



Art Jamaica in Fashion
Sunday 6th August 2012

The coincidence of the Olympic Games in London at the same time as the 50th Anniversary of Jamaican Independence has focused the attention of the world on Jamaica with London at the epicentre.

"Art Jamaica in Fashion" is a show created by Art Jamaica in collaboration with Sharmain Forde Couture to celebrate elements of Jamaican culture which are world class but rarely exposed to the world outside Jamaica.

Sharmain Forde has created 20 pieces each inspired by a different work in the Art Jamaica collection.

Particular emphasis was placed on choosing pieces of art that represented different eras in Jamaica's progress as an independent country for the creation of the collection. The result of this careful planning has resulted in an art and fashion show which joyfully celebrates and demonstrates Jamaica's rich post colonial cultural heritage.

Theresa Roberts.



Theresa Roberts' love of Jamaican art stems from her heritage; she was born in St Elizabeth, Jamaica. Moving to London with her family as a small child her interest began with a collection of European paintings and sculpture.

Returning to Jamaica in the '90s, Theresa was impressed the quality and sophistication of the Jamaican visual arts scene. This led to the start of her own important collection of Jamaican art and her decision to promote Jamaican art internationally. Theresa has staged exhibitions of Jamaican Art at Cambridge University, The House of Lords and Europe House.

Although supporting Jamaican artists is Theresa's main passion she is also involved in numerous UK arts projects: DRIFT - installations on the River Thames; New Hall Art Collection, Cambridge University - a permanent collection of modern and contemporary art by women artists, with the exhibition of Jamaican women artists at Murray Edwards College in 2010; and the establishment of the International Slavery Museum, forming part of Liverpool's National Museums. During this period Theresa also launched her own commercial gallery, "Black Circle" to give exposure to Jamaican artists currently underrepresented in Europe. www.blackcirclegallery.com

On Prince Harry's 2011 visit to Jamaica, Theresa attended the Prince's unveiling of a sculpture by Basil Watson, one of the artists she supports via www.art-jamaica.org

Theresa was also thrilled to be invited by HRH The Prince of Wales to a recent private dinner at Windsor Castle at which she was able to update the Prince on her projects and discuss with him his passion for Jamaica and Jamaican Art.

SHARMAIN IN
FORDE
DESIGNS 

LONDON MONTEGO BAY

Working as a fashion and interior designer for over three decades, Sharmain Forde has embraced a wide range of influences, defying traditional limitations and creating new forms in fashion and design.

Initially making pieces for herself from the age of 12 having learnt dressmaking skills and design on the laps of her elegant and glamorous Jamaican Grandmother and Mother. She then completed formal training in pattern cutting, fashion design and interior design, all viewed through the prism of a contemporary art aesthetic.

She continues to create exclusive pieces for true individuals for their self expression.

Born in London in 1962, Jamaica has always been her 'touchstone', influencing in her colour, texture and silhouette choices.

"Jamaican Independence is my independence" Sharmain Forde 2012



Albert Huie - Roselle Waterfalls,
St Thomas - 26' x 22"
Oil on Canvas





Michael 'Flynn' Elliott -
Dog Skull - 24' x 36"
Acrylic on Canvas 2010





David Boxer -
Self Portrait - 15' x 19"
Mixed Media on Canvas 2005





Monique Lofters - Acrylic on Canvas





Ebony G. Patterson





Kristina Rowe -
The Assets
Acrylic on Canvas





Edna Manley - Orpheus





Laura Cooper - Prayer





Laura Hamilton - Markings





Laura Hamilton - Pin Pon She





Carl Abrahams
Schoolgirls With Prophet - 1982
Oil on Canvas - 14.5" x 10"





Phillip Thomas
Self Portrait - 49' x 49"
Oil on Canvas 2001





Judy Ann Macmillan -Ackee and Breadfruit





Kai Watson
Vibrations - 2009
Oil on Canvas





Keisha Costello - Chair
Photograph





George Rodney
On Awakening - 38" x 45"
Acrylic on Canvas





Milton George
The Musician - 14" x 14"
Oil on Canvas





Phillip Supersad
Ceramic

