caribbean and America to Japan. Whilst this in itself was extremely gratifying, the many positive comments that came with the submissions were even more encouraging.

As was the spirit of generous collaboration from so many UK and international individuals, social networks and other organisations striving like us to promote black talent in all creative disciplines, which AACDD is gratefully acknowledging.

For those artists who could not send physical work to the 2011 Exhibition, we will still include their data and an image of their art in the 2011 Guide and Exhibition hoping that this will nevertheless help to promote their artistic talent.

The AACDD Team 2011





Kwesi Abbensetts

Photographer
Guyana

Kwesi Abbensetts is a New York-based photographer who hails from 64 Village, off the Corentyne country coast of Guyana. He started his pursuit of photography in 2006 and has since blossomed into an enigmatic photographer, shooting portraiture fashion and documentary.

His aesthetic is informed by his West Indian origin - its colours, sun, vibrancy and culture. His work is conversant with the tangible and textural qualities of life and it is his endeavour to promote the progression and positivism of daily Black consciousness.

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www.kwesiabbensetts.com

Titi Abiola

Designer
UK

Titi Abiola enjoys working across the boundaries of art and design. Collaborative projects are key to her practice. Abiola frequently works with Adire artisans in Nigeria, looking into job generation by sustaining and transforming the craft. It was through her belief in working towards saving African design practices that Abiola decided to join AACDD as it promotes African design, contributing to further enrich and preserve craft skills.

Travel has heightened her knowledge of different practices, at times lending an esoteric nature to her products. Traditional craft, the foundation of the designer's work, is translated using modern processes and new approaches.

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www.tilayo.com



Ola Adegoroye

Creative Hair and Make-up Artist,
Photographer
UK

Born in London to Nigerian parents, Ola Adegoroye had been working in hair & beauty for over 10 years before she decided to return to college to study Media Hair and Makeup in 2009.

Taking a photography course alongside Media Hair and Makeup added a new dimension to her skills as did her more recent venture into textile fashion and hair accessories using mainly African print fabrics.

olaadegoroye@gmail.com
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+44 (0)7983 854 543



'John Marlowe'

Agenda

Photographer
UK

'Awareness is a serious weapon'. Pictures prevailing words, Agenda's obsession with people and their relationship with the environment is his true confession. Driven by curiosity in unique human qualities and an ability to bring 'the inside out', Agenda began to utilise the camera in 2005 to capture people and bring his social observations to life.

With his extraordinary skill to transform outdoor locations into surreal studio space, natural elements present a poignant inspiration to his work.

A relentless eye for unexpected outdoor settings sets the barometer for Agenda's wide angled style, intimately engaging subjects in their real environment.

agendaaperture@me.com
www.agendaphotography.co.uk



'HM88'

Chijioke Aguh

Product & Furniture Designer
UK

London born Chijioke Aguh studied MA Design Products at the Royal College of Art, graduating in 2002. He works as a freelance designer undertaking design consultancies as well as producing his own collections. The handmade 'Paperclip Fruit Bowl' is perhaps the most striking example of transforming mundane products, which most of us use for practical purposes only, to create an interior design object of amazingly decorative beauty and usefulness.

In 2003, the British furniture manufacturer Hitch|Mylius commissioned the transparent 'Voluptuous Bench' which he exhibited at his MA degree show.

HM88 is an upholstered version of the 'Voluptuous Bench' developed and launched by Hitch|Mylius at 100%Design London in September 2003.

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www.designedbychiji.com
+44 (0)7722 885 330



'I'm a proud Catholic'

Nicola Agyeman Badu Frimpong

Artist, Outsider Art
UK

I have white in my family and I live a British lifestyle. In my art and words I am talking in a surreal, metamorphic sense. I want the viewer to become as lost as I am myself.

My work is about the present state of my mind. It represents the subconscious that I could never articulate but is shown in my work. Also my past that has become the maker of who I am today. Monsters were never born monsters, - they were created by other monsters! My work is surreal, strange, politically incorrect. Feelings of violence lived out on paper. Nicola tells you absolutely everything in her book of drawings.

I want the audience to see that art can make you happy but it can also make you sad.

I'm mixed raced and its a big issue; You got a heart of glass, a heart of stone just you wait till I get you home 'The Pet shop Boys'

frimpong.nicola@gmail.com
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'The third space'

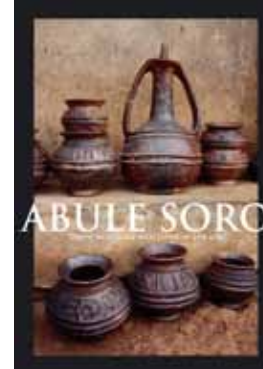
Bevan Agyemang

Photographer
UK

Growing up in Harlesden, which was the platform for my creativity, I counteracted against my immediate environment by finding different ways of expressing myself. I began documenting everything surrounding me - being myself the specimen of everything the environment produced - like my consumption habits, until I started travelling the world. Realising the difference between my wants and needs, I began to understand I had nothing to complain about in comparison to others.

I was lucky that my parents made the trip as immigrants to London in the 70's to develop a better life for their children. Their journey plays a big part in my work. It was looking at old images of them from the 50s that led me to the next stage of my photography looking at post-colonial African photographers, such as Malick Sidibe and James Barnor, and trying to decipher different forms of representation and the relationship between the signifier and the signified.

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Ogundare Ajekigbe

Abule Soro, Potters Guild
Nigeria

Abule Soro is a potters' guild in Isan Village, Ekiti State, Nigeria, which was once famed for its potters, which - as well as serving practical uses - is also used to document village life. The guild was set up to protect and promote the local pottery tradition, which - like so many labour intensive crafts - has become threatened by mass production and easier ways to make money. The local technique uses up to 9 different textures and colours of clay, which are gathered from the local area. The unique glaze is created by splashing a water/clay mix on to the newly fired pots.

abulesoro@mail.com



'Untitled #4', 17.64 cm x 17.25cm

Olumide Akingbade

Photography
UK

I study biomedical sciences at Essex University, but have been pursuing my true passion – photography - parallel to my course. Using only medium format film, I photograph mainly in London streets, searching for the juxtaposing of single beings encapsulated in an oblivion continuum of time isolating private figures in public areas, who seem to exude an intriguing feeling of solitude.

This may be borne of my fascination with what lies behind - beyond our reach or perception of people. As social as we are, there are still some impregnable barriers that exist between us. I try to come as close to these barriers as I possibly can without interrupting the natural flow of things.

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'Poka Face Girl'

Ese Akpojotor

Graphic Designer
UK

Ese Akpojotor, studied graphic design at Chelsea College of Art and Design, but taught herself illustration before starting with her own design studio and company Sweetdesignstudio in 2009.

She decided to start producing illustrations portraying the femininity and grace of the fashionable modern woman of colour of today, when she realised that this is a gap in the art card market today. Despite the small size of her figures, the imagery has a strikingly immediate poster-like impact on the eye. All her cards are hand made using paper collage and computer editing.

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+44 (0)7554 235 628



'Lagos Bus Transit'

Karo Akpokiere

Graphic Designer, Artist
Nigeria

Using digital and traditional means, drawing forms is the core of my work. I am deeply interested in how my drawings can be applied to different surfaces to make them accessible and visible, facilitating connections, inspiring and empowering people to be part of the process.

My work is indicative of my desire to combine different 'cultural' elements in order to create art that is universally appealing and reflective of my interests in patterns, textile motifs, typography, the bold graffiti aesthetic, t-shirt graphics, sneakers, advertising, character design and geometry.

karo@seekproject.com
www.seekproject.com
+234 (0)8055 517 936



Sacha Allen

Designer
UK

I enjoy working with leather as an incredibly sensual material that I can manipulate into the shapes I want. Mainly employing the techniques of applique and 3D cut I draw most of my inspiration from nature using recurring motifs such as feathers, scales, insects, trademark lilies and 3D bouquet flowers. Working with them in leather gives them an edge and a new life.

Vice versa, utilising the flaws, grains and reverse sides of the leathers and allowing the 3D cut pieces to move, flop and curl of their own accord allows me to focus on the actual physical properties of various leathers trying to find new ways and techniques of working with this material.

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+44 (0)7916 306 873



'Cry of a caged bird'

Anon

UK

image courtesy of the
Koestler Trust

Bronze Award (Drawing)
'Art by Offenders'
National Exhibition
Royal Festival Hall
2010



Yemi Awosile

Textile Designer
UK

Born in 1984, Yemi Awosile is a London based practitioner specialising in textiles and materials. She graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2008 after first completing a textile degree at Chelsea College of Art. Yemi combines her creative work with industry based research projects. Her work is characterised by the use of regional materials, craft and technology.

She is often inspired by the movement of a material from its country of origin to its eventual end user. Yemi is fascinated by the dynamic between a raw material in its natural state and the transformative nature of design. As a result her work is very process driven and often lends itself to collaboration with product designers or interior architects.

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www.yemiawosile.co.uk
+44 (0)7914 049 179



Terry Bhola

Author
Trinidad

A native of Trinidad and Tobago, who has lived in Washington D.C. and New York City, author Terry H. Bhola never stays in one place. After his academic stint and a career in New York's sizeable publishing industry, Terry H. Bhola started at a small, but well-known, scholarly magazine, moving on from there to advertising at various publications. The true source of whatever traces of libertarianism he may seem to have, however, remains unknown.

At the present time, he is somewhere in Italy trying his best to avoid getting caught speeding.

tbasparagi@gmail.com
www.terrybhola.com
+339 522 3873



Nathalie Mba Bikoro

Interdisciplinary Artist
Gabon

French-Gabonese by birth, Nathalie Mba Bikoro works as interdisciplinary artist with live art performance, film, photography and music. Educated in politics, philosophy and media arts, Bikoro leaves France and the UK to work as an independent artist and to return to Gabon to promote creative people across the African continent.

Working for human rights organizations such as Médecins Sans Frontières shaped her path towards creating a wider network and a foundation for cultural education, creativity and medical support. She has been involved in many educational interdisciplinary arts projects and has taught across Europe and Africa.

Her exhibitions have travelled the globe and include *African Heritage* - London, *African Art* - Art|Basel Biennale, and *DMZ Festival* South Korea.

She is currently researching for a PhD covering philosophy, cultural politics and the arts in Africa.

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www.nbikoro.weebly.com



Terry Boddie

Photographer
USA

Terry Boddie's work as a photographer and multi-disciplinary artist explores the historical and contemporary aspects of memory, migration and globalization.

The images often blur the distinctions between photography, drawing and painting. Boddie received his BFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts in 1989 and an MFA from Hunter College in 1997.

Recently his work has been exhibited in 'KREYOL Factory' at the Parc La Villette in Paris, France, and in the show 'Infinite Island: Contemporary Caribbean Art' at the Brooklyn Museum.

tboddie@yahoo.com
www.terryboddie.com



Simone Brewster

Architect, Product Designer
UK

London based British designer Simone Brewster started her training at the Bartlett School of Architecture, where she developed a growing interest in the relationship between space, the body and the objects which occupy the voids in between. She continued her professional education studying for an MA in Design Products at the Royal College of Art.

Simone often calls upon the infusion of cultures and experiences of her London life, taking reference from her Caribbean background and questioning the position of ethnicity through the European lens. Her work marries the two, exposing the visual and cultural strengths hidden within; highlighting the 'intimate architecture' - the physical relationship of the artefact with the body.

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www.simonebrewster.com



Malaika Brooks-Smith-Lowe

Photographer
Grenada

Malaika Brooks-Smith-Lowe was born in Grenada just four years after the end of the People's Revolution. She is currently working on a Master's thesis in Cultural Studies, which focuses on collective memory and the aftermath of the Revo and US invasion, through the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. In 2008 she received a BA in Studio Art from Smith College, Massachusetts, USA. Striving for social justice is her main passion – creative production, art-based community development and teaching in her newly opened Spice Harmony Yoga Studio.

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www.malaikabsl.com



Holly Bynoe

Photographer, Publisher
St. Vincent

Holly Bynoe is a Vincentian visual artist and writer based between the Caribbean and New York City, and is a recent graduate of Bard College International Center of Photography where she earned her M.F.A. in Advanced Photographic Studies. Her work has been shown regionally and internationally, and has been featured in numerous publications.

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+1 784 493 2825
+1 758 724 8452



James Cooper

Photographer,
Bermuda

James Cooper is an artist based in Bermuda. His work is sculpture- and performance-based, but lives mostly as photographs and video.

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www.jamescooperblog.blogspot.com



Florine Demosthene

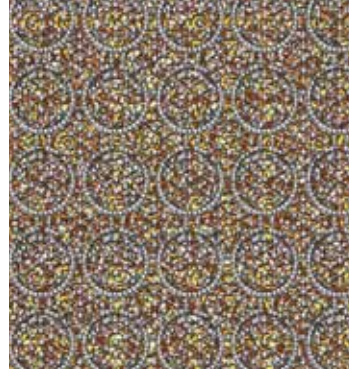
Artists
USA

Fiona Demosthene earned her BFA from Parsons New School for Design and her MFA from Hunter College, NY. Her work has been shown extensively through group and solo exhibitions in USA and London and was recently featured in the first issue of Arc, the American magazine dedicated to highlighting emerging and established Caribbean artists.

Her artwork examines how black culture is commodified and fetishized. Whether through paintings or drawings, she seeks to magnify the subtlety of racial constructs and how viewers have become comfortable with derogatory images.

Her most recent work 'The Capture' delves into the subconscious mind of a black heroine and the ephemeral quality of her thoughts and experiences. With this new series, she has been intrigued by the black female body as an icon in contemporary imagery and how her physical size is supposed to dictate a certain set of ideals and behavior.

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www.florinedemosthene.com



Juliana Dugbatey

Textile Designer
UK

Love, culture and inner harmony are the words that represent me best. They are the key meaning to all aspects of my life and work. Together with my African heritage they form the foundations for my creativity.

My passion as a designer, which is dedicated to giving the subtle beauty of traditional African patterns a new future through the medium and creative possibilities of modern digital technology in order to preserve their legacy for future generations of young Africans.

Julie.dugbatey@mail.com
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+44 (0)7984 154 924



'Calm before the storm'

Ndidi Ekubia

Silversmith, Designer
UK

My inspirations stem from the patterns of everyday life: from the cityscape of London through to organic natural forms. In turn, my artistic landscape has been determined by the bold African shapes, textiles, food and passionate family conversation of my childhood.

The pieces are made using traditional silversmithing techniques which require the beating of sheet metal over steel and wooden forms. This process allows me to explore the resistance and strength of silver sheet with specialist hammers. The process of creating these rich sensual forms is a rhythmical, mesmerising scene of tools pushing the metal to its limit, emphasising the fluid vitality of each form. Each piece exposes an emotional response to the material, each one a unique blend of order and chaos.

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Abre Etteh

Architect
UK

Born in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, Abre Etteh received his BA (hons) in Architectural Studies from Newcastle-upon-Tyne University before completing his professional Diploma in Architecture at the College of Art, Edinburgh, Scotland. He is a member of RIBA - the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Etteh has been awarded prizes in several international architecture competitions. His work has been published in a number of architectural journals and books.

Etteh's art installations and architectural work stem from his keen interest in the human body and its relation to our constructed environments. One of his recent projects, 'kuro maku', a proposed fashion museum which received an honourable mention at an international competition, follows the old adage 'You are what you wear'. It aims to showcase the influence and ideological roots of present global and local fashion trends through real-time data collected on emergent styles.

abre.etteh@yahoo.com
www.behance.net/AbreEtteh
+44 (0)7411 561 075

Adeyinka Emmanuel Fabayo

Sculptor, Wood Carver, Fine Artist
Nigeria

I studied Fine Art at the South East Essex College of Arts and Technology, UK and at the Osun State College of Education in Nigeria. I presently live and work in Osogbo, Nigeria, where I am also the founder, owner and curator of Genesis Art Gallery.

The Gallery has as its principal aim the showcasing and promotion of the wealth of creative arts, literature, dance and drama of my country.

My work as a contemporary painter, sculptor and wood carver is inspired by my faith, my love for the nature that surrounds us and my deep affinity with my own cultural background, traditions and identity.

genesishgallery@yahoo.co.uk
www.genesishgallery.com
+234 (0)377 778 015



Jibola Fagbamiye

Illustrator
Canada

Jibola Fagbamiye is a self taught illustrator born in Nigeria, but has been living in Canada for nearly ten years. He draws a lot of influence from traditional African art, comic books, and the Pop Art movement, using graphic design methodologies to produce what some have referred to as 'Afro-pop Art'.

With a special love for graphic novels, Jibola takes a critical view on social, and political issues hoping to use his work to reconstruct the 'typical' view of Africa and Africans all over the world.

Having engaged in subjects from music, mythology, politics and history, Jibola Fagbaminye has exhibited widely in Toronto, where he now lives.

He has also published a graphic novel entitled '*Dante: Last Son of the Apocalypse*', which ambitiously blurs the lines of morality and pushes the edge on the 'meaning of life'.

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+1 416 648 3693

Sean Michael Field

Actor, Film Producer, Poet
USA

Barbados born actor and poet Sean Michael Field founded his film company - Iland Boy Films - in 2011.

A passionate natural entertainer, Sean acted since he was five. After graduating from university, his vocational talent led him to working with some of today most famous actors like Blithe Danner, Kevin Spacey, Peter Gallagher and Al Pacino at Long Wharf Theatre, the Tony Award-winning theatre based in New Haven, USA.

As an actor, Sean is currently signed to Paradigm in NY and Commercial Talent in Los Angeles, two of America's most prestigious talent agencies.

As a film producer, his own company specializes in films, which incorporate the unique qualities of the Caribbean, its people and its cultures - to bring to life rich, compelling stories and inspiring messages. Iland Boy Films has four films scheduled for releases in 2011-12.

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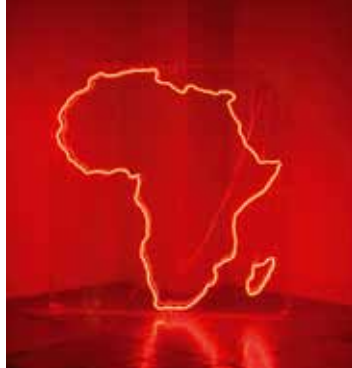


Gerard H. Gaskin

Photographer
Trinidad

Gerard H. Gaskin, a native of Trinidad and Tobago, earned a BBA in Liberal Arts from Hunter College in 1994. As a freelance photographer, his work is widely published in newspapers and magazines in the United States and abroad including the New York Times, Newsday, Black Enterprise, OneWorld, Teen People, Caribbean Beat and Honey Magazine. Gaskin was awarded The New York Foundation for the Arts Artist fellowship for Photography and was part of the 'Gordon Park's 90', the bringing together of 90 black photographers from all over the United States to celebrate his 90th birthday.

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Shrine

Raimi Gbadamosi

Artist, Writer, Curator
UK

Raimi Gbadamosi received his PhD in Fine Art from the Slade School of Fine Art, London. 'I strive to create a body of work that deals with the tri-part relationship of race, power and language, but manages to remain outside the traditional parameter of 'I as the other'.

As I become increasingly aware of the implicit duplicity of these attempts, I enter into a space, where viewing oneself as being on one side of a binary discussion is not enough. There are too many points of crossing, which result in people being caught in the margins of definitive categorisation. In spite of the perplexity born of displacement, I feel a gradual pull towards taking clear and concise positions, insofar as imposed marginality can be clear and concise.

I try present a world from a point of view that will also allow others to appreciate what it means to feel what I feel.

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Roger Gibbs

Photographer
Curacao

Roger Gibbs is a New York-based freelance photographer, born in Curacao. He specializes in editorials and portraits, and finds inspiration through exploration and traveling the globe to find new experiences. As an artist, he strives to capture an overall representation of each subject in his photographs. The Fisherman's Project images, in particular, hold a special place for him, as it was an opportunity to tell the story of the perseverance, beauty and passion exhibited by a local group of fisherman from his home country.

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'Old man'

Juliette Goddard

Artist
UK

I studied Fine Art at Middlesex University under renowned artists like Richard Wentworth - currently head of sculpture at the Royal College of Art (RCA) - and Paula Rego, graduating with a BA (hons) degree in Fine Art. This was followed in 1984 by a Master in Fine Arts and Printmaking from the RCA under the late Professor Alistair Grant, whose support earned me a bursary scholarship from the Sir Henry Moore Foundation to complete my degree. It also allowed me to visit Much Hadham Estates, where I was privileged to watch Henry Moore working in his studio.

Under the aegis of Professor Grant, I was furthermore selected to go on a RCA exchange to the Ecole des Arts Decorative in Paris to study etching, lithography and printmaking under the famous master print technicians of Picasso, Chagall, Rouault and Henry Moore.

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'Cat Woman'



Humzah Goolam

Artist
South Africa

The focus of South African Humzah Goolam is research on world culture - currently Africa and Japan. Having moved to Tokyo in 2008, he uses Hiphop, manga, fashion, photography, music and film for inspiration working mainly in oil on canvas, abstract and portrait work. Bright colours and free flowing patterns reflect the vibrant cultures of countries.

In today's fast moving world people seem to forget the significance of culture. Humzah Goolam's work is a strong message to remember people's culture and to create a happy, inspiring environment 'so we all can work together as a team, building bonds of friendship and improving our understanding of the modern world we live in.'

www.wix.com/fancydogwings/tv

Natasha Graves

Interior Architecture, Design & Practice
UK

Born in Tortola BVI, to Vincentian parents my passion for art and design blossomed in St. Vincent and the Grenadines WI, where I grew up. I didn't like dolls but enjoyed making dolls houses from Lego, bits of wood, cardboard and cereal boxes. My parents nurtured my creative side by letting me draw all over my bedroom walls.

After achieving a Triple Distinction Grade, BTEC National Diploma in Graphic Design from Coleggywent in South Wales, I moved to London where I graduated in July 2011 with Upper Second Class Honours, BA Interior Architecture: Design & Practice from Middlesex University.

I enjoy designing and making jewellery and interior objects from timber.

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Jonathan Hagos

Architect
UK

Jonathan Hagos is an architect holding a Bachelor degree and Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture from Bartlett, UCL.

His work re-illustrates post-colonial themes like identity and immigration executed through diverse media such as cartography and full-scale installations. It has been featured in several international publications and exhibitions. He is co-production designer on the feature length film 'Simshar', focusing on the plight of immigrants in the Mediterranean and tensions between tradition and change on the islands upon which they arrive. Alongside this he has been commissioned to design new classrooms and a library at St Michael's Community Centre in Camberwell, is currently tutoring on the March course at Oxford Brookes University and acts as a visiting design critic at several design schools around the UK.

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'Pose'

Gerard Hanson

Artist
UK

My work is rooted in the movement of people. exploring and exposing ideas of displacement, assimilation and exclusion, wrapped up in a duality of existence and identity. It investigates and represents current generations, who move back and forth from Jamaica. The representation of these journeys, people and places is of historic and contemporary importance, something I aim to bring to the surface in my work. Multiculturalism has brought us to a new juncture. Current generations are more aware of the mix of nationality, race and culture surrounding them. Adults are seeking new ways of making sense of these complicated issues, feeling 'out of place'; and at the same time bridging the overlap of cultural, racial and physical spaces we inhabit and exist within. Exposed is a generation searching for missing pieces of their cultural jigsaw, simultaneously finding acceptance and solace contrasted with rejection and torment. Such experiences are succinctly encapsulated in the offspring of mixed marriages who feel 'out of place' both 'here and there'.

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'Aurore'

Margaret Hanson

Fine Art
UK

As a second-generation immigrant with Jamaican/English heritage, my art practice is concerned with the history and legacy of transatlantic slavery and the ways in which it affects my own issues of identity (in terms of being black and being British) and that of other African diaspora members in Britain today.

Taking inspiration from the portrayal of Africans in British visual culture over the last 300 years, my work is a personal journey into the legacy of slavery, colonisation and migration for my own sense of belonging (or more often not belonging).

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'We are cool'

Tamis Harris

Motion, Graphic and Digital Designer
UK

Filled with curiosity, my work stems from a process that has been whipped with ideas, sprinkled with awareness and topped off with solutions. Fueled by love of crafted stories and classic design, I combine the ingredients of illustrative graphics and stylized photography with digital effects.

My creativity does not have a formula, but I am willing to explore new ideas and areas of experimentation, while continuing to search for meaning in and through my work. A reflection on society, my pieces question and engage through visual con-re-de-construction.

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DeAndre Harris

Visual Artist
USA

Born 1988 in Saint Louis, Missouri, the photographic work of Chicago-based, Johannesburg-minded DeAndre Harris is focused on physical and psychic space, giving particular consideration to the body and the city as sites of contestation informed by questions of gender, race, sexuality, nationality, citizenship, diaspora, policing and surveillance. Of interest are matters of marginality, nuanced identities that are positioned outside the frame and formed by processes of negation (the 'to be' not) and disidentification. He studied photography, cultural studies and black world studies at Columbia College Chicago and currently attends the University of South Africa for his Bachelor of Arts in African politics, history and history of art.

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'Bride who ate husband'

Amanda Holiday

Artist, Filmmaker
UK

Artist / filmmaker Amanda Holiday was born in Sierra Leone and came to live in the UK at the age of five. She completed a degree in Fine Art at Wimbledon and exhibited in landmark black art shows such as 'The Image Employed' and 'Black Art - Plotting The Course'.

Holiday moved into film & scriptwriting - directing several, short experimental films for the Arts Council, BFI and Channel 4.

Between 2001-10, Holiday lived in Cape Town where she wrote and directed for educational television. In 2008 she resumed drawing with 10 huge new works in the 'Hum of History' series.

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Nadia Huggins

Photographer
St. Vincent / St. Lucia

Nadia Huggins is a digital photographer from St. Vincent and the Grenadines who has been specializing in documentary and conceptual photography for over eight years. Her work takes apart the everyday and everyday-ness. The juxtapositions she employs, along with her attention to composition, light and presence, infuses the form and content, thereby addressing ideas of veiled beauty. She has been featured in several online and print publications internationally and is part of the Depthcore Collective. She is also the founder and creative director of Arc Magazine.

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Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich

Photographer
Jamaica

Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich's work considers the hybrid culture of Caribbean-American neighbourhoods. Her images and writing on the Caribbean have been published by the Studio Museum of Harlem and will appear in an upcoming issue of Small Axe: A Caribbean Platform for Criticism. She studied photography at Hampshire College (where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in photography and film), Edna Manley College of the Performing and Visual Arts in Kingston, Jamaica, and the International Center of Photography in New York. Medium: film, photography.

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Dionne Ible

Mosaic Artist
UK

Dionne Ible was first introduced to mosaic in 2002, when she attended a 10-week Introduction to Mosaics course at the Working Men's College in London.

Her immediate fascination with mosaics inspired her to do more and to find out, if other people would be interested in her work. She subsequently founded her own company under the Egyptian name 'Qemamu' - meaning 'creator' or 'creation' – feeling that this described exactly what mosaics is all about. Her work is often reminiscent of naïve African art depicting motifs from the beliefs of African natural religions. Dionne Ible also runs mosaic art workshops for children and adults and works in schools, clubs, and community groups. She exhibits at various art and craft venues and is a member of the British Association for Modern Mosaic (BAMM) who promote, encourage and support excellence in contemporary mosaic art.

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Yinka Ilori

Furniture Designer
UK

Of African Nigerian descent, Yinka Ilori was born, bred and educated in the UK. He holds a BA (hons) degree in Furniture and Product Design from London Metropolitan University and has since specialised in re-designing discarded furniture.

His design approach starts with the dismantling of the original item into individual components, which he then re-assembles into a new piece ready for use again. Deeply aware and passionately against the unnecessary waste of modern consumer societies in the Western World, Yinka Ilori also happily accepts unwanted or damaged furniture from private individuals, so that he can save, rehabilitate and beautify them for future use.

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Marlon James

Photographer
Jamaica

Marlon James studied sculpture at the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts in Jamaica, but later found fulfillment in photography under the tutelage of Donette Zacca. He was later nominated for the 'Under 40 Artist of the Year' competition. He has worked with international and local photographers including Anthony Mandler and Mark Seliger. This has allowed James to access a pool of expertise that continues to inform his work as he develops his own creative style. He is currently employed as a photography technician, lecturer and assistant curator of CAG[e] Gallery at Edna Manley College.

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Mariamma Kambon

Photographer
Trinidad

Mariamma Kambon, a native of Trinidad and Tobago, lives and works in Trinidad and Tobago and New York City. Mariamma founded the commercial photography company m/mariamma Creative Photography in 2007 between completing a Bachelor of Science from North Carolina Central University (physics, magna cum laude, Class of 2002), and the General Studies programme at the International Center of Photography (Class of 2010). Kambon's practice is based around the exploration of contemporary culture within the context of recorded history. She is meticulous and detail-oriented in researching her chosen themes and creating.

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Laurence Kanza

Home Furnishings Designer
UK

British born of Congolese descent, Laurence Kanza's childhood homes were a blend of Congolese artefacts, hand-carved chairs, and European furniture.

This early introduction to design informed her decorative style which was further honed through years of international travel. It was only a matter of time before this global nomad, motivated by a desire to be creative, would move from a career in publishing into the world interiors, founding her line 'La Petite Congolaise' - The little Congolese girl - offering a contemporary twist on accent colours for the home.

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Bezem Kassan

Fashion & Textile Designer
UK

London based Russian / Togolese costume and fashion designer Bezem Kassan, co-founder with her childhood friend Mai Lan Chapiron (of Vietnamese/ French descent) of the fashion label +BEZEMYMAILAN+, has travelled extensively through Africa to learn techniques from artisan craftsmen, developing ideas and inspirations, which she combines with her own individuality and diverse cultural background.

This experience, coupled with being raised in the cosmopolitan environment of Paris, led to the creation of their label, which is a fusion of ethnic and contemporary design.

They produce hand-made garments, which reflect cultural heritage and modern society's influences and are keen to preserve and revive traditional arts.

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Natalie Keymist

Photographer
UK

The London based photographer has a passion for the visual arts. She completed a degree in Contemporary Media Practices from the University of Westminster and has since worked as a freelance photographer, also doing internships with Shoot experience, Victoria and Albert Museum, the Black Cultural archives and Zoom in. Her love for the still image crosses over various photographic disciplines, exploring different mediums in photography through practice. Natalie Keymist aims to create work anchored in her interest in the historical and theoretical use of photography. As a side activity she also runs workshops in pinhole photography. Her commercial work includes clients like Caribbean Cupcakes and the Voice Newspaper.

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Mark King

Photographer
Barbados

Mark King is passionate about all things photography. His work is about exploration, new experiences and the constant pursuit of fresh imagery. Based in Barbados, Mark's body of work blurs the line between fine art and commercial photography. Mark's photography takes him around the world, and gives him the opportunity to participate in artist in residences and group exhibitions. This enables Mark to pursue new projects and collaborate with creative people around the globe. Travel has played a large part in his life. He has called The Bahamas, Barbados, Brussels, San Francisco and Washington DC home.

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Julie Kouamo

Textile Designer
UK

Julie Kouamo creates, edits and produces limited edition printed fabrics for the home focusing on bold imagery inspired by nature and vegetal.

Her creative signature is achieved through experimentation fusing old and traditional dyeing methods with modern printing techniques. Patterns go from figurative to abstract emphasizing onto mark-making. Her designs are inspired by the culture and heritage of individual African people, like the Bamileke of West Cameroon, their language – the Bagou – and their patterns resulting in a collection that mixes the resist dyeing technique of batik, mark-making, screen-printing and photography to give her African heritage a little of European twist.

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Charl Landrveugd

Photographer
Suriname / The Netherlands

Charl Landrveugd is a Dutch artist, born in Suriname and raised in Rotterdam. Aesthetically, politically and theoretically black is the base colour in his practice. The artist has studied at Goldsmiths College and Columbia University.

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Robertson Lindsay

Architect, Designer, Photographer
UK

I acquired my fascination for space and light as a child. Developing my skills in optical and visual perception through architecture has enabled me to create a unique way of capturing the journey of light moving through time and space. I tell this journey through the eyes of my camera. The camera becomes a paintbrush on a digital canvas, for which I use light as a medium. I like to share through my work a depiction of the journey of light as mystical and beautiful - somewhat like our own.

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Frank Lumsden

Fine Artist
Jamaica

Frank Lumsden is a self taught, internationally renowned artist with paintings in private collections worldwide.

He holds a BA in Business Administration from Southern Illinois University, USA and has worked as an investment broker and account representative for Oppenheims and Shearson/American Express.

The training he received during these years in sales has given him an understanding of long term planning and a will for advocacy, which he uses today to promote and preserve the history of the Jamaican Maroon communities on the world platform and to raise funds for the survival of their traditions, cultural heritage and identity as well as the economic development of the community.

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Denise Mahmud

Fashion Designer
UK

Native New Yorker Denise Mahmud creates her own collection by combining textile and fashion techniques including draping, Shibori dyeing, silkscreen, block printing, weaving and embroidery in a unique fusion giving each hand made garment individuality. These textile led designs are modern and ultra-feminine styles that address a chic urban woman who fully assumes her femininity.

Evolving each season, the collections are beautifully crafted and trend-resistant. Offering versatile pieces suitable for day-to-night dressing - the very definition of investment dressing.

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Honey Malaolu

Fashion Designer
UK

Honey Malaolu is a British born Nigerian fashion designer, who started her vision in 2008. She skillfully blends cultural inspirations from India, Africa and Europe combining contemporary silhouettes with an ethnic twist to complement the female figure. Her versatility as a fashion designer enables her to create high street styles as well as extravagant one-off couture pieces frequently employing elaborate draping techniques.

She loves working with vintage fabrics in bold colourful prints and has a particular faible for butterflies as her very own winged signature symbol.

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*'A Modern Portrait Of Britain'
Styled By Haiden Medina*

Michael Mapp

Artist, Photographer, Graphic Designer
UK

Michael Mapp has a strong background in art and fashion with a degree in art and design and photo-media. He has worked in all disciplines retaining a strong interest in fashion design, which does not define but certainly influences his work.

Michael Mapp's professional scope covers fine art, graphic design, portrait, fashion, beauty, lifestyle and events striving to achieve accurate conveyance with original aesthetics.

But beyond the veneer of the world that glitters and things, which are sold, he is an artist shaped by the age of Pop Art, the Young British Artist and the contemporary art movements of the last decades and a keen interest in the life and culture that surround him.

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Gary March

Contemporary Sculptor
UK

'Art chose me, carving is my way of life' Carving is my method to explore my thoughts. My theme is inner peace, nature and dreams. The main source for my carvings are my feelings like anger, joy or pain. But what I enjoy the most is when I am into my process of creation and do not know the outcome.

That is, why each day is different and my day to day tools (my eyes, my hands...) help me to generate my work.

My most known sculpture is 'Earth Mother' and it is installed at Windsor Castle on the main arch of St George's Chapel.

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'Helix'

Taslim Martin

Sculptor, Furniture Designer, Artist
UK

My work is concerned with form, structure and the sculptural potential of design objects, ranging from figurative and portraiture sculpture to furniture design and public art commissions. Craft skills are very important in my work and I am happy to learn new processes or forge links with industry to achieve the required results. I am also very interested in the idea of an appropriate creative response to one's cultural background. Does being of African descent prescribe the kind of work I should make? Only, if one has a prescriptive idea of what African art can be. We see in the work what we bring to it. Ultimately, the artist and his work are being redefined by each person, who engages with them. In short, the ideal is creative freedom. To acknowledge one's cultural identity should not negate this. I believe that some of my best work to date has come from the creative freedom I have experienced in the self-initiated work I have exhibited.

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Manuel Mathieu

Photographer
Haiti

Manuel Mathieu's practice encompasses an anthropomorphic incarnation generated by a multitude of gestures – sometimes controlled, sometimes left to an inner spontaneity. The result is reminiscent of something monstrous, and leaves the viewer coping with distortions and combinations that have no justification. This aesthetic is comparable to the venerable Greek sculptures. Beautiful bodies dismembered or disfigured by time or accident. Mathieu tries to capture emotions or a state of being and is looking for the inconceivable, that which is beyond our senses.

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Ameena McConnell

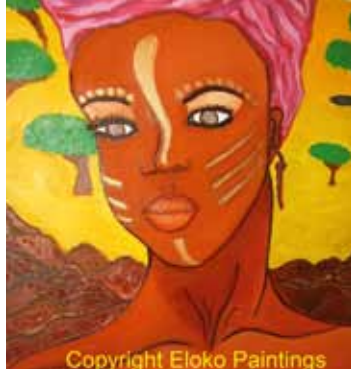
Textile Artist
UK

Ameena McConnell's long background as an artistic producer and cultural activist informs her creativity as an artist and designer. To her, textiles are tactile, personal, sensorial and working with them fills her with a sense of wonderment, self-discovery, confidence and trust.

She enjoys using her hands creating three-dimensional textile structures, networks and sculptures from materials such as fibres, threads, leather and paper and techniques like macramé, crocheting, hand weaving and sculpting with Modroc plaster.

As an artist, Ameena McConnell cherishes values such as freedom, courage, aesthetic, excellence and independence. She seeks to positively provoke debate, expand and inspire the minds of her audience. Her commentary comes from a cultural history perspective, richly influenced by the Black Arts Movement, Post Black Art and black British popular culture.

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Shana Mongwanga-Eloko

Artist, Writer, Filmmaker
UK

As an artist, Shana Mongwanga-Eloko finds it easier to talk about her films and plays than about herself 'rather letting the work speak for itself and perhaps touch a few hearts, connect a few souls, open a few eyes!' Although she did not train as a fine artist, she is happy to learn her craft by self-instruction, through observing nature and looking at the works of great artists.

She has also decided to specialise on a subject matter, she feels she knows best - Women. Black women!

In her own words – as a woman of Congolese origin, born in Bukavu, in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo -

I feel the urge to say:
I have a Voice.
I am Alive.
I am Beautiful.
I am.

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Herman and Fola Morgan

Architects and Designers M-A&D
UK

Herman and Fola Morgan are the founders of the London based architecture and design studio M-A&D.

They operate through a diverse and multi-national background that informs the direction of their work creating a stimulating international perspective across multiple disciplines and helps them to develop a material, spatial and emotional rationale to all their projects within a range of formal and informal contexts.

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'African & Diaspora Cinema'

Berjo Mouanga

Visual Artist, Graphic Designer
Czech Republic

Many things and people have inspired me. I fell in love with creativity and art at an early age. I improved my skills with art education at secondary school of art studying scientific illustration. Wanting to take my craft to another level I continued my studies with graphic design at Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic.

I mainly work with line drawing as it permits to create a long palette of shades and fine details. My personal work is nowadays filled with African art. I wrote my bachelor dissertation on African and Diaspora cinema, because I wanted to open up a subject, which people do not know much about.

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Alexander Mulligan

Furniture and interior designer
UK

Taking inspiration from both artistic and architectural practices, Alexander Mulligan's sculptural approach to design questions the implied connotations of furniture, object and interior.

He creates work that focuses on the interplay between space and object, using graphic influences to effect dimensions, planes of surface and function.

His experimental use of materials, textures and colour combined with interactive and engaging elements, serves to create conceptually exciting and challenging works.

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Lavar Munroe

Illustrator & Multi Media Artist
Bahamas

Lavar Munroe was born on 19 November 1982, in Nassau, Bahamas. He currently resides in Raleigh, North Carolina.

He was educated at The Savannah College of Art and Design where he studied illustration, obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts (summer 2007). As a full-time artist, Lavar's career has fostered many exhibits both locally and internationally. He has a solo exhibit currently on view at Wesley Theological Seminary's Dadian Gallery in Washington, DC. Munroe is currently based in St. Louis, Missouri, where he lives with his wife and daughter.

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Nomie Mzingwane

Textile Designer
UK

Being of African descent has played an influential part in all my design work. I cannot claim to create design wholly African inspired but the flavour is hard to miss. My great love for art and design is only surpassed by my passion for culture and tradition.

Design to me is not just about expressing what I see, but about merging boundaries, be it art forms or influences to create unique designs.

As a textile designer my focus is mainly creating pattern for fabrics, wallpaper and rugs.

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'Diaspora People'

Michael Nab

Artists
UK

As far as Mike Nab can remember, he has always been an artist. Aged seven he drew a lantern for his school workbook and since then his surname became synonymous with 'the artist'.

By the time Mike Nab was in Grade 6 and 12 years old, he had become a friend of the School of Architecture and the College of Art at Kwame Nkrumah University. The year before he went to secondary school, he was invited to contribute artworks ranging from simple pencil drawings, water colours and pastels to ceramic pieces for an exhibition organised by the Faculties of Art and Architecture dubbed 'Creative Connection Exhibition'.

Today Mike Nab who lives with his family in London works primarily as a web-designer and Illustrator. He has only recently returned to his true vocation, his art. His watercolour series on the breaking up of community ties shown in the Black & White exhibition was one of the major Inspirations for the Diaspora Initiative.

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Edward Niles

Artist, Designer
UK

Art, design and science have always been my first love and although my starting point is in the traditions of painting and drawing, my pieces are finalised in the modern digital realm creating a more contemporary look. As a medium, textiles provide the vehicle for my journey into a limitless route for exploring and developing these disciplines and my core skills of colour, drawing, texture and shape. Although my initial interest was in the application to the surface of the fabric – dyeing, printing –, I have recently become more interested in its structure – form and function. Apart from the design aspect there has always been a varied amount of scientific (chemical) knowledge employed in the textile manufacturing/ dyeing process, which brings me to the multiplicity of purpose that textiles possess – the visually aesthetic, the feel and the function of it. I'm also fascinated by the current globalization of our planet, the effects it has upon us currently and in the future, as well as hybridisation and mutations on our popular culture. This complex kaleidoscope of reference material offers for a more vibrant, exciting aesthetic.

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'Hear in Plain Sight'

Amma Aning Odum

Object and Graphic Designer
USA

A multidisciplinary designer with a BS from Cornell University in Design and Environmental Analysis and a Master in Designed Objects from the School of the Art Institute in Chicago, Amma Aning Odum explores what it means to be a person of the African Diaspora and designer today. Her work is a combination of material object and illustrated narrative, examining the role of messaging, perception and the potential to misread intention behind culturally relevant ideologies and practices.

A typical example is her project 'Hear in Plain Sight' – a table, which far exceeds its physical purpose. It is a place to break literal bread, but it is also a place to gather – where stories are heard for the first time, and then handed on. Illustrated on the table surface is the story of the Asante Golden stool. These spoken histories serve as a reminder of who she is as a Ghanaian-American. Each story contributes to a collective memory inscribed into the hearts of Ghanaians no matter where they may live.

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Adjani Okpu-Egbe

Fine Art
UK

Born and educated in Cameroon, West Africa, I now live and work in London.

I am a self-taught expressionist artist, whose very personal paintings have been influenced by an amazing, inspirational life story. Through fate and sheer resilience, I am very fortunate to 'still be here'. My mission as an artist is to instigate objective debate in order to educate, heal, sensitise, inspire, and help people all over the world in any way that I can – to help change lives through art as it has changed life for me.

Art therapy has become an indispensable effective force in my fight against clinical depression, where 'orthodox' treatments have failed. I intend to help other people manage depression in a similar way.

As someone, who does not like 'limitations', I draw inspiration from a wide range of subjects – from culture, politics, economics, religion, environment to anything that catches my fancy.

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Rose Oliver

Artist
UK

Rose Oliver works in various media including photography, film and installation.

With a combined theory and practice MA in Fine Art, her specialist subject is the construction and representation of identities. Although her work is diverse, she often explores the themes of childhood memories and narratives centering around the relationship between public and private moments.

Her installation pieces often combine images with fabrics, furnishings and stitching/embroidery. Her main artistic aim is to be a catalyst for inspirational dialogue and exchange through a variety of creative practices and productions.

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Munirah Olton

Ceramic Artist
UK

Originating from Zaire, Salongo means 'We come together to create something beautiful - out of love'.

I specialise in creating 2D and 3D functional and sculptural ceramics and in the spirit of 'Salongo' the original, handmade art and designs are a re-framing of traditional symbols and materials from Africa, the Caribbean and England. As another platform for expressing a contemporary African Caribbean / Black British identity, by using various clay bodies, hand building in clay also retains a sense of historical relevance that informs my contribution to our visual culture and representation - inspired by our heritage and influenced by our experience.

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Elizabeth Oniri

Mixed Media Artist
UK

The work of the London based artist centres around human identity, exploring the unseen self and how the mental identity marries with the physical self.

Her collection of work 'Drawing a Balance' deals with the issues of normal and abnormal in regards to the body's internal mechanics. This particular disorder called Osteoporosis leads to the body becoming unbalanced and chaos reigns. By beautifying the disorder and making it more palatable she hopes to inspire interest and concern rather than cause the on-lookers to recoil from a disorder that effects so many. 'Drawing a Balance' was exhibited as part of a TBC artist collective group exhibition at the Crypt Gallery.

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Marcus Owen

Artist
UK

For me, all forms of design have always been a passion. As a child I would go through weekend magazines that came with the paper cutting out all the logos I liked. Even when drawing at school I made sure I had a distinct branding or recognisable mark. This has naturally led to consulting and branding work for a wide variety of clients - from close friends, independent recording artists to entrepreneurial powerhouses like Russell Simmons (Run Athletics) and other fashion companies like Storm London.

Inspiration comes from life in its entirety; an extension of that being, of course, my culture and family. With all my work - be it visual (graphic design, fine art) or music projects, the intent is to connect with the artistic contributions of my people throughout the ages and not to embarrass that legacy trying to construct a piece of work with the same momentous vision that built the pyramids! Why? So the work stands the test of time long after I am gone. As it should be.

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Anselmo Pelelmbe

Graphic Designer, Photographer, Artist
UK

I have been creative throughout my life! I have worked and exhibited as a photographer and an artist. My life and travels have all expanded and heightened my thinking, giving me a wealth of inspirations. One of my projects is my interpretation of our 'Boundaries' brief, focusing on the boundaries of the African continent as symbols of a range of ethical issues like colonialism, oppression and exploitation. The message is communicated through a poster series, expressive typography and a sculpture, raising some of the big questions such as war, disease, corruption. I hope these three forms enable me to get across the 'big questions', while still being able to end with a positive message of hope and resilience 'We are all African!' Although the exhibition highlights the wars and conflicts, the poverty and disease of Africa, the core message of 1,000 words clearly shows the depth of resilience of the African people and their ability to survive against all odds. The final cry of this exhibition is 'We are all African'. Humanity, the human race, was born in the African continent.

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"Quicksilver", 36in x60in

Fred Phillips

Visual Artist
Barbados

St. Vincent born Fred Phillips (Parhelion) worked as a corporate lawyer in Barbados, Jamaica and Toronto before discovering his artistic calling.

He draws on the totality of his life experience, having 'that much more of myself to produce such intensely intimate work. In my art, the act of creation itself, the method of communication, is part of the message. Life is vibrant, riotous energy in constant motion and the play of raw colours expresses this - a spontaneous demonstration that creativity is the antithesis of despair. Each piece is an unrepeatable event expressing the essence of an idea, concept or feeling. Bringing a painting to manifestation assists the underlying notion to fly free by giving it extra dimensions, in which to move and have its being. Symbolism is directly communicated to the viewer, bypassing pre-conceived notions and striking to the heart of the relationship between observer and observed.'

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Adachi Pimentel

Photographer
Dominican Republic

Born in New York City to Dominican parents and raised in Harlem and the Bronx, Adachi Pimentel has evolved into an inspiring and socially conscious photographer. First introduced to photography in 1998, she fell in love with documenting the world around her. Adachi's images encapsulate expressive and engaging subjects. She currently resides in Philadelphia, where she crafted her eye as a documentary filmmaker and coupled her new talents with her rooted love for photography. Adachi Pimentel emphasizes uplifting culture and progressive movements of art and action.

www.adachipimentel.blogspot.com



Radcliffe Roye

Photographer
Dominican Republic

Radcliffe Roye is a Brooklyn-based documentary photographer specializing in editorial and environmental portraits, photo-journalism and stock photography. A self-taught photographer with over 10 years experience, Radcliffe is inspired by the raw and gritty lives of grass-roots people, especially those of his homeland of Jamaica. With painterly abilities, Radcliffe uses this diffused methodology to subtly awake the subconscious and expose the isolated figure or vision painted within a rhetorical frame.

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"Words of Justice"

Jeremy Salmon

Artist, Designer, Illustrator
UK

North Londoner Jeremy Salmon was inspired by comic books and fantasy from an early age. Encouraged by his art teachers at school, Jeremy studied his favourite subject at Middlesex University, graduating with BA honours.

Since then Jeremy has developed his own distinctive style while maintaining a versatile approach, allowing him to produce work ranging from traditional to contemporary illustrations for commercial clients and his specialist art collectors.

His work appeared in various exhibitions including the 2010 UK tour exhibition "Lawless Justice". He also acted as a curator and promoter for this exhibition.

Owner of the design consultancy Jasimages, Jeremy also produces artwork for various charitable organisations, which highlight injustice and promote positive change. His choice medium is acrylic or oil on canvas. Using vibrant, bold and quite simple imagery Jeremy endeavours to educate with imagery.

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Keisha Scarville

Photographer
Guyana

Keisha Scarville, a Brooklyn native, weaves together themes dealing with memory and transformation, often photographing her family and common everyday objects. Scarville's work has been exhibited and published nationally. In 2006, Keisha was awarded a grant through the Brooklyn Arts Council's Community Arts Program. Currently, Keisha is a faculty member at the International Center of Photography and studying art therapy at The New School. She balances her time between working for various youth arts organizations and her own art-related projects.

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Jacqueline Shaw

Textile Designer/Author
UK

A professional fashion designer with a BA (Hons) in Fashion and a MA in Ethical Fashion, Jacqueline Shaw first worked for various well-known international fashion brands before founding the AfricaFashionGuide (AFG) with the focus to promote the African fashion and textile industry and create links to the European markets.

She also owns the designer wedding dress company *Latibeau* and launched her first book '*Fashion Africa*' in 2011.

A convinced eco-entrepreneur Jacqueline Shaw devotes a lot of her time to further the cause of ethical design in the global clothing industry.

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Olu Shobowale

Fine Art
UK

My name is Olu Shobowale. I am a Nigerian and was raised in Tottenham, North London.

A turning point for me came while I was studying at London Metropolitan University, where I began to explore the use of non traditional art materials. My current medium is animal bones and other found objects. I have recently exhibited my bone coffin at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 2011. Inspired by the coffin i have begun to develop smaller pieces to be hung in living spaces.

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Ernest Simons

Photographer
UK

Of Ghanaian descent, Ernest Simons has taken on professional photography as one way to passionately serve his parents' country in as many ways as possible. Having been appointed as the official photographer to cover a number of the Ghana National Football Team, he intends to make a one of a kind photographic eBook with these photos for historical documentation. He also loves the fashion world and plans to combine both these areas as his field of specialization.

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Zekaryas Solomon

Architect, Fashion Designer
UK

Eritrean born Zekaryas Solomon grew up in Germany but spent his early years in Sudan. He studied architecture, art and design in Wuppertal, Germany, graduating in 2005 with a degree in architecture. Working as an assistant architect he developed a passionate interest in fashion design. In 2009, he decided to attend the London College of Fashion designing a menswear collection for his final project. He graduated in 2010 with a MA in Pattern Design & Garment Technology and has since built up his own labelled ready-to-wear and bespoke men- and womenswear collections.

His training as an architect is evident in the clean lines and impeccable structure of his designs drawing his inspiration from his Eritrean heritage and re-interpreting traditional costumes with a futuristic, functional edge.

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'Seeds of hope'

Carol Sorhaindo

Visual Artist
UK

I am a visual artist working mostly in 2d artforms, with a background in interior and exhibition design. Born in Yorkshire, where I still live, I spent most of my childhood years in Dominica, Nature Isle of the Caribbean.

In a modern, technological age, I aim to inspire a sense of calm reflection and reverence for our ever resilient African and natural spirit. Works often include the use of natural and recycled materials and are a colourful fusion of colour and texture rooted in African and Caribbean spirit, heritage and culture.

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Lara Stein Pardo

Photographer
Cuba

Lara Stein Pardo's artwork and writing revolve around themes of space and place, and the complexities of people's negotiation of the socio-geographic world. Born in Miami, she earned her BA in Ethnic Studies and Studio Art from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and her MA in Socio-Cultural Anthropology from the University of Michigan. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Michigan in the Anthropology Department, and a Fellow at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, DC where she is completing her dissertation about diaspora aesthetics and Caribbean women artists in Miami.

www.larasteinpardo.com



Stacey Tyrell

Photographer
St Kitts

Stacey Tyrell was born and raised in Toronto, Canada. Her work deals predominantly with issues of identity, and has appeared in such shows as 'Photography NOW 2009' at the Center for Photography at Woodstock, New York, and most recently in 'Position As Desired: Contemporary African Canadian Photography' at the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. Her images are also part of Heritage Canada's permanent collection and have appeared in publications such as Prefix Photo and Applied Arts Magazine. She currently lives and works in New York City.

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'Belongings'

Emamoke Ukeleghe

Textile Designer
UK

Emamoke Ukeleghe is a storyteller, who is inspired by her faith in Jesus Christ, family & friends, cultural background, pattern and everyday life. Through her prints, she aims to bring an emotional connection between the viewer and the cloth. The works displayed are from a series titled 'Belonging' where the themes of identity and displacement are explored. 'You are being forced out of the country today, and you have 24 hours to say good-bye to your friends and family. You have not been told where you are going. However, you can take three items with you. It is up to you what you take, but remember you may not be coming back. What would your three items be and why?'

The answer to this question has resulted in a range of printed, stitched and constructed fabrics.

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'Siraforo'

Nadine Walker

Artist
UK

As for most artists, the subject of identity is one of the main concepts explored in my work. Both collections exhibited are a small snapshot of my pursuit to marry both my African-Caribbean heritage and my experience of British culture.

The exploration and illustration of Caribbean Proverbs was a perfect opportunity to continue this pursuit. This process has allowed me to develop contemporary visuals to traditional and often humorous literature.

As a woman, I find the words of Maya Angelou in her poem 'Still I Rise' both inspirational and empowering. The line 'I am the dream and hope of the slave' inspired me to create images of women, who others could identify with.

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Akeisha Walters

Fine Art, Illustrator
UK

Akeisha Walters is a London based artist, who grew up in the diverse community of Brixton. As the last child of two siblings, and a strong Caribbean background, Akeisha was a reserved individual with a passionate desire for the creative world.

Studying fashion and art at college and university level between 2007 and 2009, Akeisha developed her inspiration through ancient cultural textiles and figures. Her work evolved rapidly through working around African cloth and illustration and gradually merging the two into what was to become her trademark signature designs. She has collaborated with well-known artist KofiArts, who organised the contemporary art exhibition 'Art At The Palace' featuring four new artists 2010.

Since then Akeisha has started her own range of mixed media art greeting cards showing beautifully adorned, strikingly feminine young African women.

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Anthony Walters

Ceramic Artist
UK

The creativity of Jamaican born ceramic artist Anthony Walters is influenced by the rich cultural heritage of his birthplace and its gentle indigenous people - the Taino Indians – master basket weavers and potters. Working primarily in stoneware, Anthony's forte is his application of the coiling technique, a basic technique of forming pottery out of sausage-like lengths of clay, a legacy of the Tainos. His artistic and technical skills manifest themselves in refined shapes, colours and glazes, his attention to detail and his use of abstract designs. Anthony is a member of the vibrant ceramic artist community in London and Jamaica, whose most internationally celebrated artist to date was Cecil Baugh, who studied under Bernard Leach, the father of British studio pottery. For the 50th anniversary of Jamaica from British Colonial rule in 2012, Anthony will be designing a ceramic tribute to commemorate this landmark year – significantly it will be the first object to be launched under his CECILWARE™ brand.

<http://cecilware.tumblr.com>



Vivian Walusimbi

Textile Designer
UK

I was born and brought up in the UK with African parents. I hold a BA (hons) in Surface Decoration and Textile Design from the University of East London (UEL), where I also acquired screen printing and Photoshop skills enabling me to mix traditional techniques with modern computer-aided design technologies.

As a young black woman, my influence and inspiration has always been based on African and African-Caribbean designs fusing them with creative influences from other sources, such as Asia. My main signature is the use of exotic colours, plants, abstracts features and women of colour.

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Rodell Warner

Photographer
Trinidad

Rodell Warner is a photographer and graphic designer who works in Trinidad and Tobago. His work consistently revolves around the examination of contemporary Trinidad, and the ways Trinidad people see themselves and what they do. In 2011, his 'Photobooth', 'Worker Portraits' and 'Maker: Self' works were shown in group exhibitions in New York, Washington and Maracaibo, respectively. Warner is a 2011 recipient of the Commonwealth Connections International Arts Residency.

www.rodellwarner.com
www.toomucheyes.com



'This is me'

Abi Wright

Information Designer, Artist
UK

Being an information designer allows me to alternate between creative titles and experiment with different media, including photography, screen-printing, organic typography and digital design. Using culture and identity as my stimulus, the objective of my creative process is to dissect and re-construct, simplify and project, inform and educate. Keeping my work ethic in line with this statement gives me the freedom to create a varied portfolio that is educational and aesthetically pleasing.

'This Is Me' is a photographic account of being Mixed Race. Representing personal experiences and an urge to open this topic up for discussion, I aim to educate those you have a narrow mind in regards to the multifaceted term.

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'Pibibuze' ('man') - Face mask used by the Bwete association in Kwele, Gabon, in initiation and funeral rites.

When I am masked, I am not myself.

African proverb

'Using face, body paint, costume and masks are man's oldest attempts to change his inner and outer self - for himself and the viewer. More so than face and body paint, however, masks and the full body costumes that were mostly part of the mask wearer's 'dress code' allowed him to completely conceal his own physique and assume another persona, be this of a spirit being, an ancestor, an enemy, an animal or an otherwise invisible power of spiritual and social control.'

He can temporarily turn into an 'animal', trying to portray and thus understand the animal's characteristics to better prepare himself for its chase and the potential dangers associated with it.

For exorcism in traditional natural psychiatry the frightening masks, costumes and sounds employed during the ritual force the patient to face and listen to the horrifying visions, fears and dreams that traumatize his real life through the substitute of the masked medium, while still reassured by the knowledge that its bearer is a member of his own community trying to help.

Preparing for armed conflict, the dramatic masks and costumes worn by the warrior – often also referencing imagery of the ancestors and spirits that protected his people - not only aimed at imbuing the enemy with fear, but also to provide courage to the individual by hiding his vulnerable body.

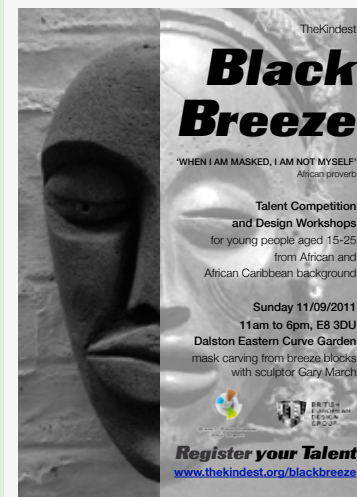
The very complex ceremonial events during which these masks and costumes were worn and which were executed by trained performers in strictly choreographed dances and stylised body movements expressed important social, religious and moral values for the whole community.

It is tragic for Africa's spiritual and cultural heritage and identity that so many of the detached 'disembodied' pieces of sculpture hanging today in Western World museums and galleries or decorating the walls of private residences show little respect for the profound significance and meaning of these sacred objects.

Maybe one can only grasp the 'blasphemy' of these displays, if one compared it with a decorative 'art' installation of crucifixes and crosses complete with the crucified Christ in the private home of a non-Christian. ■

Black Breeze

To create an awareness for some of this profound significance - especially among young diaspora Africans educated in Western world cultures - is one of the main aims of the AACDD Workshop 'Black Breeze' as part of the 2011 AACDD Programme of Events.



'Black Breeze' Workshop
Eastern Curve Garden
Dalston Lane
Hackney, London N8

Exhibition
Bargehouse
Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
South Bank
London SE1 9PH

When the drums speak even kings are silent



This observation of an unknown Africa traveller in the last century is perfectly true, even today. Granted, it may no longer be the kings - there are even less left in Africa than in Europe -, but it is certainly true that even presidents and prime ministers sit silent when the African drums raise their voices.

In fact, many Africans will argue that the drum IS the African voice, able to communicate across the thousands of indigenous languages and vast distances that separate individual people, traditions and cultural identities.

And to this day, you can steal a chicken or a goat and may just about get away with it, but you cannot take somebody's drum! You certainly will NOT get away with that.

The African drum is a sacred voice – its player a man with magical powers, an almost holy communicator, herald, orator, storyteller, hypnotist, psychologist and entertainer and a total 'slave' to his instrument.

Watching a true African drummer beat his drum is watching a man possessed. Hands move without conscious control, eyes are fixed on an outer void, ears are tuned to an inner voice. He is oblivious of his environment until the hands stop and the spirit of his rhythm has left his body. Only then can he return to the other real world.

Part of this is still obvious in some of the best drummers of African descent playing in the West, who can convey at least some of the magic that envelops the audience when listening to traditional drummers in Africa. Drummers, who never had any 'professional theoretical training' as the Western World understands it, but possess the deep knowledge of the rhythm of our heartbeat as the soul of life. ■

Center image: Handmade, traditional Djembe Drum, Tweneboa Wood, Ghana

*Rhythm is the
soul of life.
The whole
universe revolves
in rhythm.
Every thing and
every human
action revolves in
rhythm.*

Baba Tunji



1/2" Baltic Birch

Do-it-yourself Cajon Box & Maroon Bench Drums Workshop

*Build your own drum - bring
out your own rhythm - create
your own voice*

The AACDD Workshop 'Build Your Own Drum – Bring Out Your Own Rhythm – Create Your Own Voice' is aimed at young people of African and African-Caribbean descent between 10 – 18, who love drumming, rhythm and music, but do not have the financial means to pay for professionally made musical instruments.

*AACDD workshop with designers
Gary March & Taslim Martin*

Eastern Curve Garden
Dalston Lane
Hackney, London E8

*The rhythm is
we play
in your blood.*

African Proverb

Louis Armstrong



priestmangoode

Priestmangoode's work for world-class brands in the fields of product, environment, transport, branding and packaging has set new standards for excellence by creating beautiful and innovative design solutions.

From the smallest high tech product to the interior of the biggest aircraft in the world, Priestmangoode's stimulating creative process is at the centre of its design philosophy, that **'design should not be just about styling, but about making products and services better'**.

Priestmangoode AACDD Award 2011

Priestmangoode, one of the UK's leading design consultancies, is sponsoring an AACDD award by offering a summer placement in its London office.

The award, organised by the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora, sets out to provide greater opportunities in the design industry for ethnic minorities of African and African-Caribbean descent in the UK.

Priestmangoode is a London-based multidisciplinary design group working in product, branding, transport, environment and packaging design for a roster of significant brands across the globe. The consultancy currently has clients in the US, Brazil, Middle East and throughout Europe, and is opening its first overseas office in China this year. Aside from its broad range of design skills and expertise, one of the consultancy's key strengths lies in its ability to bring cultural understanding to its clients, helping to grasp different markets and increase sales and export. This expertise comes both from working with clients as well as having staff from around the world.

Paul Priestman, co-founding director of Priestmangoode says: **'I'm delighted to take part in this year's AACDD Awards Scheme. Cultural understanding and diversity is at the core of our work and can be instrumental in designing better products and services, particularly when designing for local and regional markets. We're a very busy consultancy, with projects going on across the globe and I hope this placement will enable a young product designer at the start of his career to gain valuable insight into the practice of product and transport design and the day to day running of a global design office.'**

The eight week placement will be awarded to an undergraduate or graduate student in the field of industrial, transport or interior design. For further information please contact:

African And African-Caribbean Design Diaspora (AACDD)
The Printhouse
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London E8 3DL
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E: info@aacdd.org
W: www.aacdd.org



branding the whole experience
priestmangoode.com

Deadline
for applications
**15 March
2012**

Call for entries

The Priestmangoode AACDD Award

*Eight week summer placement
at Priestmangoode,*

one of the uk's leading multi-disciplinary
design consultancies

www.priestmangoode.com

The Priestmangoode AACDD
Award is a unique opportunity for
an undergraduate or graduate student
of African or African-Caribbean
descent in

- **Industrial/product design**
- **Transport design**
- **Interior design**

to gain first rate and first hand practical
experience at this award winning top
British design studio with its global client
portfolio.

Applicants should submit:

- 1) **Full contact details**
incl. Website* if available
- 2) **Short CV** - max. 200 words
- 3) **Bio** - max. 100 words
- 4) **Brief creative statement** -
max 50 words
- 5) **Max. three low resolution
images** of relevant work
as attachments

Applications should be
addressed to:
award@aacdd.org



British European Design Group Promoting Creative Excellence Worldwide

The BEDG is a unique organisation with a passion for design at the heart of their foundation. I have exhibited with the group over the last decade and the BEDG have, and continue to be, an integral support structure for my company and many others alike. Perhaps an unsung hero in the journey of the designer and maker but never to be underestimated for their strength, determination and vision in supporting emerging and established British talent.

Andrew Tanner, Designer

Since its foundation in 1991 this one hundred percent self-financed not-for-profit organisation has achieved an unparalleled track record of success in promoting creative excellence worldwide and in exporting the commercial potential of British creativity to global markets.

Much of the BEDG's UK based work involves raising funds from the government to support British based companies, SMEs, individual professionals, universities and organisations in the creative industries at overseas trade events.

The BEDG is a registered Accredited Trade Organiser (ATO) for the British Government and accesses, administers and distributes grants and funds from UKTI – United Kingdom Trade & Investment in particular under the TAP - Trade Access Programme.

The organisation is also one of the inaugural members of UKTI Design Partners, the joint industry/government body, which works to increase the UK's international design business.

The BEDG has been instrumental in identifying and establishing lasting business contacts and professional linkages between UK based creative businesses and their foreign counterparts in more than 20 countries.

In order to improve and facilitate access to relevant market know how, the BEDG undertakes market research and scoping missions for selected international markets in collaboration with and on behalf of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) and United Kingdom Trade & Investment.

In the educational sector the BEDG has been pioneering the promotion of leading British art and design colleges and universities at international exhibitions and trade events.

The organisation is also increasingly involved with skill based development projects in Africa, Latin and South America, the Caribbean and Asia. ■

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*The AACDD is an initiative
of the BEDG*



*African & African-Caribbean
Design Diaspora*

The best of Britain is its creative talent - don't let it go!

*Karin-Beate Phillips, Founder/Director,
British European Design Group, African
& African-Caribbean Design Diaspora*

Promoting UK Creative Industries for Export

In the Swim
Bremerhafen 1999

**Designed in Britain -
Made for Export /
Made in Britain -
Designed for Export**
New York 1995/96

**Highlights - Design from
Great Britain**
Cologne 1997

**Creativebritain - Festival
of British Media and Design:
Designing the Century -
Defining the Future**
Berlin 1999 / 2000

Homo@Habitat
Rome 2001, Prague 2002

**CIDF – China International
Design Festival**
Qingdao 2002

**British Design - Form for Function
Branding a Nation through the
Power of Creativity**
Qingdao/Beijing 2004

Creative Dialogues
Beijing/Shanghai 2006



London Design Festival

Now in its ninth year, the London Design Festival 2011 will be the largest and most significant yet, with over 200 partner organisations contributing to a programme of more than 280 events celebrating London's status as the world's creative capital.

The Festival programme not only reflects the incredible design talent drawn to London but also attempts to demonstrate design's relevance to the wider economic and social context.

In the 2011 budget statement, Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne said 'We want the words: 'Made in Britain', 'Created in Britain', 'Designed in Britain' and 'Invented in Britain' to drive our nation forward – a Britain carried aloft by the march of the makers.'

The London Design Festival builds on this objective, helping to put design at the centre of the UK's economic revival.

Sir John Sorrell - Chairman of the London Design Festival - has written about the 2011 Festival: *'this year the key word on everyone's lips is growth. With a £60bn creative industries sector that employs over 2million people and produces nearly 6% of GDP, the government has identified our creative industries' sector as crucial to growth. We all know design is the engine that drives the creative industries'*. The Festival provides a world-class showcase for that engine, and ingenuity across design.

The broader role of the Festival is to ensure access, and the opportunity to showcase talent and ideas generated by designers and creative entrepreneurs. The AACDD project is a leading example of how that access and opportunity are extended beyond the range of established contributors to the Festival programme.

Visitors to the Festival will encounter a huge range of activity, and emerging talent. The shows on offer from AACDD provide a distinguished roadmap for an under-represented part of the creative community.

William Knight, Deputy Director

By initiating a high-quality selection of work drawn from across the black communities, AACDD presents a true talent showcase that shines a light on creative ability, where it is not often sought or acknowledged by the design industry.

The Festival programme is defined by a high-profile range of events and exhibitions, some commissioned directly by the Design Festival, including installations by renowned British architects and designers at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Southbank Centre and, for the first time, St Paul's Cathedral. By providing a platform for high-quality content the Festival also aims to develop aspiration for designers across the board, and in particular those that innovate and are capable of approaching issues and opportunities in a non-formulaic way.

This is the essence of creativity that will enable the UK to recover and thrive, but all talent must be allowed to rise to the top.

Visitors to the Festival will encounter a huge range of activity and emerging talent. The shows on offer from AACDD provide a distinguished roadmap for an under-represented part of the creative community. It could not be a more appropriate moment for the UK - particularly London - to embrace the opportunity of challenging perceptions and encouraging positive activity aimed at building social and economic stability. ■



William Knight
Deputy Director,
London Design Festival

London Design Festival Ltd
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W: www.londondesignfestival.com

Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development agency for the arts, supporting a range of artistic activities from theatre to music, literature to dance, photography to digital art, carnival to crafts.

Between 2008 and 2011 they will invest in excess of £1.6 billion of public money from the government and the National Lottery to create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. As well as collaborating with local authorities, we try to establish effective partnerships with a range of national, regional and local organisations, both private and public.

Arts Council England believes the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games offer an unprecedented opportunity to reinforce the UK's reputation as a world leader in culture. The Cultural Olympiad leading up to the Games will represent the very best of British talent, celebrating imagination and creativity, innovation and excellence.

Arts Council England
14 Great Peter Street
London SW1P 3NQ
T: +44 (0)845 300 6200
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W: www.artscouncil.org.uk

The Lottery Fund - The Camelot Company

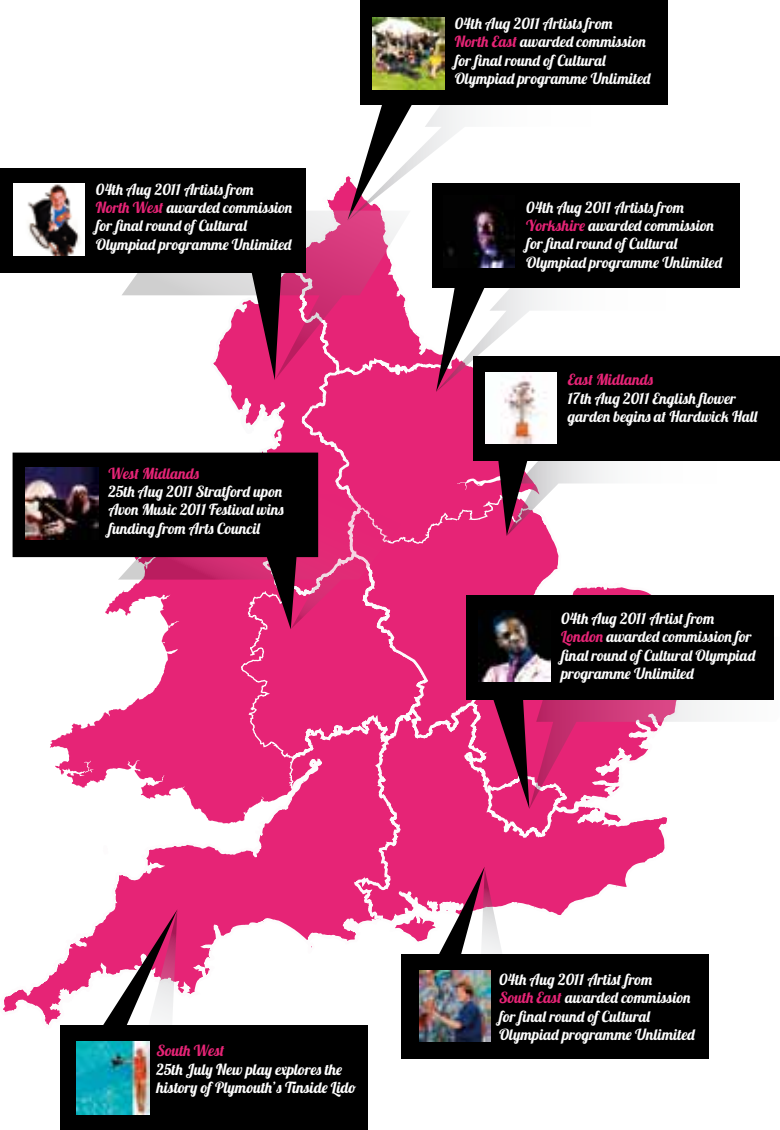
The Camelot company is the present licensed operator of the UK National Lottery. Camelot's prime business objective is to maximise returns to the Good Causes in the most efficient and socially responsible way.

While Camelot is committed to raising money for the Good Causes designated by Parliament through the sale of National Lottery games, it is not responsible for distributing or awarding these funds.

This is handled by organisations like the Arts Council England. The first National Lottery draw took place on 19 November 1994. Since then, the National Lottery has raised over £24 billion for good causes. ■



LOTTERY FUNDED



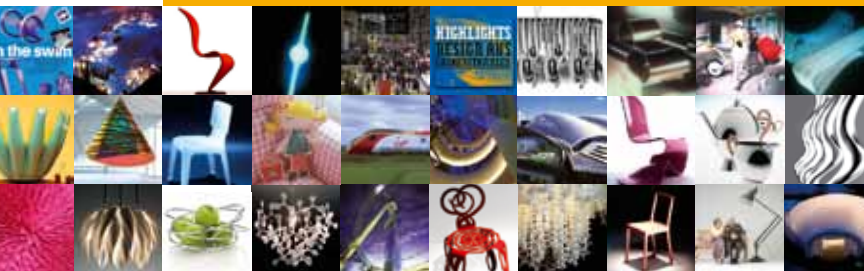


BRITISH EUROPEAN DESIGN GROUP

EXPORT TO STAY AT HOME

A unique organisation
with a unique mission:
Promoting UK creative
industries for export

Independent
Non-Profit
Multinational
Multicultural



We work in some of the most important international markets for creative products and services ranging from Europe to North America, China to Japan. With twenty years of experience and our network of global contacts the British European Design Group is a key force in the worldwide promotion of the UK creative industries.

The BEDG's portfolio of achievements and activities includes more than **83** leading international and national trade fairs, **70** curated exhibitions in many capitals of the world and **42** international seminars, conferences and outward and inward missions.

The British European Design Group is an ATO-Accredited Trade Organiser in the Creative Industries Sector Group of United Kingdom Trade & Investment administering government funding such as the UKTI Trade Access Programme - TAP, which provides financial support for selected international events to UK companies and small businesses.

The BEDG has been instrumental in identifying and establishing lasting professional contacts and linkages between UK based designers, studios, organisations and institutions and their foreign counterparts.

In addition the British European Design Group has been providing a broad variety of business advice and assistance to creative professionals on a regular basis as part of the organisation's free consulting services to start-up businesses and self-employed professionals.

WWW.BEDG.ORG



Steering Committee Members 2010

The AACDD has been extremely fortunate to be able to draw upon the vast experience and managerial expertise of senior professionals in the field of art and design, education and community development.

Their generosity in sharing their own contacts for the benefit of this Initiative has been instrumental in the success of the 2010 Programme of Exhibitions and Events.

The 2011 AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee would like to use this opportunity to express its gratitude to all Members of the 2010 Committee for their dedicated and generous support of the 2010 African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative:

Karin-Beate Phillips

British European Design Group

David Blagbrough

Inspire! - The Education Business Partnership for Hackney

Clemens Hackl

CHD

Emamoke Ukeleghe

Designer

William Knight

London Design Festival

Tim Stephens

Programme Director for Interactive Media, International Development Co-Ordinator, LCC London College of Communication

Katherine Iadd

Brighton University

Denzil Phillips

Denzil Phillips International

Dr. Ben Todd

Arcola Theatre

Dougald Hine

Space Makers Agency

Thomas Lindner

thekindestgroup

Role of AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee (Uk&Overseas)*

In August 2010, AACDD set up a Steering Committee to provide advisory support to the Initiative. While Steering & Advisory Committee Members play a very valuable part in the organisation they will not be entitled, individually, or as a group, to dictate or override decisions made by the BEDG Project Management with regard to the running of AACDD.

The AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee is set up solely to act as an external advisory body to support and further AACDD activities within the framework of the programme/s outlined in the AACDD remit.

Role of AACDD Partners & Partner Organisations (Uk&Overseas)

AACDD has been working with a wide and varied group of Partners or Partner Organisations including individuals, commercial and non-profit companies, trade associations, government and non-government organisations as well as public and private educational institutions such as schools, colleges and universities etc.

The role of these Partners and Partner organisations within the AACDD Initiative includes but is not limited to:

- 1) **advice and assistance** on cultural and/or professional issues
- 2) **advice and assistance** with call for entries for AACDD participants in the creative industries
- 3) **advice on and assistance** with AACDD exhibitions and individual programmes
- 4) **direct and indirect involvement** with AACDD training programmes in the UK and overseas

- 5) **advice and assistance** on exchange programmes with UK and overseas designers, craftsmen and –women meeting the AACDD requirements
- 6) **participation** in AACDD E-Boutique and AACDD Collection

Membership of the AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee is honorary and unpaid.

Responsibilities of AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee Members:

- **Provide** management support, direction and advice to the Project Management Team
- **Monitor** project developments and keep informed of project progress; make recommendations to the Project Management Team
- **Provide** feedback to the Project Management Team on the progress and impact of any independent initiatives, which we have previously agreed as marketable under the AACDD Banner

Steering & Advisory Committee Members, in turn, will be kept updated with the progress of the project as appropriate.

Decision Making Process

Steering & Advisory Committee Members will be invited to suggest programme activities, develop collaborations with other individuals, institutions, organisations and/or commercial enterprises working in the same field and with a similar remit etc. for approval by the whole Committee.

In the case of dissent or absence of a unanimous decision, the BEDG – as the grant holder - reserves the right to make final decisions as to matters of organisation of future events and disposal of funds set aside for AACDD activities. ■

Steering & Advisory Committee Members 2011

AACDD is extremely fortunate to be able to draw upon the vast experience and managerial expertise of senior professionals in the field of art and design, education and community development.

Karin-Beate Phillips
Initiator & Programme Director



A linguist, economist and publicist by profession German born Karin-Beate Phillips acquired her extensive professional expertise through

holding senior positions in a wide and diverse range of Industrial and creative sectors as well as through her free-lance work running her own management and marketing consultancy.

After moving from Germany to London with her family in 1982, she continued to work as a consultant, journalist and writer specialising in Anglo-European relations.

In 1991 she founded the British European Design Group (BEDG) to help promote and commercialise the then largely untapped economic potential of Britain's multinational and multicultural creative talent in key global export markets. Since then she has assisted thousands of professionals and SMEs in the creative Industries using her product development and marketing know how and her worldwide contacts.

Her new foundation, SOS-SaveOurSkills, set up in Burkina Faso, West Africa in 2007, aims to safeguard, rehabilitate and qualify Indigenous traditional craft

skills and to upgrade and commercialise the products through the added value of cultural Identity and creativity.

David Blagbrough
Senior Social Community Advisor



David Blagbrough is the Director of the charity Inspire! - the education business partnership for Hackney, which works with local and City-

based employers and employee volunteers to motivate and raise aspirations, attainment and levels of achievement of young people in the borough. It does so through the delivery of a range of work-related learning and enterprise programmes that aim to develop their employability skills and provide an understanding of the world of work.

David Blagbrough began his working life as a teacher in Nigeria and the UK, before joining the British Council where for the next 30 years he was engaged in education and cultural relations in a range of overseas and UK postings. Prior to his retirement, David was Director of the British Council in Washington, USA.

Clemens Hackl

Creative Director



Clemens Hackl worked for a number of advertising agencies such as BBDO and Ogilvy&Mather in Germany before moving to London in 2001 to

obtain his MA in Interactive Multimedia from the University of the Arts.

He set up his own design consultancy in 2005 working internationally for a variety of corporate and creative clients.

Clemens Hackl Design deliver bespoke brand communication strategies across all media channels. Recent projects include work for the University of the Arts London, Barclays, Fujitsu, Deutsche Bank.

Emamoke Ukeleghe

Project Manager & Co-Curator



Emamoke Ukeleghe is a London based artist and printed textile designer with a Master Degree in Mixed Media Textiles from the Royal College of Art and

a BA in Textile Design from Chelsea College of Art and Design.

She has exhibited in the UK and in New York. Her work has been featured in Africa's style and fashion magazine *Arise* and Italian design magazines *casa abitare* and *Interni*. Emamoke Ukeleghe's artistic work is inspired by her cultural background, faith, family & friends. Fusing colour, patterns and imagery from everyday life into her own visual language she tells a story to induce an emotional connection between the viewer and the printed fabric.

Laurelle Hughes

Administration Coordinator



Laurelle Hughes is Business Manager of Affinity Admin, which provides business support services. She has twenty years' experience as a PA/

Office Manager in various business disciplines and senior employment situations, from the public sector to corporate multinationals including board level administration.

It is a happy coincidence that her key expertise - strong organisational and Interpersonal communication skills - also corresponds to her own professional vocation.

William Knight

London Design Festival



Having previously worked at the Design Council as International Campaigns and Public Affairs Manager, William Knight joined the London Design

Festival in 2004, and has played a major role in helping establish it as one of the world's leading annual design events.

He is at the heart of a small multi-disciplinary team that delivers the Festival programme, with responsibility for business management, key relationships and campaign co-ordination.

Okemute Ukeleghe

Senior Accounts Advisor



Okemute Ukeleghe works in a major US investment bank; primarily focussing on listed commodities such as Power & Gas. After completing

his postgraduate studies in Finance & Management at the prestigious Cranfield School of Management, he gained substantial expertise and experience at major international investment banks such as Barclays Capital and Goldman Sachs.

On a private level he has a passion for food and managing events on behalf of his mother's catering business called Keno's. Okemute is happily married and hopes to one day start an events management company with his wife.

Tim Stephens

Senior Multi-Media Advisor



In the 1990's Tim Stephens was Course Director for the Master of Arts Interactive Media Programme, directed from the Royal College of Art with universities in France, Netherlands, Ireland, Spain and Germany. He also worked with the British Government, promoting creative industries and their technologies, concentrating on Silicon Valley and New York in the USA.

More recently he represented the University of the Arts London in terms of creative industries' enterprise in the Far East, Europe and America.

As Media Director of the BEDG, he has co-organised international exhibitions, conferences and seminars also in association with the University of the Arts and UK Trade & Investment.

An independent professional photographer, interactive media producer and consultant Tim Stephens works closely with conservation bodies in the heritage sector, blending new media technologies and image systems with traditional conservation processes.

Katherine Ladd

Brighton University



Katherine Ladd works as a product designer, whose portfolio of work includes lighting and interior textiles. She started her career as a graphic designer,

producing media advertising and point-of-sale graphics for large retailers.

She founded her first company, Gecko, with her design engineer husband Geoff Ladd in 1997 and quickly established herself on the British design scene with a collection of unique, spun glass fibre lamps that sold all over the world.

Working for architects such as Wilkinson Eyre to design one-off installations, Gecko became known for their provision of contract lighting to clients such as Prêt à Manger, Sheraton and Diageo, and the Vanity Fair Oscars party in Los Angeles.

Effective education changes lives.

Fusion Universal provides innovative learning solutions to over 300,000 students across 14 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Through our Virtual School program, Fusion Universal aims to improve the lives of 1 billion young people in developing countries by 2020.



fusion universal
Together for learning

Denzil Phillips Fundraising Advisor



Lawrance Denzil Phillips has over thirty-five years of experience of working in the field of international trade and business development either from within or as an advisor to many of the world's leading international development organisations, banks and corporations. He has designed and helped to design and supervise many multi-million dollar donor funded programmes in the field of horticulture, agro-business and natural resource management.

The client base of Denzil Phillips International includes key global pharmaceutical and agro-business corporations and agencies, such as GSK-GlaxoSmithKline, Schwabe, Frutarom, BAT, British Sugar plc, the European Commission, the World Bank and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

During his career in botanicals Denzil Phillips has worked in more than 50 countries including 15 African and 11 Caribbean nations.

Ameena M McConnell Cultural Community Relations



A Londoner of Jamaican heritage, her professional expertise has been developed from leading her own cultural projects promoting cultural diversity in the visual arts, design and cultural heritage sectors.

In 2004 she founded Creative Fruits to provide better access to opportunities for success for designers and artists from diverse creative backgrounds. In the same year, she organised 'MOORDESIGN™' to showcase the creativity of British designers with African and African-Caribbean heritage - with critical industry patronage from British designers Wale Adeyemi and Joe Casely-Hayford.

As an artist, she works in 3D, creating textile sculptural art informed by Black art history and culture.

Ekua McMorris Education Advisor



As a black woman of African decent and part of the Diaspora, I have been working on my relationship to the history of my ancestry and the impact of the ever-spreading ideals of Western cultural. With the continuous demand on the peoples of the world to play catch up; one is left feeling under immense pressure to assimilate the ideals of Western countries.

As an artist my work reflects on the economical, political and social consequences of this relationship, resulting with the inability to contain the effects that this has on the consciousness of the black female body. ■

100%Design

be 100%design®



*For exciting and cutting-edge contemporary interior design,
look no further than the event that started it all in London,
100% Design.*

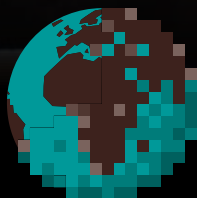
Now in its seventeenth year, the UK's first and leading contemporary design show is a hub of creative talent from the UK and around the world and a key event for interior designers and architects in the international calendar.

It brings together three inspiring exhibitions under one roof: world-class interiors show 100% Design, innovative architectural materials, surfaces and finishes at 100% Materials plus emerging talent showcase 100% Futures.

Whether you're an architect, an interior designer, a specifier or just passionate about design, 100% Design is packed with the latest product launches, ideas, designs and technology.

This year's highlights includes a new area, The Director's Cut, featuring a select group of new products by British based designers for UK and international manufacturers including Established & Sons, Vitra and Knoll, as well as 13 curated country pavilions and a total of 400 different exhibitors.

The show is held annually in Earls Court, London and will take place from 22 – 25 September 2011 and then 20 to 23 September 2012. Please register for a visit and search through our live gallery of thousands of inspirational and new interiors products from around the world at 100percentdesign.co.uk ■



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Koestler Trust - Art by Offenders

We are the UK's best-known prison arts charity running since 1942. We have been awarding, exhibiting and selling artworks by offenders, detainees and secure patients for 49 years, and we are the only charity that does this on a national scale.

Our awards receive over 7,000 entries a year - inspiring offenders to take part in the arts, work for achievement and transform their lives. Our national exhibition attracts over 10,000 visitors – showing the public the talent and potential of offenders and people in secure settings.

Koestler Trust
arts by offenders ■ ■ ■

The Koestler Trust
168a Du Cane Road
London, W12 0TX
Tel: 020 8740 0333
Email: info@koestlertrust.org.uk
Web: www.koestlertrust.org.uk

*Registered Charity No.1105759, Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England No. 04961363
Registered Office: 168a Du Cane Road, London, W12 0TX*

Our next Exhibitions:

Art by Offenders, Secure, Patients and Detainees
UK exhibition of artwork submitted to the 2011 Koestler Awards
22 Sep – 20 Nov,
Opening festival 21 Sep 1pm – 7pm
Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, London
Co-curated by Magistrates

Art by Offenders & Secure Patients

The Koestler Exhibition for Scotland 2011
5 - 27 Nov, Tramway, Glasgow
Curated by young women from HM Young Offender Institution Cornton Vale



Anon
'Out of Darkness, Growth'

Platinum Award
image courtesy of the Koestler Trust Art by Offenders, National Exhibition Royal Festival Hall 2011



Anon
'The Visit'



Anon
'Know your enemy'

Partners & Supporters

From the moment of its launch in September 2010, the AFRICAN & AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN DESIGN DIASPORA Initiative has been generously supported - directly and indirectly - by so many organisations, institutions, enterprises, professionals and above all private individuals that listing them would fill many pages.

We could not have realized the 2010 AACDD Programme so successfully, without the practical, technical, moral and financial assistance of our 2010 partners and supporters.

Nor would we have ventured to enter into the much larger 2011 AACDD series of exhibitions and events without the assured continued support of many of our partners from last year and those, who have since joined the initiative.

All of who deserve our most sincere expression of gratitude. ➔



100%Design

For exciting and cutting-edge contemporary interior design, look no further than the event that started it all, 100% Design.

The UK's first and leading contemporary design show is a hub of creative talent from the UK and around the world and a key event for interior designers and architects in the international calendar.

It brings together three inspiring exhibitions under one roof: world-class interiors show 100% Design, innovative surfaces at 100% Materials plus emerging talent showcase 100% Futures.

Register to visit at
www.100percentdesign.co.uk



Affinity Admin

Laurelle Hughes is Director of Affinity Admin, which provides a range of business administration services.

She has twenty years' experience as an Executive Assistant/ Office Manager, including board level administration, in various business disciplines and senior employment situations, from the public sector to corporate multinationals and boutique enterprises. Included too have been a number of arts organisations, as the cultural industries have been a long held passion.

It is a happy coincidence that her key expertise - strong organisational and interpersonal communication skills, as well as finding creative administrative solutions - are essential to her professional vocation.

T: +44 (0)7527 817 748
E: aacdd@affinityadmin.co.uk
W: www.affinityadmin.co.uk



African Digital Art

Every week African Digital Art showcases digital projects made by African artists or projects influenced by Africa.

African Digital Art Network was created and developed by Jepchumba, a Kenyan digital artist living in Chicago, Illinois.

The term digital art is permeating through the web even though the precise definition is unclear. Digital art covers a wide range of artistic production; audio/visual production, animation, interactive projects, websites, short films, graphic art and design.

African Digital Art is an online collective, a creative space, where digital artists, enthusiasts and professionals can seek inspiration, showcase their work and connect with emerging artists.

E: jepchumba@africandigitalart.com
W: www.africandigitalart.com



ARC

ARC Magazine is a quarterly Caribbean art and culture magazine, published out of St. Vincent and the Grenadines by artists Nadia Huggins and Holly Bynoe.

ARC endeavours to form a creative platform offering insight into current cultural and creative industries, while bridging the gap between established and emerging artists. It presents a contemporary and imaginative body of curatorial work that exhibits the trajectory and range of artists who practice within the expanding space of the Caribbean.

We provide artists with a platform to negotiate their own space by offering neutral ground that will license discourse and varied creative insights into the active process of making. ARC is a projected motion that ascends, moves outward and beyond into a space of curiosity.

Holly Bynoe is a Vincentian visual artist and writer based between the Caribbean and New York City, and is a recent graduate of Bard College International Center of Photography where she earned her M.F.A. in Advanced Photographic Studies. Her work has been shown regionally and internationally, and has been featured in numerous publications.

E: holly@arcthemagazine.com
W: www.arcthemagazine.com



Charles Town Maroon Council

The Charles Town Maroon Council was registered to use culture and heritage to drive economics, the development of their lands and the culture the ancestors left them. Their mantra is 'Unlimited wealth from ancestral heritage'.

The Maroons are a group of people with an unique place in the history of Jamaica, very little of which is known to the outside world. When the Spanish were usurped by the British in 1655, they released many of their slaves, who, joined by thousands more runaway slaves, wreaked havoc on the Red Coat battalions for the next 140 years.

Eventually Britain signed a peace treaty with legendary female Maroon leader, Grandy Nanny, formally acknowledging the Maroon's autonomy – around a century before slavery was officially abolished.

Charles Town, located up the road at the Buff River, was named after Captain Charles Cudjoe, the second leader of the Maroons in their fight for freedom against the British colonial rule. Charles Town was one of the self governing communities that sprang up as a result.

T: 445-2861
E: frank_lumsden@yahoo.com



Clemens Hackl Design

London based Clemens Hackl Design is a multi-disciplinary design studio focusing on branding and multimedia application.

Our vision is to provide our clients with the right innovation and technology to effectively communicate their brand across all disciplines from corporate stationary to social media marketing and interactive multimedia.

Our services are delivered through brand development, implementation and multimedia. We consult, develop and design; brands, corporate identities, print materials, installations, websites and interactive applications.

We believe creativity makes design unique, identity and functionality make it work.

Corporate social responsibility and supporting local communities are a key aspect in our work ethos.

T: +44 (0)20 3015 3977
E: info@clemenshackl.com
W: www.clemenshackl.com



Coin Street Community Builders

Coin Street Community Builders (CSCB) is a social enterprise and development trust which seeks to make London's South Bank a better place in which to live, to work and to visit. CSCB has transformed a largely derelict 13 acre site into a thriving mixed use neighbourhood by creating new co-operative homes; a park and riverside walkway; shops, restaurants, cafes, bars and galleries as part of Oxo Tower Wharf; and by organising festivals and events.

Through Coin Street family and children's centre and Colombo Street community and sports centre CSCB programmes activities for all ages as well as training and employment opportunities and business and social enterprise support. A new major development including a public swimming pool is now planned for a site adjacent to the National Theatre.

T: +44 (0)20 7021 1600
E: helpdesk@coinstreet.org
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Dalston Eastern Curve Garden

The Dalston Eastern Curve Garden is a peaceful oasis in an area that previously had no public green space. Just off busy Dalston Lane, this 'secret' garden is hidden behind hording next to the Hackney Peace Carnival Mural.

The Garden was created in Spring 2010 on the site of a disused railway that had been derelict for over 30 years.

It is now managed by a steering group of community organisations. The plants are tended by Hackney residents, young people and school children who all also grow fruit, vegetables and herbs in raised beds.

The Garden's pavilion is a relaxing community meeting place that regularly houses music, dance, cooking, and gardening activities.

Workshops for adults have included furniture-making, stone-carving, and making herbal remedies.

T: +44 (0)20 7503 1386
E: tellme@dalstongarden.com
W: www.dalstongarden.com



Fusion Universal

Fusion Universal is a learning solutions company with a social mission. The corporate organisation provides learning solutions to Europe's top companies, whilst the social enterprise provides the same quality solutions for education, health and SMEs across the developing world.

At Fusion Universal, we are inspired by innovation and determined to bring about real change for global education. As such, we set out on a ground breaking journey to greatly improve how learning is delivered across the developing world with a focus on high-quality, low-cost learning. In so doing, we have also fundamentally changed the way we deliver performance-enhancing solutions for our corporate clients.

Effective education changes lives. But, the way that people learn is being fundamentally changed by technology. Fusion Universal is building innovative solutions to create a more equitable system of education.

For more about our programs, including our innovative project to revolutionise education - the Virtual School - please contact us.

T: +44 (0)20 3463 2506
W: www.fusion-universal.com



Gone Rural

Gone Rural's 750 rural Swazi women combine tradition with innovation.

Products are hand-made from local natural raw materials that are harvested above the root to allow regeneration.

Recent collections combine these sustainable fibres with new techniques and mediums including recycled plastics and fabrics, ceramic and metals.

With commitment to sustainable social responsibility and Fair Trade principles, Gone Rural has successfully created a business model that empowers rural women through providing them with home based income and skills training.

The Women are able to maintain their traditional lifestyles and pass on skills from generation to generation.

The non - profit organisation, Gone Rural boMake, complements the artisans and their communities with health and education programmes. Projects include a mobile health clinic, school fees scholarships, HIV/AIDS peer educator training and access to clean drinking water.

+268 550 4936
www.goneruralswazi.com



iam:thenublack

Gabrielle Smith is the founder of arts & culture site iam:thenublack which was created in October 2008 to engage those not already aware of the abundance of contemporary creatives of African descent.

Initially meant to be a 30 day project, the site is now in its 3rd year and has established itself as an award winning platform not only for established, but also emerging artists.

Thenublack prides itself on being a connector for young creatives of African descent across the world by celebrating the talents of a generation of young adults who have been inspired by those before them to break boxes and set trends both inside and outside the creative realm.

As well as running this platform, Gabrielle also works as a motion graphic designer for ITV News, the UK's largest commercial news broadcaster.

E: hello@iamthenublack.com
W: www.iamthenublack.com



intaract

Based in London Intaract is an integrated design consultancy providing creative and IT services across all sectors.

Our strategic and creative understanding of our clients' needs allows us to deliver design and web projects for small and large organisations and brands across multiple sectors with tangible results.

Our services include:

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Inspire! - The Education Business Partnership for Hackney

Inspire! is the Education Business Partnership for the London Borough of Hackney.

Inspire! is a registered charity and is the Education Business Partnership for London Borough of Hackney. Education Business Partnerships (EBPs) are organisations that support the education, training and development of young people by linking businesses and their employees with schools and colleges.

Our aim is to raise the achievements and aspirations of young people in Hackney, develop their motivation and skills for the world of work and increase their ability to choose and achieve positive career, life and learning goals.

We deliver programmes to more than 10,000 young people each academic year involving over 1,200 volunteers drawn from over 800 employers.

T: +44 (0)20 7275 6060
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Jasimages

Jeremy Salmon is the owner of Jasimages a consultancy specialising in graphic design, webdesign, illustration and fine art.

As the 'Visual Marketing Guy' he has designed and worked for many companies from small start-ups and organisations to big corporations like GlaxoSmithKline.

Jeremy's first love is fine art and illustration. He has also curated a number of exhibitions.

As a socially conscious businessman with a keen interest in Africa he increasingly works with African based charities and organisations including *Free Generation International*, *Adap (African Development Association for Progress)* and the *Dr Malachi K York Foundation*.

T: +44 (0)1582 615196
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Priestmangoode

We believe that design is not just about style, but about making products and services better and more efficient.

Priestmangoode is a leading UK multidisciplinary design group working in branding, transport, environment, product and packaging design for a roster of significant brands across the globe. From initial strategy and concept design through to design detailing for production, our work delivers creative, effective and innovative design solutions that help transform businesses.

Our unique ability to transfer design skills across sectors has enabled us to deliver industry-changing products as well as award-winning interiors for many of the world's leading airlines and aircraft manufacturers.

In parallel with consultancy work, we like to generate our own concepts such as the Mercury High Speed train and Waterpebble. This work aims to address problems faced in everyday life and prompts public discourse about design.

T: +44(0)20 7935 6665
E: ideas@priestmangoode.com
W: www.priestmangoode.com



Royal Commonwealth Society

With a remit to promote international understanding across the Commonwealth, especially among young people, the RCS has an impressive portfolio of charitable activities.

Our Young Commonwealth Competitions encourage thousands of young people to respond to global challenges through annual creative writing, film and photographic awards. The Nkabom Commonwealth Youth Leadership Programme unites 18- to 25-year-olds from across the globe in a different Commonwealth location every two years. Alumni then join an international, proactive network of emerging leaders.

Commonwealth Youth Summits give schoolchildren across the UK a chance to learn about international issues in an interactive and meaningful forum. Playing the roles of leaders, foreign ministers or journalists, they enact a Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting and have the opportunity to put their views to senior members of the Commonwealth and UK government.

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TEDxSoweto

TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience.

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TED has created a program called TEDx.

Our event is called TEDxSoweto, where x = independently organized TED event. At our TEDxSoweto event, TEDTalks video and live speakers will combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events, including ours, are self-organized.

TEDxSoweto 2011 will take us on a rollercoaster ride that will bring us face-to-face with our deepest fears and our highest hopes about tomorrow. Teachers, visionaries and thinkers will reveal possibilities about what's coming. From that, we hope to gain insight into the anticipated twists and turns of this thrilling but sometimes terrifying human adventure.

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The Kindest Group

Today we live in an atomised society, where people from fragile social networks can experience themselves as disjointed or even alienated. While we may gain a temporary sense of relief from digital friendships, various forms of entertainment, disposable relationships and brand new objects, we inevitably go back to the sensation that something is missing in the spaces between us. At The Kindest Group, we realise the need to create spaces, which foster kindness where we can reconnect – with ourselves, with nature and with each other - and aspire to live healthier and happier lives.

Thomas Lindner
The Kindest Group - founder

Thomas Lindner is trained in construction and architectural design with a particular interest in social motion and acoustic quality as matters of spatial design concern. His practice entails the creation of public social dance interventions, game inspired structures, story telling environments and informal learning workshops to foster attitudes of kindness amongst cross-community participants and audiences to a wide range of recent clients such as Learning Trust, Barbican, Coexistence Trust, NHS, Shoreditch Trust and Openvizor.

W: www.thekindest.org



Thinking Flowers?

Founded 2003, Thinking Flowers is a floral design company with an environmental conscience, offering floral design with a conscience - meaningful, minimal and modern.

Clients have included the Tate Modern, Banqueting House, BAFTA, and the University of the Arts London, Westminster Cathedral, Royal Festival Hall, British Library, Emirates Stadium and the House of Commons.

Thinking Flowers is the brainchild of Lauren Craig, a young floral designer with a passion for her planet. She teamed up inclination towards the healing powers of plants with theory on MA Enterprise and Management for the Creative Arts.

Over time Thinking Flowers will use entirely renewable energy in their business.

Beyond its ecological and ethical mission, Thinking Flowers wants to encourage city dwellers to grow more flowers and learn to arrange them beautifully to improve our domestic and working environments; add a dash of colour to our local communities and social projects and delight people of all ages.

+44 (0)7899 988 898
www.thinkingflowers.org.uk



University of Brighton

Objects are a reflection of the society in which they are produced. The way these objects are designed and used is a result of influences that stretch back through time, sometimes hidden but often easily uncovered. It is vital that design students understand these processes and become aware of how cross-cultural design is an integral part of our globalized world.

At the University of Brighton's Faculty of Arts we try to teach our practice students in 3D Design and Fashion/Textiles from the outset the importance of observing the world through '*the eyes of others*'. The cultural and critical studies programme that the students follow over two semesters, is a blend of issues relating to the world of design, such as gender, sub-cultures, sustainability, globalization and cross-cultural design.

The complexity and breadth of African design is laid before our students as an example of how dominant western culture has affected the continent, but also at how the irrepressible vibrancy of contemporary design in different countries within Africa and the African diaspora is a clear indicator that this dominance has been absorbed and adapted by Africans and African-Caribbeans, on their own terms.

T: +44 (0)1273 600900
W: www.brighton.ac.uk



Vision - Caribbean Updates

Based in Brixton, London, Vision is an independent newspaper targeting the Caribbean community and anyone with a passion for all things Carib! Vision's main focus is on music and culture, politics and sports.

The idea to print this newspaper was born with the knowledge of how much of a powerful impact – sadly overlooked at times -, the output from the people of the Caribbean and its diaspora has on the rest of the world. Vision wants to provide a platform for this incredibly varied multi-disciplinary creative talent.

Vision aims to set a conscious statement that is closer to the reality of the people; one that detracts itself away from any official and unofficial one-sidedness.

The impressive cultural achievements of the people of the Caribbean and in the diaspora, proves that there will be ongoing long term influences and stimulus for the public that continuously originate from this source. With Vision, and each and every individual artist, creator, performer, pioneer, innovator, inventor, originator we want to create a medium that shapes the public's awareness and acceptance.

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Hitch | Mylius

Award-winning British furniture manufacturer Hitch Mylius was established by designers Tristram and Hazel Mylius in 1971.

The company has been producing some of Britain's best contemporary upholstered furniture ever since serving an impressive corporate, contract and residential client base with its beautifully designed furniture collections handmade to the highest standards of craftsmanship.

Born in Scotland in 1946, Tristram Mylius studied product and furniture design at Hornsey College of Art, London, and later worked for architect Theo Crosby at design consultancy Crosby Fletcher Forbes (now Pentagram). Prompted by the lack of modern design in British-made upholstery at a time when Scandinavian and Italian imports were the most exciting furniture design available, he and his wife Hazel founded Hitch Mylius to design and manufacture simple, high-quality and well-crafted upholstered furniture.

With London's most famous style mekkas - department store Liberty and Terence Conran's new Conran Shop as first customers, the young company successfully entered the contract market, which now dominates the illustrious client base including BAA, British Airways, British Council, British Museum, Channel 4, Citibank, Eurostar, Google, Hilton Hotels, J P Morgan, Mercedes-Benz, Microsoft, Shell, Siemens, the V&A Museum and Vodafone.



Following ten years of in-house designed HitchMylius 'classics' the company started to commission outside designers to broaden the repertoire. Long-lasting co-operations with a number of architects and designers have resulted in some of the most iconic and recognisable furniture designs to come out of Britain in recent decades, including Simon Pengelly's ground-breaking 'star bench system' hm83, the hm61 'Oxo' seating by Nigel Coates, and David Chipperfield's rigorously disciplined hm93 sofas. ■

hitch|mylius

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'hm88' prototype



'hm88' bench

Almost every day I am approached by hopeful designers who send me the fruits of their creative efforts, and ninety-nine times out of a hundred I reply with a regretful 'very interesting but no thanks'. In the spring of 2003, out of the blue, I had a very appealing letter from a recent graduate of the Royal College of Art, Chijioke Aguh, enclosing an image of a spectacular see-through plastic bench - actually it was more sculpture than furniture, with a hint of Brancusi or Hepworth about it - entitled 'the Voluptuous Bench'.

For me this was love at first sight. Often I discuss new designs at great length with my sales team before coming to a decision to develop a product, but the 'voluptuous bench' gripped my heart immediately. Chijioke was looking for a manufacturer to turn his plastic prototype into a real production item. I really liked his direct no-nonsense approach, and we worked well together on its development.

A highly talented and inventive designer, Chijioke Aguh's magic is to make his work simultaneously both functional and fresh. The hm88 voluptuous bench has been in production now for some eight years, and sales are still on the increase - this to me is affirmation of a timeless design, not a whim of fashion but a really interesting product with many years of commercial life ahead of it: a classic in the making.



Tristram Mylius
Director, Hitch Mylius



Photography: Joseph Hurwick

AfriqueAuthentique - AuthenticAfrica, Burkina Faso



Founded in 2008 in Burkina's capital Ouagadougou, AfriqueAuthentique-AuthenticAfrica has been set up to market and commercialise authentic high-value handmade products with the added value of cultural identity and indigenous creativity from skilled traditional craftsmen and –women in rural village co-operatives, who are also stakeholders in the marketing company.

All products are made in a process, which is entirely natural and self-sustaining, using only traditional local raw materials and renewable energy sources.

AfriqueAuthentique-AuthenticAfrica was launched with financial support from Brussels based EU-ACP organisation Centre for Development of Enterprise (CDE), the British European Design Group (BEDG) in London and the UK based Shell Foundation.

Collaboration with SOS-SaveOurSkills Africa will ensure that the ethical and cultural remit of the marketing company will be strictly monitored by an organisation dedicated to promote the survival of traditional craft skills in rural micro-economies.

Already, the marketing company has created substantially increased incomes in accordance with its own 'fairmade' guidelines for hundreds of skilled craftsmen and -women in traditional cotton cultivation and processing occupations and has brought wider, socially inclusive benefits to the community and the environment, such as the formation of production co-operatives, free technical training and business advice as well as micro-financing schemes.

The long-term plan is to also accept products made and developed in other African countries following the same ethical lines and quality standards. ■

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AuthenticAfrica, Burkina Faso**
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Burkina Faso, West Africa

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CULTURE PRIDE IDENTITY BEAUTY

*'Not the object,
man is the goal'*
László Moholy-Nagy

SOS-SaveOurSkills Objectives:

SAVE OUR MANUAL SKILLS
SAVE OUR CREATIVE INDEPENDENCE
SAVE OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
SAVE OUR ENERGY RESOURCES
SAVE OUR CULTURAL IDENTITIES

SOS-SaveOurSkills Skills Sectors:

TEXTILES, BASKETRY, CARPENTRY,
POTTERY, TANNERY



www.sos-saveourskills.org

SOS-SaveOurSkills has been set up to safeguard man's traditional manual skills, his creative independence, his cultural identities, his energy resources and his natural environment.



IT IS IMPERATIVE that we reverse the continuing degradation of the manual skills employed to make cheap 'tourist' souvenirs, designed by people ignorant of either the history or cultural identity of the makers, with no specific purpose or use in mind and with no possible function for the local community.

IT IS IMPERATIVE that we not only research and document these skills but also return to them the superior environmental, intellectual and economic value that they deserve.

IT IS IMPERATIVE that we start treating the practitioners not as impoverished members of underdeveloped societies but as representatives of man's most precious assets - his own abilities and his creative independence.

And, as a result, that we pay prices appropriate to their skills to ensure their economic and cultural survival. ■

Registered Head Office Africa

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Gold for Creativity



The AACDD 2012 Gold, Silver & Bronze Awards for Creative Excellence & the AACDD / SOS-SaveOurSkills Award

*When the Power of Black Creatives
will compete with the Power of Black
Athletes.*

In 2012 the three-year Programme of Exhibitions and Events of the AACDD Initiative by the British European Design Group will come to an end with a major exhibition and Award competition. We hope to be able to run part of this alongside the Olympic Games to demonstrate that black creativity can truly compete with black athletic prowess.

The Call for Entries, deadlines, how to apply and further details of the AACDD and AACDD/SOS-SaveOurSkills Awards will be available from the AACDD website

www.aacdd.org
as per 15 December 2011

*Unless otherwise stipulated by participants,
all submissions from the 2010 and 2011
Programmes will automatically be included
in the selection process.*

The Call for Entries for this exhibition and the AACDD Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards for Creative Excellence will include the following categories:

1. Interior Design

Furniture, Lighting, Ceramics, Wall and Floor Coverings

2. Art

Fine Art, Photography, Graphic Design incl. Illustrations, Book Design and Publishing, Sculpture

3. Fashion and Fashion Accessories incl. Fashion Jewellery

4. Media & Multimedia

Film & Videos (documentary and social only)

5. Architecture, Interior & Landscape Architecture

Practical solutions for improving urban slum conditions; practical solutions for improved leisure & community facilities in council estates

AACDD and SOS- SaveOurSkills Award

6. Traditional Indigenous Crafts

Traditional Handloom Weaving, Traditional Basketry, Traditional Carpentry - Objects of daily use only incl. small furniture, traditional pottery – sun-dried and low earth fired only, traditional leatherwork



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'The power of diversity to stimulate creativity is well established. Despite this potential, the UK design industry has remained surprisingly non-cultural, with many different parts of London's broader community unable to gain employment, access, support and a showcase for its talent. This is especially true for London's black ethnic community.'

L. Denzil Phillips, Director,
Denzil Phillips International

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