An education. Keep pushing to be heard - the stories need to be listened to. Thank you all.

"A plethora of diverse worlds."
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

Unity is key. Exhibitions like this need to happen in more places, and more often - they are eye openers.”

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"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 were appropriate."

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

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 one hundred 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
London, August 2011
I have an ethical commitment to the belief that people should speak for themselves and not have others speak on their behalf.

John Akomfrah

AACDD’s first patron

It is with the utmost gratitude and pride that we announce our very first patron of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative – the acclaimed British Film Director and Screenwriter John Akomfrah.

To welcome a patron like John Akomfrah through the supportive contacts of the AACDD network itself, may be regarded as an indication of how the idea and ‘mission’ of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative have spread through the artist and designer communities in the UK and abroad since its debut less than two years ago.

Karin-Beate Phillips
London 2012

In 1987, Akomfrah won the coveted Grierson Award with his first film, the independently produced Handsworth Songs. Hailed as one of the most influential documentaries ever made, it garnered a range of International Awards. Handsworth Songs was also one of the first documentaries to be successfully released in British cinemas.

John is also a multi-award winning director with over twenty international film awards for his wide range of feature films, factual, programmes, documentaries and shorts covering a variety of musical icons such as Louis Armstrong, Goldie, Stan Tracey, Lauryn Hill. His films have also looked at inspirational black figures such as Martin Luther King, Kwame Nkrumah and Malcolm X.

John Akomfrah recently finished serving a six year term on the Governing Board of the British Film Institute; he is currently on the Boards of both Film London and the London International Film School. He is also a Visiting Professor of Film at the University of Westminster.

John Akomfrah

Biography

“A founding member of the Black Audio Film Collective (1982-98), the legendary Black British film group, Akomfrah’s work has proved immensely influential on the evolution of black filmmaking in Britain and the USA, opening the way for many young black and Asian film makers to enter the film and television industries.

John saw a full retrospective of his work with the Black Audio Film Collective open at Foundation for Creative Technologies in Liverpool in February 2007. Designed by acclaimed architect and designer David Adjaye – architect of the Nobel Prize Centre in Oslo – the Retrospective encompassed all the feature films and documentaries made by the collective screened in a specially designed gallery setting.”

John Akomfrah

AACDD’s first patron

John Akomfrah

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Inspire to Aspire
AACDD

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 their first opportunity to exhibit on an international stage and network with the broader design community.

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

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

Background
AACDD Initiative


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

What we want to do

London is one of the greatest multicultural 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.

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.

2010 and 2011 Programmes of Events

The first of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora AACDD - www.aacdd.org - series of events was staged in September and October 2010 engaging the broadest possible range of creative talent to benefit from the Festival.

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 and lectures.
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.

Q&A

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?


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.

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.

How will AACDD expand?

One of the main priorities of 2012 will be to further 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.

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.
More than 9 African and Caribbean nations participated with their craftsmen and women showcasing their traditional manual skills and cultural heritage in handloom weaving, textile printing, jewellery making, basketry and sculpture.

Over 20 organisations came together to support this amazing initiative, including Arts Council England/Lottery Fund, British European Design Group, London Design Festival, Inspire!, Greater London Authority, University of Brighton, SOS-SaveOurSkills.

A great example of art engaging with a community and people.

Fantastic! Seriously good!

Moving, eye-opening, an experience worth seeing.

Powerful Poignant Proud

45k Visitors 2010-2011

Over two years and many events
Layered Identities II
Fusing Cultural Heritage into individual Creativity

Dwell
22 – 24 06 2012
Los Angeles Convention Center
Los Angeles, USA

Layered Identities I
Fusing Cultural Heritage into individual Creativity

ICFF - INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE FAIR
19 – 22 05 2012
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center
New York, USA
**AACDD Events 2012**

- **African Fantasia**
  - September 19-23
  - 100%design
  - Earl’s Court Exhibition Centre
  - Warwick Road
  - London SW5 9TA
  - Page 30

- **Stripcloth Splendours**
  - September 11 - October 27
  - Daily 11am-5pm
  - The London Printworks Trust
  - Unit 7 Piano House
  - 9 Brighton Terrace
  - London SW9 8DJ
  - Page 30

- **Why Indigenous Design Matters**
  - Seminar and panel discussion
  - Friday 20th September
  - 10am - 12 noon
  - LDF at V&A
  - Sackler Education Centre
  - Seminar Room 1

- **African Inspirations**
  - July 27 - August 19
  - The House Mill
  - The Miller’s House
  - Three Mill Lane
  - London E3 3DU
  - Coinciding with the 2012 Olympic Games

- **Stripcloth Splendours**
  - September 19-30
  - Daily 11am-8pm
  - Bargehouse
  - Oxo Tower Wharf
  - Bargehouse Street
  - South Bank
  - London SE1 9PH
  - Page 22

- **Untold Gold**
  - African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora
  - September 19-30
  - 100%design
  - Earl’s Court Exhibition Centre
  - Warwick Road
  - London SW5 9TA
  - Page 30

- **Contemporary Textile Design based on Cultural Identity and Heritage**
  - Seminar and panel discussion
  - Thursday 24th October
  - 6:30pm - 9pm
  - LDF at V&A
  - Sackler Education Centre
  - Seminar Room 1

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From the 27 July to August 19th and coinciding with the 2012 London Olympic Games in the nearby Olympic Park the Miller’s House of the stunning HOUSE MILL, a grade I listed tidal mill from the eighteenth century in Bromley-by-Bow, hosted the exhibition ‘African Inspirations’, with work by five AACDD artists and designers.

The exhibition was installed on the first floor of the Miller’s House with a spectacular view of the Olympic Stadium and the tidal River Lee. Two sculptured wooden chairs by Gary March enhanced the charming rear garden of the Miller’s House and a cosy seating area of up-cycled furniture from the 2011 AACDD Re-Loved Lounge at 100%design enhanced the café on the ground floor.

Layered Identities I - Fusing Indigenous Cultural Heritage and new Identities

AACDD @ ICFF - International Contemporary Furniture Fair
19 - 25.05.2012
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York, USA

This year’s visitors to the ICFF - International Contemporary Furniture Fair, Americas leading trade event for high end contemporary interior design products and services witnessed an unusual sight - a snow white inflatable temporary room structure by British company inflate filled with the most amazing African heritage inspired art and art objects made from discarded furniture pieces, breeze blocks and tree trunks destined for pulping. The enthusiasm of the attending black artists for all things thrown even converted smashed up pallets into stunning works of art during the four day show.

Participating Artists:

Layered Identities II - Fusing Cultural Heritage into individual Creativity

AACDD @ Dwell
22 - 24.06.2012
Los Angeles Convention Center
Los Angeles, USA

The success of ICFF was followed up by an invitation of the Organisers of Dwell, the largest interior design event on America’s West Coast, who shipped the entire exhibition from New York to LA to be part of their forthcoming trade show.

In LA the work of the original group of participating AACDD artists and designers was joined by new work - textile wallhangings from Pamela Ateke, Juliana Dugbatey, Eva Sonaike and Emamoke Ukeleghe.

Participating Artists:
Gary March, Adjani Okpu-Egbe, Natasha Graves, Anita Quansah, Bezem Kassan, Yinka Ilori, Basil Olton, Juliette Goddard, Emamoke Ukeleghe, Juliana Dugbatey, Julie Kouamo, Eva Sonaike, Pamela Ateke

‘For Nature I Love’
An Exhibition of Sculptures and Sculptural Furniture by Artist/Sculptor Gary March

Layered Identities III
An Exhibition of Wall Hangings and Textiles by textile designers Bezem Kassan, Juliana Dugbatey, Julie Kouamo, Eva Sonaike.

Handwoven and printed Textiles: AfriqueAuthentique-AuthenticAfrica, Burkina Faso, West Africa

27.07 - 19.08.2012
The House Mill
The Miller’s House
Three Mill Lane
London E3 3DU
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.

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.

Entrance to main gallery and floors
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

The 2012 AACDD Bargehouse Festival “Untold Gold” will once again place the outstandingly beautiful and original work of more than 100 artists and designers from the UK, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean within the unique backdrop and raw space of the Bargehouse.

For the first time, individual projects will be curated by participating artists, architects and designers using a specific theme to create special installations or a specific body of work dedicated to the multiple and complex cultural and political issues of Africa, the Caribbean and the black diaspora.

Started in 2010 by the British European Design Group the AACDD Initiative will create its own legacy by highlighting the talents of new and emerging artists, designers and architects, many of whom have not had the opportunity to showcase their works before.
The AACDD 2012 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.

For the second time during the three year initiative, the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Festival will take place in the listed Bargehouse, part of an early 20th century factory building within the redeveloped Oxo Tower Wharf complex.

For two weeks, from 19th – 30st September, all five floors of the Bargehouse will be the temporary home of the AACDD 2012 Festival ‘Untold Gold’ showcasing some of the most outstanding talent of African and African-Caribbean descent from the UK and overseas.

The AACDD 2012 Bargehouse Festival ‘Untold Gold’ is not and does not aim to be a single curated exhibition united under one topic! The statutes of the AACDD initiative ‘Inspire to aspire’ clearly state that its main remit is to ‘promote greater awareness amongst the British public regarding the creative talent of the African and African-Caribbean design diaspora in the UK... and to build bridges between black British artists and designers and those residing in Africa and the Caribbean to allow both sides to benefit from such a cultural and creative exchange.’

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.
'Black I am'
Artists and designers can draw from both countries of heritage. Exploring the aspects of ‘you’, your background and cultural influences.
JULIETTE GODDARD – Fine Artist,
Trinidad/UK

'Power of the Primitive’ (2/04)
Inspired by animals in painting as some of the most powerful expressions drawn from the ‘Primitive’.
JULIETTE GODDARD – Fine Artist,
Trinidad/UK

'For Nature I Love’ (1/03)
The ‘Tree Legacy’ Sculptures
Sculptures made from the wood of trees felled for the Olympic Park
GARY MARCH – Sculptor/Artist,
Jamaica/UK

'An Imaginary Return’ (2/07)
Exploring the triangular transatlantic slave trade the object becomes a fragment of a traumatic event.
BASIL OLTON – Artist/Curator,
Barbados/UK

'Dialogues’
Ideas of identity, memory and being-in-the-world
Curated by BASIL and MUNIRAH OLTON,
Barbados/UK

'Camouflage for Freedom’ (2/06)
Hommage to Jamaica’s flora
FRANK LUMSDEN – Fine Artist, Jamaica

'Head of the House’ (2/07)
Respecting one’s elders as a very important part of the traditions of the Ekiti and Ondo people in Nigeria
YINKA ILORI – Re-used Furniture Designer/Artist – Nigeria/UK

'African Inspirations’ (3/10)
BEZEM KASSAN – Fashion/Textile Designer-artist/stylist – Togo/france/UK

'Layered Identities’ (3/12)
Fusing cultural heritage and new identities
Wall Hangings by Textile Designers/Artists
Juliana Dugbatey – Ghana/UK,
Bezem Kassan – Togo/france/UK,
Julie Kouamo – Cameroon/UK,
Eva Sonaike – Germany/Nigeria/UK

'Labour of Love’ (4/13)
The body as a blank canvas for adornment
ANITA QUANSAH – Textile/Jewellery Designer/Artist – Ghana/UK

'TSTM / HPH’ (3/11)
(Transatlantic Slave Trade Memorial / Habitat for Humanity – Tobago and Trinidad)
An Installation by Architects
HERMAN and FOLA MORGAN

'A Life Apart?’ (4/13)
In another space or time objects create meaning and belonging
JADE FOLAWIYO – Product Designer/Artist, Nigeria/UK

'Utopia’ (Throughout)
Creating a personal utopia
ABI WRIGHT – Graphic Designer/Visual Artist/curator, UK/Jamaica

'Absent Art’ (1/02)
Visitors are encouraged to virtually explore ‘missing’ art and connect to various artists via mobile phones
An installation by CLEMENS HACKL - Graphic/Multimedia Designer, Germany/UK

Drawn from the unique ‘Projet de Tissage’ in Burkina Faso, this exhibition brings together the story of the ancient textile traditions and heritage of West Africa and their survival in the 21st century.


In 2007 SOS-SaveOurSkills was registered in Burkina Faso with its co-founder and Africa Director Desiré Maurice Ouédraogo, a leading textile expert of his country.

The mission of this project is to secure the cultural, professional and economic survival of West African traditional cotton cultivating and processing cottage industries - handspinning, handloom weaving and dyeing. ‘Projet de Tissage’ aims at empowering craftsmen and women to progress from their traditional craft to contemporary creativity whilst ensuring the continuation of their unique technical skills and cultural identity as an added design value.

The project stresses the urgent need to build capacity in terms of knowledge transfer, education and skills by creating a design-led, high end commercial framework to protect the cultural integrity of West Africa’s traditional textile industry.

The preservation and conservation of indigenous cultural heritage recognises the need for its continual adaptation, progress and evolution without interference from external factors. The challenge lies in how to bring long term economic benefit to the very people whose skills and techniques are in danger of being lost forever. ‘Stripcloth Splendours’ explores the importance of sustainable development through cultural and environmental revival and shows the ingenious ways in which craft and technique can be used to produce magnificent textiles from the most challenging of environments and how to develop opportunities and possibilities to ensure a long lasting future for the master-weavers and communities in Burkina Faso.

2012 AACDD Bargehouse Festival
‘Masters of their Craft’
Demonstration of traditional West African handloom weaving by Master Weaver Massan Dembele, Burkina Faso
September 20 – 24, 3 – 7 pm
Bargehouse, Southbank
Admission free

London Design Festival 2012 at the V&A
‘Why Indigenous Design Matters’
Seminar and Panel Discussion
Friday, 20th September 2012,
10 am – 12 noon
Sackler Education Centre,
Seminar Room 1, Admission free

The London Printworks Trust
‘Contemporary Textile Design based on Cultural Identity and Heritage’
Seminar and Panel Discussion
Thursday 24th October 2012,
6.30 – 9 pm
The London Printworks Trust
Admission free
African Fantasia

From the 19-22 September 2012
the British European Design Group will be collaborating with 100%design
to showcase the highlights of African inspired designs in textiles, wallpapers and soft furnishings by some of the most talented AACDD designers and artists:

Juliana Dugbatey, Julie Kouamo, Eva Sonaike

International launch of the
AfriqueAuthentique-AuthenticAfrica TissusVilles Collection
of 100% Handwoven Pure Cotton Fabrics
by Burkina Faso’s first collective of traditional master weavers

September 19-22
100%design
Earls Court
Exhibition Centre
Warwick Road
London SW5 9TA
Absence Art

Visitors are encouraged to virtually explore the 'absent' art and connect to various artists via their mobile phones.

The interactive installation “Absent Art” by Clemens Hackl (Ludic Online) presents artwork and designs by artists and designers from the global African and African-Caribbean diaspora, whose artwork cannot be physically exhibited.

Within a physical environment that is ‘missing’ the actual works of art, visitors are encouraged to virtually explore each piece and connect with the artists using their smartphones.

The ‘absent art’ is replaced by individual QR-Codes, directing visitors to the virtual exhibit when scanned.

In this experimental exhibition Clemens Hackl replaces the physical world with the virtual, crossing the boundaries between the two realities that define our lives.

September 20-30
Bargehouse
Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
London SE1 9PH

September 22-30
Apartment 58
58 Poland St
London W1F 7NR
The year 2012 will go down as a seminal moment in the history of 100%design. Staged for the first time under the ownership of Media 10, the show has been radically updated and enhanced.

The new plan is based on the principles of delivering a high-quality exhibition experience, clustering relevant content and providing a platform for a wide spectrum of design trade interests; as the commercial cornerstone event of the London Design Festival, the event attracts visitors, exhibitors and press from around the world.

Visitors will enter the show through a long feature tunnel, leading to the central bar which - in turn - provides direct access into each of the four dedicated halls: Office, Interiors, Kitchen & Bathroom and Eco, Design & Build.

Each hall will have a central hub; a focal point with curated content to provide networking, information and refreshment. For exhibitors, the new layout means no bad positions, a substantially better chance of meeting visitors and of securing more business. The model has been proven to work in other contexts; but this is the first time the model will be applied to a trade event.

The focus is high-quality content, for features and exhibitors, and we are delighted to welcome world-class exhibitors, editorial features from some of the brightest creatives in the UK and a standout seminar and events programme; with talks, lectures and debates staged in the dedicated auditorium designed by Paul Cocksedge.

The programme will utilize satellite broadcast technology to connect and engage with creative hotspots across the globe: Helsinki, Indonesia and Tanzania.
Since 2010 our AACDD call for submission of work has gone out to artists and designers of African and African-Caribbean descent all over the world. Posted on social networks, hosted on websites of other organisations, spread by word of mouth, ‘accidentally’ found when visiting our own aacdd site or through some unknown channels, which fill even us with wonder, who are used to the speed and global coverage of e-communications.

This is therefore – first and foremost – an expression of our deep gratitude to all those individuals, organisations and social networks, who have helped to alert friends, colleagues, fellow artists and communities in the UK and globally to this initiative. And this does not only apply to the artistic community. It also applies to the many visitors, who came to the AACDD 2011 Bargehouse Festival?Choices! and went away telling others of what we do.

We would equally like to thank the artists and designers, who have submitted their work for inclusion in the 2012 AACDD Festival and their thoughts for consideration for our future work.

As in 2011 we have, however, been faced with the problem of how to better expose the work of all those artists and designers from overseas, who cannot afford to ship their pieces to London or whose work is not suitable for any form of standard transport. We are fully aware that giving them simply a space in the AACDD Festival Guide does not – in any way – do justice to their talent or professional standing as artists and designers.

We have therefore come up with the solution of Absent Art, which will hopefully show their work to better advantage and also allow the visitor to more actively engage with the absent artists.

The AACDD Team 2012
**Terrence Adegbenle**

Fine Artist

Africa/UK

Terrence Adegbenle is a portrait artist who endeavours to create positive images of his community. His portraits of everyday people and positive role models reflect his passion for education and social realism. He often works with like-minded artists, musicians and fashion designers to create a body of work that he hopes will encourage the youth in his local and global community to strive for a more positive lifestyle in direct contrast to the negative images in the media and popular music.

He sees the musicians in his painting “Street’s Disciples” as representatives of a culture. Because of their status, thousands sometimes millions of teenagers across the country listen to them. As role models they could play a vital part in the education of the young using their music as a platform to speak up about culture, religion, politics and street life. Terrence Adegbenle created “Street’s Disciples” to honour individuals, whose music he considers socially relevant because it has important messages within it.

[www.krop.com/terrenceade/portfolio](http://www.krop.com/terrenceade/portfolio)

+44 (0)7786 515144

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**Kemi Aderibigbe**

Visual Artist

UK

Kemi Aderibigbe is a London-based artist with a strong background in art and a degree in Fashion Design. Having loved art from a young age, she continues to create art that will provide an experience to the individual viewer. Inspired by the essence of Africa, her work focuses on capturing the spirit of people. Steering towards a personal goal of total freedom and happiness, she follows her motto in life by doing what she loves to do.

[emi.aderibigbe@me.com](mailto:emi.aderibigbe@me.com)

[emi-aderibigbe.tumblr.com](http://emi-aderibigbe.tumblr.com)

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**Titus Festus Agbara**

Fine Artist

Nigeria/UK

Born in Lagos 1974. Titus Agbara attended the Federal Polytechnic, Auchi from 1994 - 1999 achieving his Higher National Diploma in Painting and General Art. He believes art to be his destiny and loves to share his work with the world, in the hope that it may inspire goodness in humanity. His particular interests are landscapes and sceneries.

Agbara uses a palette knife for his elaborate painting technique working mostly in oils but also in watercolours and pastels. His work is honest and sincere reflecting his view that life is one great adventure.

Titus Agbara has to his credit many group shows, private commissions and solo exhibitions in Africa and abroad and has participated in art residency with Professor Ablade Glover and with Kofi Setordji under the sponsorship of the Ford Foundation.

[futuartscircle@yahoo.com](mailto:futuartscircle@yahoo.com)

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**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, an innate ability to bring ‘the inside out’, Agenda began to utilise the camera in 2005 to capture people and bring his social observations to life.

Producing strong, timeless imagery with all age subjects, the spirit and spontaneity of children is perhaps, a theme that is closely celebrated in Agenda’s work. Agenda’s reputable affinity with ‘little ones’ captures the spirit of young people with incomparable edge.

With an extraordinary ability to transform outdoor locations into surreal studio space, natural elements present a poignant inspiration to Agenda’s work. A relentless eye for unexpected outdoor settings sets the barometer for Agenda’s wide angled style, intimately engaging subjects in their outside environment a true established trademark.

[info@agendaphotography.co.uk](mailto:info@agendaphotography.co.uk)

[www.agendaphotography.co.uk](http://www.agendaphotography.co.uk)

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**Terrence Adegbenle**

Fine Artist

Africa/UK

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**Kemi Aderibigbe**

Visual Artist

UK

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**Titus Festus Agbara**

Fine Artist

Nigeria/UK

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**Agenda**

Photographer

UK

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Julian Aggrey
Fine Artist
UK

Julian Aggrey’s work investigates texture, abstraction, geometric forms and plays on the idea of formal relationships between random ‘things’ and pattern. The positioning and set up of the picture suggests curiosity toward balance and dialogue between forms. Julian Aggrey takes inspiration from retro design, architecture, images in magazines, patterns on train seats, old worn posters. He sees his method of making art like archaeology, constantly removing paint to try to uncover the interesting and unique areas that can then be used to build a picture.

Julian Aggrey approaches the making of art very openly and does not restrict himself by trying to focus too much on a conceptual idea that could hold him back.

The idea is simply about the process/possess of making of art.

julianaggrey@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7956 513671

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.

e@sweetdesignstudio.co.uk
www.sweetdesignstudio.co.uk
+44 (0)7554 235 628

Magenda Alieu
Designer, Illustrator
Sierra Leone/UK

Born in Sierra Leone, Magenda Alieu moved to London with her family as a young child. As she adapted to her new surroundings, she also discovered her passion for creative expression. After studying Graphic Design at Coventry University, Magenda worked as a digital designer for 4 years. With a longing for more creative freedom, she began to further develop her skills in illustration, taking on freelance projects alongside her digital job. In 2010 she formed her own limited company called Pixel Ink, and now works as a freelance illustrator/designer. Magenda Alieu’s illustration portfolio is a combination of digital and traditional art; heavily influence by nature and animals, fashion and the perception of beauty. Her work continues to grow as her style matures and becomes more defined.

Magenda@pixelinkonline.com
www.pixelinkonline.com
+44 (0)7595 167124

Sacha Allen
Designer
UK

Sacha Allen is an artisan at heart, who really enjoys working with her hands. For the past seven years she has mostly worked in leather employing the techniques of appliqué and cut 3D leather to create contemporary, one of a kind accessories, which have the unique quality of artistic pieces. Her inspiration is drawn from nature and feathers, scales, insects and flowers are recurring motifs in her work. Having missed the pure joy of playing around with colour in the form of paints, pencils and crayons, Sacha Allen has created a new body of work and this exhibition is a culmination of the first stage of her life and a launch into the next.

sacha.allen@gmail.com
+44 (0)7916 306873
**Chelsea Antwi**  
**Fashion Designer**  
**UK**

Born and raised in southeast London, Chelsea Antwi is a new young fashion designer. Her talent for art and design already showed when she was still at school, so – at the age of 13, Chelsea Antwi decided that she would pursue this as a future vocational career. She was named ‘Textiles Student of the Year’ at Harris Academy in Crystal Palace where she studied for her A-Levels in 2009 and went on to study Ba (Hons) Fashion Design at the University for Creative Arts at Rochester.

With mentors such as Marcus Wilmont, Jean-Pierre Braganza and Richard Gray, her final collection was one of 23 to be shown at Graduate Fashion Week at Earls Court in 2011. Since then Chelsea has as a pattern cutting assistant at AquabyAqua and backstage at Mary Katrantzou, as well as on freelance projects.

She loves fabric, has an eye for detail and texture and is inspired by everyday life.

chelsea_antwi@msn.com  
www.chelsea-antwi.tumblr.com  
+44 (0)7949 554253

**Barka**  
**Jamaica/UK**  
**Artist**

London born artist Barka studied Graphic Design, Typography and Digital Media at the University of the Arts, London College of Communication. In 2011 Barka undertook a residency at Wasanii International Artist workshop Naivasha in Kenya, staying on to co-curate a group show “Hysterical Injustice”, an exhibition investigating economic dependencies, trade and globalisation in Kenya. A thought-provoking artist, Barka makes his physical environment part of his powerful creations working on recycled and reclaimed materials. His work explores the relationship between images and language, the balance between description and representation. He works in a non-linear form, creating graphical statements, combining text and image and reconfiguring and redefining familiar images to highlight the tension between linguistic and pictorial description. Barka recently had a 6 weeks’ solo show in London ‘Bread and Circus’ at 198 Contemporary Arts and Learning during the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics games, investigating the role of an artist in a ‘bread and circus’ society.

Barka.art@gmail.com  
+44 (0)7545 875046

**Tia Bible**  
**Furniture Designer**  
**USA**

American Tia Bible graduated in Interior Design from Maryville University she started as a Junior Designer for a Herman Miller furniture dealer. In 2010 Tia obtained her Certification of Specialization in Construction Management from Florissant Valley Community College with plans on owning and operating her own real estate development company in the future. She is currently finishing her MFA studies in Furniture Design at Savannah College of Art & Design. Tia founded T Alexandria LLC in 2011 to serve as a design education and development platform with a primary focus on furniture and product design. Trashform™, an upcycling initiative and product line of T Alexandria LLC is a response to the more than 8.5 million tons of furniture thrown away each year in the US alone. She feels an overwhelming moral duty to provide a solution to the lack of responsible waste management in today’s society and began developing ideas for objects and art made from trash furniture. Through Trashform™.

www.talexandria.com  
www.trashform.org  
+1 314 616 1467

**Jamie Bradbury**  
**Visual Artist**  
**Canada-Jamaica/UK**

A visual artist who primarily interested in exploring the residues of colonial taxonomies such as race, globalisation, and multiculturalism; investigating where these taxonomies intersect and overlap in our current society and are further rearticulated within the canon of Western art. His own mixed race upbringing often created volatile/confusing emotional dilemmas.

Through the displacement of time, the construction of images, sculptures, videos or the re-reading of histories, he attempts to confront and engage the viewer with works that challenge current understandings of these residues by highlighting this fluctuation of the recognition and (mis)identification process. Finally, the intention is to create a critical point of entry for the translation between cultural singularities creating new histories informed by each other while attempting to erase the hierarchical tendencies of traditional western methodology.

jamie.bradbury01@gmail.com  
jamiebradbury.blogspot.com  
+44 (0)7946 878225
Juliana Dugbatey
Textile Designer
Ghana/UK

Textile designer/artist Juliana Dugbatey describes her work as being based on feelings of ‘love, culture and inner harmony’, those being the key meaning to all aspects of her life and work. Together with her African heritage they form the foundations for her creativity and her 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
www.anabatey.com
+44 (0)7984 154924

Fred Ebami
Visual Artist
France

Fred Ebami sees himself as a pop artist. Andy Warhol, Roy Lichstenstein, Daly and Basquiat are his main inspiration, but he was also always attracted by things like comics and marvels. His work is a mix of many influences and his interaction with the world that surrounds him. Fred Ebami aims to create an emotion, through mixed media, collage or simply digital and paint. He wants to show what we really think or feel deep inside us.

Although he has been working mainly through the medium of Photoshop he has, more recently, gone back towards the organic creation, using ‘poskas’ and painting as finishing touches on his different pieces.

ebamii@gmail.com
www.fred-ebami.com
+44 (0)7584 243878
Born on Chicago’s north side, Tony Ford was always obsessed with art and music. With few toys to play as a child reading and drawing became a normal pastime. He was greatly inspired by his mother’s art prints, which included his favourite, Norman Rockwell. Tony Ford has been working as an artist and graphic designer for over 17 years. Before London he lived in the USA, Germany and Scotland. His work is greatly influenced by the culture he grew up with. As a child of the 60s he witnessed the civil rights movement, the assassinations of JFK, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X. The posters of protest (Stop the Vietnam War, Free Angela Davis) and those that advertised events to demonstrate or protest grasped his attention and thoughts. Through his work Tony Ford shares some of this experience with people outside the USA, particularly this generation who know little or nothing about these forgotten Black American figures. Each of his paintings highlights little known facts about these individuals and some of their unknown quotes.

Tony Fordnan@hotmail.com
www.designchapter.com
+44 (0)7501 793288

Luk Gama was born in France in 1978 but returned to the native Guadeloupe of his parents a few months later. His passion for drawing started at an early age being introduced to painting in the workshop of Michel Rovelas, the famous Guadeloupian artist. He graduated with a bachelor degree in plastic arts, obtaining his National Art and Technical Diploma in 1998 and worked on a research project for a new format of Caribbean storytelling. Luk Gama is the co-founder and President of Yé Clik, a collective of artists from Guadeloupe, which was set up in 2002. He began work on writing, calligraphy and symbolic representation in the 90s and has also taken up photography as a means of expression, which he wants to develop.

kreasyon@hotmail.com
http://www.lukgama.com
+33 (0) 690 73 87 14
Juliette Ingrid Goddard
Fine Artist
Trinidad/UK

Juliette Ingrid Goddard studied at Middlesex University under renowned artists like Richard Wentworth - currently Head of Sculpture at the Royal College of Art (RCA) - and Paula Rego. After her BA (Hons) degree in Fine Art, she obtained her Masters degree in Fine Arts and Printmaking from the RCA under the late Professor Alistair Grant in 1984. His support earned her a bursary scholarship from the Henry Moore Foundation to complete her degree and allowed her to visit Much Hadham Estates, where she was privileged to watch famous British sculptor/artist Henry Moore working in his studio. Under the aegis of Professor Grant, she 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.

juliette13_uk@yahoo.com
www.artlyst.com/Juliette.Goddard

Kassandra Gordon
Jewellery Designer-Poet/Spoken Word Artist
Jamaica/UK

Kassandra Gordon is a jewellery designer and poet/spoken word artist. She is British born with Jamaican parents and has lived around the UK, including the West Midlands and Liverpool; now she calls East London home. She has been writing and performing poetry in venues all over London for the last 3 years. Kassandra Gordon has just founded her own jewellery brand ‘Grape Soup’ with the concept ‘wearing words’ choosing the name to reflect her jewellery designs - a mixture of ingredients, sweet and savoury, original, seasoned with poetry and has since launched an online store and a poetry/jewellery blog.

grapesoupLondon@gmail.com
www.grapesoup.com
+44 (0)7843 129287

Hali
Photographer/Graphic Designer
Caribbean/UK

Hali is a London-born and based photographer and graphic designer. She trained in portraiture and fashion photography at several prestigious institutes including The British Institute of Portrait Photography. An active member of The Camera Club, London, Hali was featured member of this influential organisation in August 2012. Hali founded Ruby Shutter, capturing timeless, inspirational images often combined with themed messages for an international clientele. The latest Ruby Shutter project is creating motivating electronic cards and postcards to capture the wisdom of proverbs across the diaspora and beyond.

hali@rubyshutter.com
www.rubyshutter.com
+44 (0)7540 131559

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’.

gerard@gerardhanson.com
www.gerardhanson.com
+44 (0)7951 352 177

Juliette Ingrid Goddard
Fine Artist
Trinidad/UK

Kassandra Gordon
Jewellery Designer-Poet/Spoken Word Artist
Jamaica/UK

Hali
Photographer/Graphic Designer
Caribbean/UK

Gerard Hanson
Artist
UK
Yinka Ilori
Furniture Designer
Nigeria/UK

Of African/Nigerian descent, Yinka Ilori was born, bred and educated in the UK. He has a BA (hons) degree in Furniture and Product Design from London Metropolitan University. Deeply aware and passionately against the unnecessary waste of modern consumer societies, he specialises in redesigning discarded furniture by dismantling the individual pieces into their separate components and reassembling the latter into a new, often very different furniture object. His work is characterized by his signature vibrant colours combined with matching, African inspired upholstery fabrics.

yinkalr@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7904 857299

Khesumaba Jess
Photographer
Jamaica/UK

For Khesumaba ‘diaspora’ has layered meanings. He is an African-Caribbean born in Britain, who has a strong affinity with the Jamaican diaspora clutched from slavery and their complex relationship to Mother Africa. Khesumaba’s conceptual and documentary photography seeks to capture these iconic themes through unique moments.

The current exhibition includes images from an ongoing photo-journalistic project seeking to capture modern Jamaica - a true contradiction - where righteous Rastafari collides with the sexual ‘slackness’ of ‘Mi Pussy Bless’.

Khesumaba has spent 30 years writing and producing photo stories for a global audience spanning Holland, USA, United Kingdom, Jamaica and Ghana. His work includes the critically acclaimed documentary “Loxology” - a detailed journey of discovery about the international impact and mainstreaming of dreadlocks.

kafilmworks@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7760 402371
www.khesumabaphotography.com

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).

margaret.hanson@live.co.uk
www.margarethanson.co.uk
+44 (0)7773 113 182

Amanda Holiday
Fine Artist
Sierra Leone/UK

Born in Sierra Leone, Amanda Holiday moved to the UK aged 5. After briefly studying Italian at Leeds, she switched to an Art Foundation course at Jacob Kramer completing her degree in Fine Art at Wimbledon School of Art and went on to exhibit pieces in landmark black art shows across the UK. In 1989 Amanda Holiday commenced her seminal work ‘The Hum of History’ - an ongoing, large-scale series of narrative drawings on brown paper - later resumed in 2008. Between 2001 and 2010 she lived and worked in Cape Town, South Africa, where she wrote and directed educational television programmes. Since returning to the UK, she has exhibited at INIVA, cueB gallery (solo), ArtLounge, Bargehouse, Southbank, Fairfields Arts Centre, Lewisham Library and Harts Lane Studios. She is currently documenting events of the Cultural Olympiad for the Arts Council.

amandabholiday@gmail.com
www.amandabholiday.com
+44 (0)20 8613 9423


Margaret Hanson
Fine Art
UK

Amanda Holiday
Fine Artist
Sierra Leone/UK

Yinka Ilori
Furniture Designer
Nigeria/UK

Khesumaba Jess
Photographer
Jamaica/UK

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Bezem Kassan  
Fashion/Textile/Jewellery Designer/Artist  
France/Togo/UK

Natalie Keymist  
Photographer  
UK

Jacqueline Kibacha  
Fine Artist  
Tanzania/UK

Julie Kouamo  
France/West Cameroon/UK  
Textile Designer/Artist

London-based Togolese/Russian costume and fashion designer Bezem Kassan has travelled extensively through Africa to learn techniques from artisan craftsmen, developing ideas and inspirations, which she blends with her own multicultural individuality. This experience, coupled with her childhood in the cosmopolitan environment of Paris, has given her a very distinct artistic signature – a fusion of ethnic and contemporary design. Keen to preserve and revive traditional crafts, her handmade garments, fabrics, jewellery and artwork explore cultural heritage through the modern medium of screen and laser printing.

bezemymailan@
www.bezemymailan.com
+44 (0)7447 141583

Natalie Keymist is a London based photographer and educator with a passion for the visual arts. Her influence of surrealism and history informs her practice and she uses alternative and early photographic techniques to create work. After finishing dance training Natalie Keymist went on to complete a degree in Contemporary Media Practices from the University of Westminster. Since her graduation she has worked as a freelance photographic artist and artist/educator whilst running her own business Lens Obscura where she teaches pinhole and alternative photographic practices.

lensobscura@gmail.com
www.nataliekeymist.com
www.lensobscuraworkshops.com
+44 (0)7984 120962

Inspired by African art and jewellery, Tanzanian born fine artist Jacqueline Kibacha explores the human form through traditional mediums such as clay, oil paints and pencil. Her degree show was an installation incorporating sound, words and images representing the voices from the women in her family line. In 2010 Jacqueline Kibacha completed a course in Fashion Jewellery at the London College of Fashion and set up Heart 365 Emporium, a vision resulting from her extensive travels in Europe, the Middle East and Africa and closer contact with the semi-nomadic Maasai of her native Tanzania. As an artist she is filled with aspiration to articulate the beauty of the great continent that is Africa and to extend the voice of her motherland through wearable pieces of art.

j.kibacha@gmail.com
www.heart365.co.uk
+44 (0)7947 533591

Julie Kouamo is creating, editing and producing printed fabrics in limited editions for corporate and residential contracts and private commissions. She also works as a design consultant for industry. Her work is characterized by bold, emotionally charged patterns inspired by nature and vegetal. She experiments with old and traditional dyeing methods and modern printing techniques. Patterns go from figurative to abstract emphasizing onto mark making. Collections can be themed, like her collection inspired by West Cameroon, its people (the Bamileke), its language (the Bangou) and its patterns. Techniques mix batik (resist dyeing technique), mark-making, screen printing and photographic images to show her African heritage emphasized by a little European twist.

juliekouamo-designs@yahoo.fr
www.juliekouamo.com
+44 (0)7906 613862
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.

r.lindsay@vivarco.co.uk
www.vivarco.co.uk
+44 (0)7715 591 273

Robertson Lindsay
Architect, Designer, Photographer
UK

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.

frank_lumsden@yahoo.com

Frank Lumsden
Fine Artist
Jamaica

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.

imagine@axiomclothing.com
www.axiomclothing.com
+44 (0)20 8204 2399

Denise Mahmud
Fashion Designer
UK

South African Khehla Chepape Makgato was born in Johannesburg in 1988 and raised in a rural village outside Polokwane, Limpopo. His love for art started when he was 7 but, due to a lack of local art centres, he could only seriously pursue his studies after moving to Johannesburg in 2008. Here he studied printmaking at the Artist Proof Studio from 2009–2012. To overcome financial constraints and further his practical experience he took an internship as an Assistant Collaborative Printer at the David Krut Bookstore and Printworkshop in Johannesburg, where he worked with various well known artists. Khela is now a guest curator, technician, tutor and Collaborative Printer at Sharon Sampson Studio, Illovo in Johannesburg. He has initiated the youth community art organisation ‘Samanthole Creative Projects’, which aims at providing art skills and training in the rural parts of Polokwane and Limpopo. His long-term goal is to develop a sustainable arts education centre to cater to rural youth. He is currently studying for his three year Diploma in Media Practice through Boston Media House, Sandton Campus.

kaycee.chepape@gmail.com

Khela Chepape Makgato
Artist/Curator
South Africa/UK
Michael Mapp
Photographer, Graphic Designer/Artist
UK/Trinidad

Michael Mapp’s life as a photographer began 14 years ago, after being handed his first SLR camera by his stepfather while studying Art & Design in 1998. Michael showed early talent, producing breathtaking works. His love of science inherited from grand-uncle, the late Esmond Mapp, is reflected heavily in his work through use of light and metering shown in Vicinity Collection, Through the lens: a young black males perspective of British iconic landmarks (2003). Michael’s photography is highly-regarded - by individuals such as Kevin Davies (U2’s official photographer), Nick Knight’s printer Bryan and Lee Ranaldo of influential band Sonic Youth. Michael has become widely known for his representation of classic beauty challenging norms and traditional conventions. As a Trinidadian Brit, Michael also celebrated this year Trinidad’s 50th Anniversary of Independence.

mapp.photography@gmail.com
www.michaelmappphotography.co.uk
www.michaelmapp.wordpress.com
+44 (0)7950 581981

Gary March
Sculptor/Artist/Designer
Jamaica/UK

Gary March studied fashion, furniture and interior design as well as historical architectural stone carving, upholstery and tree surgery. His work is closely linked to his outdoor activities, with nature as the central inspiration for his designs. He has a specific interest in making sculpture from fallen trees and also works with breeze blocks, where he has developed totally new techniques for carving this medium using tools he developed himself.

Carving is his way of life, his method to explore his thoughts about inner peace, nature and dreams and his feelings like anger, joy or pain. His best known sculpture is “Earth Mother”, which is installed at Windsor Castle on the main arch of St George’s Chapel.

garysculptor@hotmail.co.uk
+44 (0)7908 188348

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.

info@m-ad.co
www.m-ad.co
+44 (0)208 8778 0500

Berjo Mouanga
Visual Artist, Graphic Designer
UK

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.

berjo.mouanga@gmail.com
www.berjomouanga.prosite.com
+420 (0)732 820 307
In her Ghanaian father’s native language, Korlekie means Queen of Eagles and is part of a name given to the chief; the word denoting strength, pride and power. Beatrice Korlekie Newman believes that these words not only describe a chief or king but represents a culture, a nation, a continent…AFRICA. Being brought up in the British culture she found that through her interests in the art and craft and regal history of the western world, she has come to love and marvel at the excellence of this heritage especially that of the Tsars of Russia which - in its grandeur and splendour - is somehow very similar to my own African culture and heritage, which in pride boasts richness and opulence. She says of herself ‘British and African is what I am. Two different worlds intertwined to give me a unique mix of heritage, which both worlds can enjoy and be inspired by through my fashion’.

korlekie1@gmail.com
www.korlekie1.com
+44 (0)7931 477651

Beatrice Korlekie Newman
Fashion Designer/Artist
Ghana/UK

A London-based corporate lawyer Catherine Mwase uses her passion for art to escape from the mundane: to dream, to inspire, to reflect; and hopefully to cause others to do the same. Her work ethos as an artist often draws on the experience of her professional background when it comes to weighing the right or wrong of responsibilities – be it of nations, groups or individuals or the search for truth within oneself. Perhaps the best way to illustrate her approach is to describe one of the works to be exhibited, which draws an analogy between smoking and the state of Africa. It is asking who is to blame for Africa’s turmoil, and furthermore, can we be said to be sharing the blame. The painting shows the lighting of the candle. The lighter depicts Europe, America and China. The painting also shows Africa in smoke. Should we blame the West and the East, or should we blame ourselves for the lighting the flame and picking up the habit in the first place. When one looks closely at the second painting one can see people within the lips, this raises a further question, are we as a human race to blame?

catherine.mwase@gmail.com
+44 (0)7515 085211

Catherine Mwase
Lawyer/Artist
Tanzania/UK

On the Ides of March, a creature with a fiery afro was born. Small in stature and withdrawn in nature, she led a reclusive life on the green highlands of Kenya, overlooking the savannah seas. Receiving her primary education under the instruction of foreign nuns of the Catholic persuasion, she left her home to experience this century’s Super Power. After a sojourn of many years she returned to her native soils, her intuitive pencil transformed into pressure sensitive stylus and screen. Currently she prances in the Queen’s country, nibbling on crumpets and searching through the dense fog. She recently graduated from the Royal College of Art in London and works as a freelance animator and video editor internationally.

nmukii@gmail.com
www.thenge.com
+44 (0)7761 388811

Ng’endo Mukii
Artist/Animation Designer
Kenya/UK

David Emmanuel Noel
Visual Artist
UK

David Emmanuel Noel is primarily a visual artist with a wealth of experience collaborating with musicians and performing acts. As a painter and illustrator, David has taught art and worked closely with bodies such as New York’s Groundswell Community Mural Project, the Powerhouse, the UK Department of Health, the Royal Institute of British Architects, National Network for Art in Health and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children with an aim to promote the social and therapeutic benefits of art in public spaces. He continues to exhibit mainly in Britain and the US and is currently working on a new portfolio of work.

info@davidemmanuelnoel.co.uk
http://www.davidemmanuelnoel.co.uk
+44 (0)7866 270381

Catherine Mwase
Lawyer/Artist
Tanzania/UK

Ng’endo Mukii
Artist/Animation Designer
Kenya/UK

Edward Ofosu
Artist
Ghana/UK

Self-taught artist Edward Ofosu knew early that he would be an artist. Although wanting to paint he was encouraged to study science by his family. By 1997 and with no formal training, Edward felt he should embrace his creative talent, share it with others and keep working with what comes naturally. His work is versatile experimenting with various mediums and forms of artwork. Although close to realism he likes to explore an abstract style. Visionary artist Alex Grey and Leonardo Da Vinci have been his source of inspiration. Since he moved to London eight years ago, he has participated in various art exhibitions including the Royal Society of Portrait Painters. Edward Ofosu is very much interested in the inner journey and how he can play a role with his art as a catalyst. He works with children to inspire them to look at creativity as a source of joy and to make the world a better place. In April 2012 Edward Ofosu was awarded a prize for artistic excellence for his painting of HM the Queen at the Friends of Holland Park art exhibition and a scholarship to study at the Hampstead School of Art.

ofosuedward@yahoo.co.uk
www.edwardofosu.com
+44 (0)7984 069491

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.

oliver83@hotmail.co.uk
roseoliverarts.blogspot.com
+44 (0)7837 015 325

Basil Olton
Barbados/UK
Artist/Ceramic Artist/Curator

Through the process of re-generation (a copy of a copy), Basil Olton attempts to suspend movement into a repetition of a moment. Inspired by the fragility of narrative structures, memory and desire, he transforms the improvised passing of fragmented moments into a pattern or mythos, using rhythm, rupture and the juxtaposition of texture and image to analyse meaning. Photographs and newspaper clippings, fragments of a collective unconscious are formulated into portraits of imagined identity.

basil@basilolton.com
www.basilolton.com
www.basilolton.blogspot.com
+44 (0)941 517430

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.

salongoarts@aol.com
salongo4art@qmail.com
www.salongoarts.co.uk
+44 (0)7944 799 928
Deanne Premchand had been interested in jewellery designing for a number of years before starting to make jewellery for herself. As her interest developed she began experimenting in different techniques. The pieces on display at the Bargehouse are made from semi-precious stones, crystals, beads, fabric, wire, glass beads and various other materials. Using inspiration from different types of jewellery from all over, Deanne Premchand employs different techniques of beading, weaving and stitching and mixed media to create fashion jewellery for all occasions. Her ultimate goal for the future is to design and make bridal pieces. Some of the work has also been co-created by Melanie Galligan, who has been interested in jewellery design for sometime and has started to learn and develop different techniques.

danne_p@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7999 471654

British born textile and jewellery designer Anita Quansah obtained her degree in textile design from the Chelsea College of Art and Design in London. She has since followed a highly successful career producing expressive one-off pieces of textiles, clothing and neckpieces.

Anita Quansah prefers vintage materials, which she makes into intricate, unique art pieces for fashion, body adornment and interiors. Her work has been featured in German and British Vogue, Elle, Dare2Magazine and Muse. Her clients include Christian Lacroix, DKNY, Diane von Furstenberg and Ischiko as well as private collectors.

anitaquansah@yahoo.co.uk
www.anitaquansah.com
+44 (0)7814 919079

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.’

parhelion1@gmail.com
+246 (0)2308 403

Shani Osman graduated with a first class degree in Fine Art in 2011 from the University of Chichester. Since then she has exhibited in a number of different galleries, including the Mall Galleries in London, and has recently been accepted for the Threadneedle Prize 2012.

Inspired by Chris Ofili’s mid-career retrospective at Tate Britain (2010), Shani Osman decided to travel to Malawi, Africa, the birth place of her grandmother and mother’s family in hope to develop her own signature style and learn more about her roots. The 2 week visit had an immediate impact on her work and helped her to develop her own style as an artist.

‘My paintings are precise, yet painterly, creating a likeness with an abstract surface. It is very much about seeing, using the brush marks to define the figure.’

Shani_osman@live.co.uk
www.shaniosman.co.uk
+44 (0)1293 514374

Shani Osman
Fine Artist
Malawi/UK

Fred Phillips
Visual Artist
Barbados

Deanne Premchand
Jewellery Designer
Caribbean-Indian/UK

Anita Quansah
Textile/Jewellery Artist/Designer
Ghana/UK

‘Coming from a racially mixed background I have always questioned my identity and been observant of others’.

Shani Osman

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anitaquansah@yahoo.co.uk
www.anitaquansah.com
+44 (0)7814 919079
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 hons.

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.

info@jasimages.com
www.jasimages.com
+44 (0)1582 615 196

A graduate in Graphic Design, Joseph Silcott works as a freelance illustrator and printmaker, creating artwork for a variety of clients, which include the BBC, London Buses, The Times and The Guardian newspapers as well as Varig airlines. He recently completed a range of appointments teaching fine art, graphics, illustration and textiles and now extends his own artistic practice by exhibiting his artwork internationally. Inspiration for Joseph Silcott’s recent work comes primarily from nature, in particular butterflies, moths and the folklore and mythology surrounding these specific insects, to produce work with a narrative quality. He likes the school of thought that butterflies represent the soul. Made from collaged paper, each of his butterflies is individually hand cut. As well as their obvious natural beauty, he agrees with the Eastern belief of butterflies as bringers of joy and being the essence of happiness. Joseph Silcott tends to work in series being also inspired by classical and popular music, fashion, graphic signs and symbols as well as the Victorian obsession of collecting, preserving and presenting insects in boxes.

joseph_silcott@hotmail.com
+44 (0)7930 209587

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.

ernest@ernestsimons.co.uk
www.ejsphotographer.com
+44 (0) 7930 945 545

Eva Sonaike is a London-based textile designer/artist with a MA in Fashion from the London College of Fashion. Her mission ‘Bringing Colour to Life’ is reflected in her beautiful collections of cushions, bags, notebooks, fabrics and furnishings using African style textiles combined with the finest velvets and leathers.

Of Nigerian origin but born and raised in Germany, she takes the best elements of both cultures to create a fusion between bold African patterns and colours and decorative European styles.

info@evasonaike.com
www.evasonaike.com
+44 (0)7957 404802

Jeremy Salmon
Artist, Designer, Illustrator
UK

Joseph Silcott
Fine Artist
UK

Ernest Simons
Photographer
UK

Eva Sonaike
Textile, Surface Designer/Artist
Germany/Nigeria/UK
Robel Temesgen obtained his degree in Fine Art from Addis Ababa University in 2009/10. His special interest is social work. He has participated in national and international workshops and courses on advocacy training, art and social change, reproductive health, children and youth social problems. Robel Temesgen is an Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Painting, School of Fine Arts and Design, Addis Ababa University, an exhibition coordinator at the Gojo Art Gallery, a cartoonist and illustrator. He is involved in radio and video productions, the Speak Africa initiative and lambadina Newsletter. He continues to work as a youth facilitator - for an UNICEF Ethiopia project - and as an illustrator for DSW National Reproductive Health Manual. He took part in the Artist in Residence Programme of the Heinrich Boell Foundation and Zoma Contemporary Art Centre, working with school children under 14 “Set ena Wend”. The resulting exhibition was held both in Harla, Ethiopia and Berlin, Germany. Robel Temesgen is currently working on paintings, video art projects and the ongoing community art project.

Robi_fine@yahoo.com
www.robeltemesgen.weebly.com
+251 913 21 80 44

Simon developed a passion for art, graphics and architecture while studying Graphic Design at Newham Community College. After years in the creative industry he now teaches Media and Graphics to young people. Simon’s works have focused on producing collages as well as designing promotional materials and magazine layouts. His work has been concerned with autobiographical experiences relating to dreams and memories from his youth, growing up in East London with his Trinidadian mother.

More recently he has been exploring food and its importance as a way of carrying on traditions within different cultures. Simon Thomas aims to create debate about the increasing loss of skills and knowledge being passed down from generation to generation.

Simonjthomas@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7870 719417

Abule Soro
Potters’ Guild
Nigeria

Isan in Ekiti State, Nigeria has long been famed for its pottery. The potters’ guild: Abule Soro – or ‘those who make wealth from the soil’ – once comprised some 200 potters. The art is traditionally the preserve of women and is passed on from mothers to daughters. Today there are fewer than 40 members but the skilled technique and distinctive style remain largely unchanged. Abule Soro 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 nine different textures and colours of clay, which are gathered from the local area. The unique temper is created by splashing a water/clay mix on to the newly fired pots.

Abule Soro pots have been exhibited in Lagos and London.

nicola.thornley@googlemail.com

Simon Noumbissi Tam
Product Designer
Cameroon/France

Born in Cameroon, educated in France and inspired by Japan, Noumbissi Constantin is a cross cultural designer covering a large range of projects from furniture to electronic devices.

After four years of product design studies Noumbissi spent six months’ internship in Japan, where he noticed that Japanese and central African cultures have a lot in common. As a designer, he decided to devote his abilities to a better understanding between the three cultures of his, as well as bringing an innovative and creative Africa and African diaspora to the world.

Where the dream faces the reality, Noumbissi leads a quest to improve the standard of living of people around him as well as people left back in his native country, by making useful products with high cultural identity.

noumbissi.tam@gmail.com
www.noumbissidesign.tumblr.com
+44 (0)7870 719417

Simon Thomas
Graphic Designer
Trinidad/UK

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noumbissi.tam@gmail.com
www.noumbissidesign.tumblr.com
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Simonjthomas@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7870 719417

Abule Soro
Potters’ Guild
Nigeria
Mel Ba Thorn
Fine Art, Sculpture, Design
USA

Mel Ba is a Los Angeles-based artist and designer with a Master’s Degree in Clinical Art Therapy from Loyola Marymount, Los Angeles and a BFA from The Gerrit Rietveld Academie in Amsterdam. She has exhibited in galleries in Europe and the US and had work auctioned by Sotheby’s Amsterdam. Art has been Mel Ba’s priority her entire life and her work is a bright representation of her experiences.

She was born in Columbia Tennessee and has documented her travels, experiences and social views through painting, sculpting, film and mixed media. She currently resides in LA Eco Village, a sustainable community in urban Los Angeles, which has inspired her current choice of mediums for using recycled components to make her art. Mel Ba is compassionate about her choices in mediums and enjoys the process of creating new uses for otherwise discarded goods in her world of fine art.

melbathorn@gmail.com
http://melbathorn.weebly.com
+1 213 884 3479

Antonietta Torsiello
Fine Artist, Textile Designer
UK

Antonietta Torsiello is a Visual Artist & Textile Designer from East London. Her main inspiration is drawn from historical textile patterns, architecture, African culture and the 1960s. Using mediums such as drawing inks, watercolours, wax/oil pastels, lino and screen print. Her “AfriWest” collection of textile and screen prints is inspired by the crossover between African and Western fashion and culture, the work of textile designer, Eley Kishimoto, and the tribal decoration of the Surma and Mursi tribes of East Africa’s Omo Valley. There is a strong emphasis on texture. Most of the images are created by layering string over research images to produce raised platforms, which she then uses to make rubbings using oil pastels and graphite. These are then developed alongside illustrations inspired by collections from fashion brands such as Gucci, Junko Shimada, Chipo Bespoke and others and combined to create new shapes and to give the work a new direction and meaning.

antonietta.torsiello@hotmail.co.uk
www.antoniettiatorsiello-london.co.uk
+44 (0)7949 953433

Timanno
Visual Artist
Haiti/France

Born Haitian and exiled in France as a teenager, Timanno calls himself an autodidact. His project: “HAITILOG” identifies many years of research and observation highlighting a constant, positive eye on society and its differences. HAITILOG derives from his Haitian identity and his perception of Haiti’s future and the free spirit of his country. Coming from an artistic family, Timanno takes a fresh approach to Haitian traditional technique, reproducing and modernizing his family art legacy in addition to his occidental culture. He grew up in Petionville, a musicians’ and artists’ town in Haiti before moving to France, where he rapidly developed a sense of adaptability and maturity due to the dramatic changes in his family life. Although he comes from Haitian ghettos and learned how to survive (in a hood), his childhood was full of dance, sport and music animated by traditional spectacle such as Voodoo’s celebration: “Les fetes GUEDE”.

leany@hotmail.co.uk
+44 (0)7800 542957

Davina Timoll
Designer/Artist/Jeweller
Caribbean

Davina Timoll studied MA Design at Goldsmiths College and holds a City & Guilds degree in Jewellery. Her work is contemporary and inspired by current design trends, especially in architecture. She is fascinated with mixing mediums, especially wood and silver, striving also to demonstrate that wood captured within a piece of jewellery can look as stylish and as unique as jewellery made exclusively from silver. Designs come to Davina Timoll in many ways; during her travels, in her studio. During her MA she worked with young people and children and created wooden objects that aided a child’s learning and had interactive qualities.

davina.timoll@yahoo.co.uk
www.davinatimoll.co.uk
+44 (0)7956 462694
With Jamaican heritage and British birth, it was only natural that Nadine’s art reflect her dual culture. Her chosen method being illustration, her projects often respond to written text through the development of inspirational images of the strong black women depicted in African American literature, to the jovial images created in response to Caribbean proverbs. Her passion lies in the combination of culture and identity. Obtaining a Masters in Illustration, Nadine Walker is an art teacher by profession and an enthusiastic creative, who designs and facilitates workshops for schools and organisations, such as The Stephen Lawrence Trust.

In June, Nadine was privileged to be one of 20 artists selected by the BBC to document the Diamond Jubilee Pageant from Millennium Bridge. The pieces on exhibition here are the fruits of that humbling experience.

nadinwalker@live.com
http://nadineillustration.carbonmade.com
+44 (0)7968 817248

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.

akeisha_w@hotmail.com
www.artbyus.tumblr.com
+44 (0)7534 075 328

Born in London to Jamaican parents, Charmaine Watkiss had been working as a freelance multimedia designer for 10 years before starting printmaking 5 years ago - initially as a hobby, attending Saturday morning classes at Morley College. She exhibited in her first group show in 2007 at the London Artists Book Fair at the ICA. Her book was well received, which prompted her to pursue printmaking further.

Charmaine is self taught as a designer and artist. Her design aesthetic largely informs the style of her printmaking creating strong bold images which focuses on her love of tribal art, mythology and history - real or imagined. She loves to use texture in her work, whether it is applied as in her collagraph prints, or layered as seen in her lithographs.

charmaine@maraboustudio.com
www.charmainewatkiss.com
+44 (0)7720 840833

Derek Went lives on the wild East Coast of Barbados. In true island fashion, his bloodline includes almost every race, and it is the Caribbean amalgamation of these cultures that informs his art. He is well known in Barbados as a food designer, stylist and chef, but firmly believes that specialization is for insects. Thus he expresses his diverse, artistic interests as a prolific painter, photographer, sculptor, textile and fashion designer, musician, singer, actor and TV host - while not being limited by any of these labels. His work has been shown in North America, Japan, and Caribbean and US territories. In recent painterly explorations, Went uses his enigmatic photographs as a point of departure for detailed “Pixel Paintings” that fabricate a myth about the ‘subject’ of the paintings.

derekwent@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/derek.a.went
+1 246 433 9419
Abi Wright is a graphic designer, visual artist and curator that enjoys creating work that represents her passion – celebrating and exploring culture and identity.

Using her mixed ethnicity as a stimulus, Abi recently created a photographic book ‘This Is Me’ which explores the many facets of being mixed race. She has also created a series of screen-printed canvases and a supporting book entitled ‘Translating West African Textiles’ in an attempt to create awareness about a section of a culture’s symbolic meaning, which is often overlooked.

Abi has a love for pattern, texture and colour, as well as history and current affairs, and aims to combine all of these interests when working.

abiwrightdesign@gmail.com
mag-op.tumblr.com

Audrey Joan Williams is a self-taught artist and amateur photographer, for whom painting has always been a dream. During a prolonged illness, between recovery periods, she finally decided to realise this dream and to take up painting. Her work makes her feel passionate, enthusiastic, motivated, inspired and excited - her journey is a discovery of herself. Audrey Joan Williams uses acrylic paints and mixed media such as beads, seeds, feathers and other textures, materials from in and around the house. She has a passion for texture and bold colours, history - past and present - and cultures from all around the world. Portraying faces is a prominent part of her work as ‘they tell stories’ but it also includes African masks, seascapes, animals and abstracts.

audreyjoanrhyswilliams@yahoo.co.uk
+44 (0)7930 462855

British born Jebila Wolfe-Okongwu employs diverse media including sculpture, painting, performance and video to create his art, which is informed by the traditional wood carving and sculpture of the Nigerian Igbo culture, his father’s ethnic group. He confronts aspects of these traditional works including formal purity, beauty and metaphysical presence, with Western art and popular culture. He also explores notions of the ‘exotic identity’, which is often imposed on him as an artist of African descent. A recurring motif is the banana with its clichéd association with exoticism. He uses the phallic connotations of the banana to examine issues of masculinity. Recently Jebila Wolfe-Okongwu has been making sculptures and collages from cardboard banana boxes breaking up the logos and texts of the packaging to reassemble them into patterns reminiscent of African wax prints. On a much darker level the banana boxes, which were shipped to the West from Africa, the Caribbean and South America, also signify the barbaric passage of slaves and refer to the histories of colonial trade.

mr.jebila@gmail.com
www.jebila.com
+39 338 9533797
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 and 2011 Programmes of exhibitions and events.

The 2012 AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee would like to express its gratitude to all Members of the 2010 and 2011 Committees for their dedicated and generous support of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative:

**Steering Committee Members 2010-2011**

- **Karin-Beate Phillips** 10/11’
  British European Design Group
- **David Blagbrough** 10/11’
  Inspire! - The Education Business Partnership for Hackney
- **Clemens Hackl** 10/11’
  CHD
- **Emamoke Ukeleghe** 10/11’
  Designer
- **William Knight** 10/11’
  London Design Festival
- **Tim Stephens** 10/11’
  Programme Director for Interactive Media, International Development Co-Ordinator, LCC London College of Communication
- **Katherine Ladd** 10/11’
  Brighton University
- **Denzil Phillips** 10/11’
  Denzil Phillips International
- **Dr. Ben Todd** 10’
  Arcola Theatre
- **Dougald Hine** 10’
  Space Makers Agency
- **Thomas Lindner** 10’
  thekindestgroup
- **Laurelle Hughes** 10/11’
  Affinity Admin Administration Co-ordinator
- **Okumute Ukeleghe** 11’
  Senior Accounts Advisor
- **Ameena M. McConnell** 11’
  Cultural Community Relations
- **Ekua McMorris** 11’
  Education Advisor

**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

Being a Member 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.

The 2012 AACDD Steering & Advisory Committee would like to use this opportunity to express its gratitude to all Members of the 2010 and 2011 Committees for their dedicated and generous support of the African and African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Initiative:
David Blagbrough
Senior Social Community Advisor

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.

Karin-Beate Phillips
British European Design Group
AACDD founder & 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 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.

Laurelle Hughes
Affinity Admin
Administration and Project Coordinator

Laurelle Hughes is Business Manager of Affinity Admin, which provides business support services. She has twenty years of 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.

Clemens Hackl
Ludic Online
Managing 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 private clients.

Clemens Hackl now heads the Online Division of the Ludic Group, a global design consultancy firm. As experts in Innovation, Strategic Design, Communications, Capability Building, Virtual Collaboration and Media Based Transformation they support the world’s most recognised organisations.

William Knight
100% design
Show Director

William Knight is the Show Director for 100% Design - the UK’s largest contemporary design trade event. William has worked as design promoter and organiser for over 12 years having previously worked at the Design Council as Public Affairs and International Campaign Manager. He played a key role in establishing and developing the London Design Festival over eight years, managing key relationships, business and content development.

William heads up 100% design for the first time in 2012, as it becomes re-established as one of the most important design events in Europe.

Katherine Ladd
Brighton University
Senior Education Advisor

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 established herself on the British design scene with a collection of unique, spun glass fibre lamps selling globally. 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, Sheraon and Diageo, and the Vanity Fair Oscars party in Los Angeles.
Tim Stephens
Academic and Professional Media Consultant & Practitioner
Senior Media and Academic Advisor

Tim Stephens was latterly Programme Director for Interactive Media, and International Development Coordinator, London College of Communication (LCC), a constituent college of the University of the Arts, London. Since 1998 he is Media Director of the British European Design Group (BEDG) founded by Karin-Beate Phillips in 1991. Tim Stephens was Course Director for the Master of Arts Interactive Media Programme, which was the outcome of EU research undertaken across Europe by universities together with media and IT companies. He directed the programme from the Royal College of Art in London together with Universities in France, Netherlands, Ireland, Spain and Germany.

More recently Tim Stephens has represented the University of the Arts London in terms of Creative Industries’ enterprise in the Far East, Europe and America.

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

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

Denzil Phillips
Fundraising Advisor

Lawrence 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.

He owes his profound knowledge of trees and wood to a specialist tree surgery course, which enables him to work as a professional ranger in the London Borough of Hackney involved with park maintenance, environmental conservation, planting and landscaping and the design and construction of outdoor sculptural wooden furniture using local waste woods and stones.

Gary March’s deep love for nature is the central inspiration for his designs, although he also works with breeze blocks, for which he has developed innovative carving techniques and tools. He enjoys carving in stone (in particular Thames river stones from the river banks) and works with waste chalk also found in the river.

In 2006 the Architect and Sculpture Committee of Windsor Castle chose one of Gary March’s carvings ‘Mother Earth’ to be permanently installed on the main arch of St George’s Chapel at Windsor Castle.

Abi Wright
Graphic Designer
Creative Advisor

Abi Wright is a graphic designer, visual artist and a curator with a BA in Information Design from the London College of Communication. She also studied at New York’s renowned fashion school, FIT, for one semester, and has participated in Turkey’s design Biennale Grafist (13).

Abi has exhibited in the UK, and has created her own exhibition series: Conversation With My Conscience, a visual conversation based on politics and current affairs, which debuted in London, focusing on the London Riots of 2011.

“Superb. Some amazing work. Moving, intense, uncomfortable all in positive ways.”
Two decades of market experience

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.

Export to stay at home!

Two decades in promoting UK creative industries

The BEDG has taken more than 4000 design professionals, agencies, companies, associations, organisations and institutions working in all disciplines of the Creative Industries to showcase their consultancy capabilities, skills and products in key and emerging markets across the globe.

One decade in China

Of particular interest for the BEDG is China, where the organisation has been active since 2001 promoting creative exchange between both nations, showcasing British creative excellence through major exhibitions, seminars, conferences and outward and inward missions and forging closer links with Chinese counterparts in industry and government both on regional as well as national level.

Promoting Creative Excellence Worldwide

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 administers and distributes grants and funds from UKTI – United Kingdom Trade & Investment in particular under the TAP -Trade Access Programme of UKTI.

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 best of Britain is it’s creative talent - Don’t let it go!

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. This work has led to the founding of the Burkina, UK and Germany based non-government organisation ‘SOS-SaveOurSkills’ (www.sos-saveourskills.org) and – more recently – to the African and African Caribbean Initiative (AACDD) (www.aacdd.org) in 2010.

The AACDD is an initiative of the BEDG

British European Design Group
25 Stanmore Gardens,
Richmond, Surrey TW9 2HN, UK
T: +44 (0) 20 8940 7857
F; +44 (0) 20 8948 2673
Info@bedg.org
www.bedg.org
What is it about London that warranted a design festival in the first place? According to the co-founder and chairman, Sir John Sorrell, London has three powerful characteristics which give it a unique positioning in design. First, a huge range of design disciplines are practiced here and designers cross-fertilise across these disciplines, creating a kind of hot-house. Second, we have an extraordinarily multi-national design community. Designers come here from all over the world to be part of it. Third, all this is underpinned by the UK’s 150 year old art school system, which has trained some of the best designers in the world.

Promotional initiatives such as the shows on offer from AACDD are crucial in bringing under-represented parts of the creative community to our attention. Such diversity of content and messaging gives the London Design Festival multi-layered appeal, which is critical in maintaining London’s reputation as a leading creative capital.

Max Fraser, Deputy Director

In 2012, it’s hard to believe that the London Design Festival is celebrating its tenth year. Indeed, time flies - when it started in 2003, there were about 40 events and exhibitions taking place across the city, outside of the main trade fair 100%design. The Festival worked tirelessly to bring better coherence to a selection of well-intentioned design activity.

In the years that followed, the Festival became widely known and accepted, garnering support and participants from far and wide. Today, we can proudly state that over 200 partners are involved in 2012, collectively staging more than 300 events. Audience participation is now substantial and diverse, with more than 350,000 visitors actively engaging with design over the ten-day period.

Plenty of people have asked us if the Festival will be bigger and better this year. Better, yes. More relevant, yes. But we steer away from the pressure that it should get bigger. The period is already loaded with content and it’s often a struggle to find time to get around even half of the events and exhibitions. One of our jobs is to ensure that the right information about the rich variety of content can be disseminated to our varying audiences, which we have traditionally done through our printed guide as well as the Festival website, e-newsletters and, for the first time this year, an iPhone app.

For some years, the London Design Festival team has been conscious that, on top of our partners’ activities, the Festival itself must create content of its own. We do that in the form of ambitious installations that add visible spectacle to key public spaces such as the V&A Museum, the Southbank Centre and Trafalgar Square. For example, in 2007 a polished black pre-cast concrete structure by Zaha Hadid, title Urban Nebula, graced the terrace at the Southbank Centre; in 2008, Tournament, a human-scale chess set with giant hand-painted ceramic pieces by Jaime Hayon filled the centre of Trafalgar Square; in 2011, the V&A museum was adorned with Timber Wave by AL_A, a highly-engineered sweeping timber structure that wrapped around the main entrance.
While these projects rely to some extent on the reputation and experience of the designer and fabricators, the Festival makes it a priority to encourage and nurture new and emerging talent, of which there is plenty in London. In the spirit of London’s multi-cultural mix, we also encourage designers and companies from overseas to get involved. Promotional initiatives such as the shows on offer from AACDD are crucial in bringing under-represented parts of the creative community to our attention. Such diversity of content and messaging gives the London Design Festival multi-layered appeal, which is critical in maintaining London’s reputation as a leading creative capital.

This year, that trajectory continues with an ambitious installation in Trafalgar Square exploring sound design as a medium, called the BE OPEN Sound Portal. At the V&A, numerous displays will capture attentions, including the Prism structure in the Cupula which relays live data streams from the city, and Mimicry Chairs by Japanese studio Nendo – a morphing chair design which appears in varying iterations around the museum’s spectacular galleries.
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.

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people’s lives.

We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries - from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections.

Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better.

Between 2011 and 2015, we will invest £1.4 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

Our mission is ‘great art for everyone’ and we work to achieve this by championing, developing and investing in arts and cultural experiences that enrich people’s lives.

The National Lottery

The arts are one of the core good causes supported by the National Lottery. Since the National Lottery began in November 1994, it has injected around £2 billion into the arts.

The Lottery has funded projects ranging from the Angel of the North, Tate Modern and The Lowry to instruments for brass bands and equipment for village halls. Audiences around the country enjoy new and refurbished arts buildings, and a huge range of arts activity.

Lottery money funds Grants for the arts, our main open application funding programme. This includes events, activities for people to take part in, equipment, improvements to facilities and buildings, and touring.

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.

The British European Design Group is an independent, non-profit, multinational, multicultural, independent organisation with a unique mission: Promoting UK creative industries for export.

WWW.BEDG.ORG

The British European Design Group
Export to Stay at Home
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.

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aaccdd@affinityadmin.co.uk
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Ludic are Strategy Designers. We enable the world’s most recognised organisations to Design their Futures and Transform their Present. Ludic is famous for using state of the art techniques such as Media Based Transformation to get the job done.


We help with Massive Change from systems, to product and service innovation.

Everything achieved with the unique Ludic flair, fun and finesse.

+44 (0)20 8650 1724
info@ludicgroup.com
www.ludicgroup.com

Karin-Beate Phillips
Founder/Director
British European Design Group
AACDD Programme Director

The year 2012 will go down as a seminal moment in the history of 100%design. Staged for the first time under the ownership of Media 10, the show has been radically updated and enhanced.

The new plan is based on the principles of delivering a high-quality exhibition experience, clustering relevant content and providing a platform for a wide spectrum of commercial design interests.

Every element has been considered – from the ‘inspiring connections’ campaign to the experience of walking into the show and navigating the sections, which include an dedicated Emerging Brands section, a dedicated International Pavilion area, and halls for four key industry sections (Office, Interiors, Kitchen & Bathroom and Eco, Design & Build).

The focus is high-quality content, for features and exhibitors, and we are delighted to welcome world-class exhibitors, editorial features from some of the brightest creatives in the UK and a standout seminar programme.

We look forward to welcoming you.

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

From the day of its launch in September 2010 with its first ambitious series of exhibitions and events, the AFRICAN AND AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN DESIGN DIASPORA Initiative has been most 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 realised the 2010 and 2011 AACDD Festivals so successfully, without the practical, technical, moral and financial assistance of our partners and supporters. Nor would we have ventured to enter into the much larger 2011 and 2012 AACDD series of exhibitions and events without the assured continued support of many of our partners from the years before and those, who have since joined the initiative.

To all of whom we are most sincerely indebted.

Karin-Beate Phillips
Founder/Director
British European Design Group
AACDD Programme Director

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AACDD Programme Director
**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.

+44 (0)20 7021 1600  
helpdesk@coinstreet.org  
www.coinstreet.org

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**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.

+445-2861  
frank_lumsden@yahoo.com

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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.

+44 (0)20 7275 6060  
info@inspire-ebp.org.uk  
www.inspire-ebp.co.uk

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**Apartments 58**

Apartments 58 is a new global concept members’ club providing a work and socialising space for the creative industry seven days a week. The concept is simple: a community, both online through our members’ zone and in our designated apartment and bar spaces with understated design and personal access.

2012 will see three new Apartments in London, located in the creative hubs of Soho, Notting Hill and Shoreditch. Expanding to a global network, further Apartments are scheduled to open in Paris, Milan, Berlin, New York and Mumbai by 2015.

Open from 8am-12am, the comfortable space is available for business meetings and private dining as well as exhibitions, live music and DJs, and much more. The club has an extensive drinks menu with resident mixologists and a unique takeaway food concept.

All Apartments are at the forefront of technology with the latest Apple gadgets available for all Friends.

+44 (0)20 7734 6611  
www.apartment58.com
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 as part of our Global Design Network.

We like to generate our own concepts and inspire the industry with our innovative design solutions. We like to make our own ideas to transform businesses.

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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.

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.

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

‘Not the object, man is the goal!’
László Moholy-Nagy

‘Not the object, man is the goal!’
László Moholy-Nagy

Registered Head Office Africa
SOS-SaveOurSkills
01 PB 2418, Ouagadougou 01
Burkina Faso, West Africa
E: africa@sos-saveourskills.org

Registered Head Office UK
SOS-SaveOurSkills UK
25 Stanmore Gardens
Richmond, Surrey TW9 2HN, UK
E: Info@sos-saveourskills.org

Registered Charitable Association
SOS-SaveOurSkills
Albrecht-Duerer-Strasse 9b
74889 Sinsheim/Elzenz, Germany
T/F +49 (0) 7261 62980
E: info@sos-saveourskills.org

W: www.sos-saveourskills.org
A great example of art engaging with a community and people. Fantastic.
Maximise your advertising and promotional opportunities with our Neo Roller Banner. At just £72.50 including the carry/storage case, the self-supporting Neo can be assembled and on display in seconds - no tools are required. Either send us your artwork or let us prepare it for you, we can deliver the stand to your door!

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Weight: 2.4 kg

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