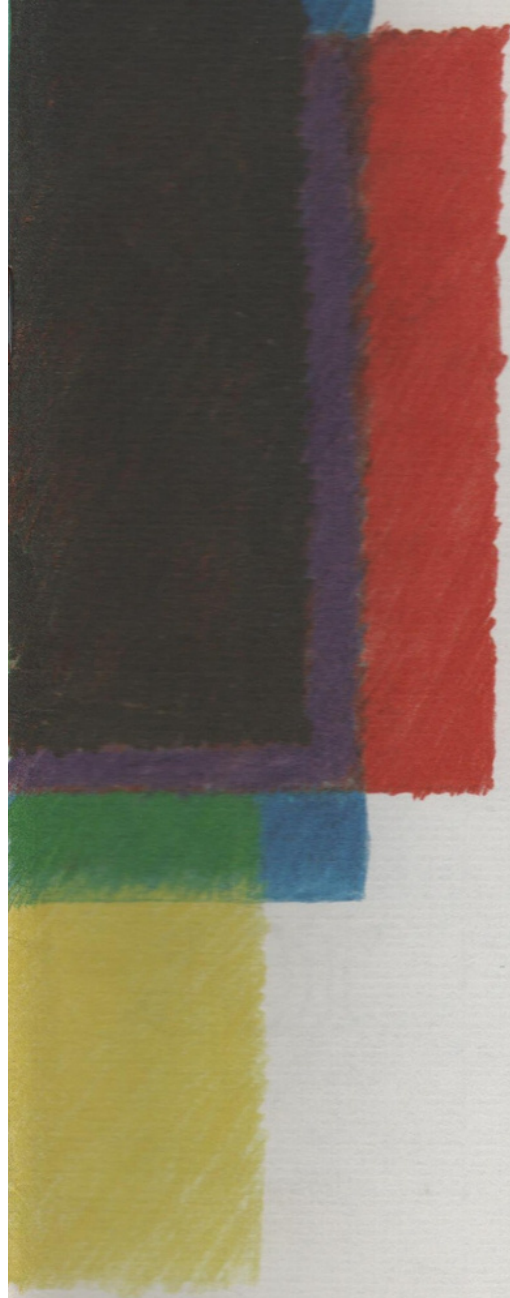




THE C O L O U R S OF BLACK

A BLACK ARTS SHOWCASE
3RD AND 4TH FEBRUARY 1986
10.00AM UNTIL 6.00PM
AT CONFERENCE HALL
COUNTY HALL LONDON SE17 7PB
TELEPHONE 01-633 2611

PRESENTED BY THE
RACE EQUALITY UNIT

Parminder Vir OBE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE
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F O R E W O R D

'The Colours of Black' Exhibition has been organized by the GLC's Race Equality Unit as part of its continuing policy to ensure that Black Art be not perceived as marginalised activity.

Showcasing the work of Black artists and organizations in London, 'The Colours of Black' is unashamedly a statement of vibrant diversity.

The Exhibition is arranged in a tri-partite relationship.

Traditional Colours

A vast range of regional and classical arts of Afro-Caribbean and South Asian people are now firmly rooted here in Britain. Many artists are making use of these traditional forms to project strong personal visions.

New Forms/New Colours

The stimuli of a new environment, new media for expression and new audiences have led to Black Artists evolving new ideas and new means of expressing them.

The New Spectrum

Black artists are in the forefront of using new media such as film, video and computer graphics to express their ideas, frequently redressing negative images of Black People.

Through such a tri-partite arrangement 'The Colours of Black' Exhibition seeks to impart the continuity and development of Black Arts in Britain, to funders, venues and the Media.

Rekha Prashar, Policy Advisor
Race Equality Unit.

N I I A B B E Y

Nii Abbey was born in December 1949 in Accra, Ghana. His flair for drawing and painting at a young age won him a prize during the 'World Wide Finding Out Magazine Art Competition' in 1963. In 1964 he started his secondary school education at Prempeh College Ghana and although primarily interested in drawing and painting Abbey developed a great liking for music and was the bass guitarist for his school pop group from 1966-68.

In 1973 Abbey began a degree course in Graphic Design at the university of Science and Technology, Ghana where he demonstrated a true versatility and ability that has remained consistent. In 1974 his design for that year's Christmas card for the National Family Planning Programme was awarded first prize by the selection committee. In March 1977 he again won first prize for an intrinsic design for the Golden Beach Resort-Elmina, Ghana and three months later Abbey won a second prize for the Ghana Book Development Council Emblem.

After graduation and National Service, Abbey left Ghana to live and work in Nigeria where he met and was influenced by Bruce Onobrakpeya a renowned Nigerian Master Printmaker.

Since the latter half of 1981, Abbey's devotion to and dexterity in scraperboard technique has increased to such standards that even though relatively new to the medium, many of this young artist's works can be found in Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, India, Europe and the U.S.A.

"My medium - scraperboard - gives me that feeling of contrast when BLACK and WHITE come together. That feeling of ease and flexibility Now is the time to scratch away on a black surface with tools to expose our images...the way we are". Nii Abbey 1984.

Abbey has exhibited widely throughout Africa and Europe and is currently based in Nigeria whilst working throughout the continent.

Contact:
Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
01-960 1867

THE AFRICAN DAWN

In traditional African societies poetry has always occupied a central part in life; sung, shared, danced and recited in communal gatherings. In many West African societies the 'griots' acted as the people's poet with the participation of the community. Communal occasions such as funerals, harvestings and festivities were marked with poetry recitals and dances. This practise lends the mere words of poetry a power of rhythm, sounds and meaning.

To recover this folkloric use of poetry has been a monumental task undertaken by an arts/cultural performing group based in London, *The African Dawn*. Through their public performances and workshops, *The African Dawn* have resuscitated the effectiveness of dramatised poetry as a means to articulate their crusade of liberation and also as a stimulus to the appreciation of the traditional

African values. Their style is simple; powerful vocals accompanied to the instrumentation of African music. The effect has been very successful and popular in public performances.

Members of *The African Dawn* come from Zimbabwe, Kenya, Senegal and Ghana. *African Dawn* has also worked with artists from Nigeria, Gambia and Azania (South Africa). Members are Torera Mpedzisi, Ahmed Sheikh, Wanjiku Kiarie, Kwesi Owusu, Vico Mensah and Toendepi Danga. Nans Dansu is a guest artist. The group has toured extensively in the UK and has supported many political and social campaigns.

Contact:
African Dawn
38 Kings Street
London WC2
01-836 1973

RASHEED ARAEEN

'Undoubtedly, one of the most important historical events for Europe since the end of the last war has been the arrival and settlement of millions of people from non-European countries, mainly from countries of the so-called Third World. The experience of these people as 'immigrants', as super-exploited class, deprived of a political and cultural voice, and the experience of the 'host' society in having its deep-seated Eurocentrism and racism revealed to it, in all their complex ramifications, are the twin realities of this great change. To say that Britain is a multi-racial society is both a cliché of the 'race relations industry' and a fact that is only slowly entering the consciousness of even supposedly enlightened and liberal milieus. In Britain, in the visual arts, it seems to me that the most passionate and the most intelligent body of work up to now to closely concern itself with these issues, these experiences, has been produced by *Rasheed Araeen*'.

Guy Brett
(former Art Critic of *The Times & City Limits*)

In spite of the uniqueness of his contribution, Araeen's work remains unrecognised in Britain. He constantly faces indifference, ignorance and sometimes outright hostility from the art establishment. His book 'Making Myself Visible' fills an important gap in our knowledge of the development of contemporary art in Britain of recent years.

Contact:
Black Umbrella
120 Greencroft Road
London NW6 3PJ
01-625 4902

MENSHACK ASARE

Meshack Asare is a distinguished Ghanaian artist well known for his wide ranging talents as a sculptor, painter, author and illustrator.

Born in the Ashanti region of Ghana, Asare studied fine art at the University Science and Technology, Kumasi.

In 1953 he won the first prize in the National Schools Art Contest organised by the British Council and in 1965 his sculpture constituted a major Ghanaian contribution at the Commonwealth Art Festival in London.

Asare's versatility extends from lively eloquent drawings and sketches to more intricate abstract and semi-abstract paintings. There are drawings in ink which combine a sketch and etching technique to produce a drawing that has a sharp, print-like quality. Asare used this effect in his first two books, "Taiwa Goes To Sea" and "The Brassman's Secret", which were selected by UNESCO as the best books from Africa for their year. "The Brassman's Secret" also won Asare the Noma Award in 1982.

Asare has now written and illustrated many other books and has travelled extensively, lecturing and exhibiting his work throughout the world. Asare's illustrated books aim to excite the young reader with stories about African life and culture. As Asare says: "A child has a fresh and exciting view of the world and this excitement must be guided and assisted so that the child can have a feeling for the best things in its culture".

Currently living in London, Asare is illustrating a book he has recently written on the Great Zimbabwe.

Contact:
Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
01-960 1867

ASIAN CO-OPERATIVE THEATRE

Recently established Theatre Company.

Contact:
Shirley Escott
99 Goldhurst Terrace
London NW6 3HA

ASIAN MUSIC ACADEMY & RESOURCE CENTRE

The policy of the Asian Music Academy and Resource Centre is as follows:

1. To promote the performing of, the teaching and appreciation of Asian Music in all its forms and styles.
2. To give London based Asian musical artists and qualified Asian music teachers the opportunity to perform and to teach and train Asians and other groups residing in London, particularly Asians born in this country.

3. To encourage the teaching and performance of Asian music in schools and colleges, local authority venues and Arts centres as a cultural medium in order to strengthen the cultural identity of British born young Asians and to attempt to fill the 'cultural/artistic' vacuum in the Asian community as a whole.

4. To attempt whenever possible to bring the teaching practice and performance of Asian music into the mainstream of Art in this country.

5. To bring together Musical artists to share their problems and experience in this country.

Contact:
17 Auckland Road
London SW11 1EW
01-228 0620

DAVID BAILEY Photographer

Contact:
86-100 St. Pancras Way
Camden NW1 9EF
Tel: 01-482 3816

BRENT BLACK MUSIC GROUP

Contact:
Leslie Palmer
383 High Road
Willesden NW10 2JR
Tel: 01-451 4545

THE BRITISH ASIAN THEATRE COMPANY

The British Asian Theatre Company evolved in 1982 out of Star Productions video workshops. Thus was born a form of theatre which was a blend between video technology and live theatre, which resulted in *Ahmed The Wonderful Oriental Gentleman*, which was critically acclaimed by newspapers throughout the country.

This use of multi-media on stage has since been adopted by various companies who have worked in close contact with us.

The British Asian Theatre Company is the only professional theatre company based in the East End presenting an Asian perspective. We produce plays at repertory, fringe and small scale levels.

So far we have produced three plays:

1. *An Experience*. Toured extensively in the East End.
2. *Ahmed The Wonderful Oriental Gentleman*. Toured around fringe venues throughout London and other parts of the country.
3. *A Man I Never Knew*. A Theatre-In-Education piece toured extensively in the whole country.

British Asian Theatre is committed to the development of new blend of culture existing in Britain today.

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By producing plays about social issues facing British Asians, we aim to bridge the gap between East and West and help resolve universal problems of younger and older generations.

Contact:
Raj Patel
61 Thistlewaite Rd
London E5 0QE
01-986 4470

NEWTON BROWN Photographer

Contact:
Flat 2
49 St. Lukes Avenue
Clapham
London SW4 7LP
Tel: 01-383 6400 Ex 234

CHILA BURMAN Artist

Contact:
The Arts Group
50-52 Kings St.
Southall
Middlesex
Tel: 01-482 4024/5245

JON CHURCHILL Potter

Originally I was a baker. I turned to pottery when, one bored day, I moulded a dinosaur out of dough. This was unintentionally displayed in the shop, and I was given an order to make eighty prehistoric animals for a kids' party. Seeing my masterpieces devoured by eighty hungry mouths started me looking for a more permanent art form.

Today I teach in a community pottery that I built and set up in 1980. This is funded by the Greater London Arts Association. Courses on offer include kiln-building, throwing, glazing and mould-making. The Pottery has an 'open door' policy, presenting an opportunity for a wide range of people to try their hand at ceramics.

My work ranges from high temperature earthenware to low temperature Raku, both thrown and handbuilt. I try to limit my decoration to colouring strips and oxides. I like the basic earthy colours and matt textures that can be achieved with these. The pots are fired in a reduction atmosphere in a gas kiln. This brings out the mineral in the glazes and oxides, producing a metallic effect.

Much of my time is also spent making 'practical' pottery - cups, mugs, bowls, plates, casseroles, etc., which are sold to raise funds for the Pottery.

Contact:
47 Edbrook Road
London W9
Tel: 01-960 4600

D A D E K R A M A

164 Stockwell Road
Brixton
London SW9
Tel: 01-274 4034

DAGARTI ARTS GROUP

Dagarti Arts Group was formed in 1978. The group has performed and taught the West African drumming, song and dance forms in schools, colleges, community centres, hospitals, theatres, art galleries and to the individual.

The group since 1978 has developed into an organisation promoting other cultural groups, given professional advice to college students and helped other organisations set up drumming, dancing and singing at their centres. During the group's 5½ years cultural services to the people of South East London and beyond, it has always been our fervent wish to organise and put on cultural exhibitions, workshops and performances to our numerous participants. The means to have our own premises will enable us to organise a permanent exhibition room full of African musical instruments, props and costumes for viewing. A place whereby we can open to schools, colleges, community centres the chance to visit or send students to learn about the various musical instruments, the music, dance and their social background. The aim we envisage would create educational purposes and future job opportunities in the borough.

Contact:
Mario Die Kuuroh
3 Clavering House
Blessington Road
London SE13 5EF
Tel: 01-318 5063

DANCE CO. NO. 7

Dance Co 7 specialise in Theatre-in-Education and the Community Arts, with the aim to remove some of the mystique from Afro-Caribbean dance, showing its historical value in a multi-cultural society, rather than the frivolous erotic 'jump-up', shaking of hips and other parts of the anatomy so far associated with the dance.

It was out of this concept that it was found necessary to form a dance company to develop and advance a modern technique of Afro-Caribbean, as a serious art of expression and enjoyment both educationally and as a performing art.

Contact:
Carl Campbell
28 St James Walk
Camden Estate
Peckham
London SE15
Tel: 01-703 2388

U Z O E G O N U

Painter & Printmaker

Uzo Egonu was born in Nigeria. He has exhibited in many parts of the world. He has studied Florentine paintings and drawings, colours in Venetian paintings, and forms in African sculptures. His works in public collections include the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Contact:
32 Coniston Gardens
Wembley
Middlesex HA9 8SD
Tel: 01-908 1107

EKOME DANCE COMPANY

Contact:
Barrington Anderson
36 Argyle Road
St. Paul's
Bristol BS2 8UY
Tel: 0272 426475/426110

ELIZABETH EUGENE

1979-80 East Ham College of Technology. Foundation Art/Design.

1980-83 Loughborough College of Art/Design. Printed Textiles B.A. (Hons).

Exhibitions

July '83 'New Life', Seven Dials Gallery.
Nov '83 'Black Woman Time Now', Battersea Arts Centre.
Nov '83/'84 'Young Blood', Barbican Arts Centre.
Jan/Feb '84 'Textiles Meaning and Making', Brixton Art Gallery.
Feb/Mar '85 'Craftwork', The Black Art Gallery.
July '85 'Craftfare', The Centaur Project Community Centre.

My work involves the use of many textures on a variety of fabrics, many of which derive from Mexican, Greek, African and Indian art. Geometric shaped designs taken from these areas result in abstract images held together by a variety of well chosen colours.

In September of '85 I was offered a studio in a newly built design complex on the South Bank, called South Bank Craft Centre, housing many other designers, jewellers, weavers, etc. I also acquired a partner in Janice Berns. Our work compliments each other perfectly. Because of her training in Fine Art Print, we were able to apply our different strengths and combined interests in ancient arts to fabrics suitable for both fashion and interiors.

Also I have been freelancing which recently included designing a programme cover for the Roundhouse production of 'Amandla', and am just in the process of applying for the part-time lecturer post in Printed Textiles at Manchester Poly.

Contact:
164/167 Hungerford Arches
South Bank
London SE1 8XU
Tel: 01-928 0681

ARMET FRANCIS Photographer

Contact:
15A St. Annis Villas
London W11
Tel: 01-603 8523

H O U N S L O W A R T S C O - O P E R A T I V E

Recently established theatre company.

Contact:
Poulomi Desai
Unit C16, Charles House
Bridge Road
Southall
Middlesex
Tel: 01-843 9281

GAVIN JANTJES Artist

Contact:
The Old Rectory Cottage
Christian Malford
Chippenham
Wiltshire SN15 4BW
Tel: 0249 - 720578

EMMANUEL TWAIWO JEGEDE

Emmanuel Taiwo Jegede is one of Nigeria's most respected artists. Born in Nigeria in 1943, he studied sculpture under Mr Osagie Osifo at Yaga College, Lagos, finalising his training at Hammersmith College of Arts, London in 1969.

Jegede's work is sophisticated and authentic, spiritually and stylistically grounded in the art of Africa and although most well known as a sculptor/painter, Jegede is fast establishing himself as a short-story writer and poet.

Since moving to London, Jegede's contribution to the progress and appreciation of African Art has been immense, covering the setting up of a studio and bronze foundry at the Riverside Studios, London, lecturing on African Arts and Culture at the Commonwealth Institute, London, to teaching painting and percussion at numerous schools and institutions.

Currently based in England at his won studio, Jegede is continuing to promote a wider appreciation of African Art at both national and international levels with exhibitions, recitals, lectures and demonstrations, interviews and published works.

Contact:
Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
Tel: 01-960 1867

SHOBANA JEYASINGH

Policy Statement

To establish through professionally presented performances, workshops and lecture demonstrations, Bharatha Natyam one of the oldest classical dance theatres in the world. To use its rich heritage of mime and movement in collaboration to create new forms of expression and therefore add to the great diversity of arts in Britain.

Profile

Shobana Jeyasingh, a native of Tamil Nadu, South India, was trained in the Valluvoor style of Bharatha Natyam by the distinguished guru Valluvoor Samaraj Pillai in Madras. An annual client of the Arts Council of Great Britain and with support of the Greater London Council, she has toured both greater London and the regions extensively. Her annual visits to India keep her in touch with the challenging dance scene there and are also used to put together choreography for the year's performances. One of the features of her work is an autumn tour which brings some of the top dance musicians from India to provide live accompaniment - a rare commodity for this type of dance in Britain.

Shobana's television work includes performances as well as consultancy. She has performed for Doordarshan, Madras, Swiss Television abroad and for Scottish TV, Central TV and for Channel 4.

A recent area of work has been theatre where choreography using Bharatha Natyam mime and movement has added to the success of 'The Little Clay Cart' performed by The Tara Arts Group which has just completed a season in the West End. An extended residency with the Welsh T.I.E. company 'Cwmni'r Fran Wen' resulted in a project on the history of Bharatha Natyam which is being toured to Welsh junior schools.

Shobana's performances are complemented by substantial education outreach work. She has conducted workshops and lecture demonstrations in a variety of venues ranging from The Guildhall School of Music and Drama to community arts centres such as Battersea Arts Centre.

She was one of the pioneering members of Union Dance which was an experimental collaboration between Bharatha Natyam, Jazz and modern dance.

Contact:

Shobana Jeyasingh
4A Furlong Rd
London N2 8LS
Tel: 01-430 0790

JAMES JOHN

My name is James and I'm from St Lucia. During a visit to St Lucia I was encouraged by my grandfather J. Donovan Chérié (whose name appears on ALL my pictures) to take my drawings seriously.

My medium is pen and ink in black and white, my subject matter wide and varied from highly detailed illustrations to abstracts.

I've exhibited at the Finsbury Library, ECI - Jubilee Gardens (Struggle and Success) - West Indian Centre, Manchester (Black Youth in Struggle) - the Sherbrooke Teachers College, Fulham - all in '85.

Contact:

James John
33 Portall Road
London W9 3BA
Tel: 01-960 0342

K.G. KELLY (ONA-F'OWO KAN) Sculptor

I was born in Kingston, Jamaica and lived there for the first fourteen years of my life. Then I was brought to England where I've lived ever since. I've travelled to the Far East, through Europe, America and Africa in search of knowledge. It was while on a visit to the ancient Yoruba city of Benin, Nigeria, that I realised that art was to be my life.

In my art I am attempting to recover a lost African Aesthetic, lost through the broken traditions of our peoples of the African diaspora. This restoration of an African perception is part of our reawakening; it is therefore slow and painful. This struggle against the negative self image towards realisation, is a stage of our rebirth after centuries of being in the shadows.

Contact:

K.G. Kelly
39 Bodley Manor Way
Cressingham Gardens
London SW2 2QJ
Tel: 01-671 6881

SHAHEEN MERALI

Shaheen Merali is an artist whose work has a far deeper expression than the initial visual impact on one's experience. Her work has an intrinsic value and meaning and its significance lies in tracing underlying currents, whether in mythology or everyday reality.

Shaheen, a freelance community artist, has chosen batik as a medium to illustrate common goals and elements within Asian and African cultures, as well as encouraging others to realise batik as an art form. Although very sensitive to racist elements in British society and aware of the dangers and divisions created between Afro-Caribbean and Asian communities, this common language of expression emphasizes harmony and unity and embraces the two cultures.

Contact:

Shaheen Merali
2D Northwood Road
Forest Hill
London SE23 2HP
Tel: 01-291 6375

L O R N A M I L L E R

INKY FINGERS Publication

Lorna Miller is a native Jamaican and an African by ancestry, has lived in London since 1968. *Pin-Pointing "Human" Realities?* her first publication, is based on struggles and survival through life, in verses and poses, expressing wonder and despair at the world and the suppressions of man by man.

Her poems reflect an inner-depth which is enlightening. The potentials are there in her first book, it's highly responsive.

Contact:
Lorna Miller
106 Bakewell Court
4 Mandeville St
Clapton E5 0SU
Tel: 01-985 5698

M U N I R A H

Munirah in an Arabic name meaning 'one who enlightens'.

We believe that the image of black women being portrayed by others is severely stereotyped and does not acknowledge the valuable contribution we make to society.

Munirah was formed to create a greater awareness and consciousness of issues affecting black people, particularly women, through the various performing arts including theatre, dance, music and poetry.

Contact:
Munirah
YMCA Lennox Rd
Finsbury Park
London N4
Tel: 01-328 3531 (Maureen)
01-263 1601 (Sherma)

N O I R V A L E U R

Noir Valeur are an artistic trio who exhibit paintings on glass.

The name translates as Black Value and was chosen by group founder Tony Dennis.

Brought up in England, Tony was born on the small French-speaking Caribbean island St Lucia.

Tony's Rastafarian cousin John Mederick and John's school friend Joe Edwards are the other members of the three-strong team.

Their main aim is to focus through drawings and paintings on the subject of Black Britain.

Tony, who has been painting and drawing all his life, says: "I got this idea of painting on glass from college. I tried one, to see if I could do it, and it came out good so now I've made it my medium for painting - although it is very limited in what you can do with it in terms of details and shading".

Contact:
J. Edwards
50 Aborfield
Peckwater St
London NW5
Tel: 01-267 4925 Ex 684

N U B I

A collective of designers, artists, jewellers and photographers, which is set up to promote African fashion, designs & jewellery and in particular those originating from East Africa. The collective also designs costumes for community groups, individuals and organisations.

Works presented are by:

SANAA GATEJA Jeweller

I am a Ugandan, born in Rwanda, and I have lived in Kenya for most of my working years. I travelled a lot in the Far East, Europe and Africa, and now live in England. I am committed to the Great African Social and Spiritual Expression as living energy in all Black people, and which is the creative cradle of our souls.

I worked with African Art and Crafts establishments in Uganda, and owned an art gallery in Mombasa, Kenya, until I decided to become a fulltime artist in 1978.

Contact:
38 Kings Street
London WC2
01-836 1973

R U D I P A T T E R S O N

Rudi Patterson is a self-taught artist in Duckensfield, St Thomas, Jamaica. Trained as an actor at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, Patterson has appeared in both theatrical and television productions.

Patterson the artist emerged in 1969 and since then his paintings in gouache and watercolour have had many highly successful international exhibitions from Venice to Bahrain, the most recent of which has been in Australia where Patterson is enjoying tremendous popularity.

Patterson's work is in strong vibrant colours reflecting his love and memories of his birth-place. Dominic Cutajar, art critic for The Times, responding to Patterson's exhibition at the Cathedral Museum, Malta, described his work as reflecting "the spell-binding natural setting of his Caribbean home with its generous warmth and the epic mingling hues of its sea, sky and vegetation".

Currently living in London, Patterson continues to produce the quality and beauty of work that is outstandingly captivating.

Contact:
Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
Tel: 01-960 1867

P R A T A P & P R I Y A P A W A R

Pratap and Priya Pawar are popularly known as 'India's Divine Dancing Couple' throughout the world. After establishing themselves in India as celebrated dancers, Pratap and Priya came out of India on the Government of India's deputation to popularise the art of 'Kathak' and 'Odissi' dances. They have trained over seven hundred

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students from different races, during their 8 year stay in the Caribbean counties and the West Indies.

Their most recent achievements in the U.K. being experimental work in the choreography and performance of main roles in a joint production of 'Mowgli' which is based on Kipling's 'Jungle Book'. Also, the use of non-Indian drums with Kathak producing 'Rains through Rhythm', produced 'Triveni', it is a combination of Indian, Afro-Caribbean and Flamenco dances. Over fifteen successful performances have been held all over greater London showing this unique achievement.

Contact:
812 Great West Road
Osterley
Middlesex TW7 5NA
Tel: 01-560 3319

T E R R I Q U A Y E

Contact:
Terri Quaye
Black Music Archives
33 Holland Road
London E15 3BP
Tel: 01-476 9522

C H A R L E S S A M B O N O

Charles Sambono was born 1953, in Namwala, Zambia. A self-taught artists he started painting at the age of ten and continued throughout his school years. Sambono had his first exhibition in Zambia in 1968 and after completing his education at UC. Zambia in 1974, Sambono travelled extensively on self-financing one man exhibitions to various galleries, museums and Art-Festivals across Africa, South and North America, Japan and Europe.

The essence of Sambono's technique is his ability to blend warm sensual colour into vibrant and voluptuous images of such graceful form as to accredit this young artist with an ever increasing international appeal.

Sambono derives inspiration for his work from his appreciation of life, love, the beauty of sunsets and his need to portray the sensuality of living onto paper.

Currently living and working in London, Sambono is nevertheless engaged on a project started in Zambia in 1983 to build his own art gallery on 375 acres of land alongside the Zambezi River.

Sambono has been commissioned on a vast scale, private collections can be found in Brazil, England, Germany, West Indies, Switzerland, Zambia, America, Canada, Japan and France.

Contact:
Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
Tel: 01-960 1867

F I T Z R O Y S A N G Artist & Photographer

1953 Born - Kingston, Jamaica
1980-81 Sir John Cass School of Art, London
1981-85 St Martin School of Art, London

Selected Group Exhibitions

1978
Whitechapel Open, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
Arts Theatre Club, London
Black on White Bhowanagree Gallery, Commonwealth Institute, London

1979
National Theatre, London
Architectural Centre, London
Behind the Mask, Commonwealth Institute, London
Photo-Repro

1984
lytis, Gold Green, Black Art Gallery, London

1985
Painting/Photography, 7th Floor Gallery
St Martins School of Art

Contact:
Fitzroy Sang
Flat 187
Samuel Lewis Housing Trust
London E8 2BJ
Tel: 01-986 6714
01-254 0537 (evenings)

SANKOFA FILM AND VIDEO

As a Black film and video group we aim to create an anti-racist, anti-sexist context in which Black people can examine our relationship to, and our practice within these communication media. Out of this context we aim to explore and develop a critique of what has been referred to as Black film culture. In so doing we aim to contribute to film culture in general, and Black film culture in particular.

We aim to use film and video to tackle institutional racism. To use these media as channels through which Black people can express our experience of, and struggles against racist practice and ideology. We feel that it is important to record and document Black peoples struggles against racism, using film and video to make those struggles known to a wider community who forget, or choose to ignore Black people resistance to oppression.

Contact:
Unit 5
Cockpit Yard
Worthington Street
London WCI
Tel: 01-831 0024

M A R K S E A L L Y

Mark Seally has studied at Goldsmiths College for 3 years. His work questions the stereotype definitions in Western Culture that separate and prejudice Black against White, male against female.

Working for London
archive.parmindervir.com

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Mark has recently returned from a personally funded study trip to the Barbados and his current work is a result of this journey.

The two works presented here are from the period before this visit and reflect an awakening resistance to the strict Western moulding of ideological, racial and sexual prejudices.

Mark is 25 and works as a labourer.

Contact:
Mark Seally
12 Arklow House
Albany Road
West Walworth
London SE17 2BJ

'S H I K I S H A'

'Shikisha' comprises Betty Hlela, Nomsa Caluza and Julia Mathunjwa, 3 Zulu girls from South Africa who from various performing backgrounds (though all were members of 'Ipi Tombi') formed in 1981.

During the past 4 years they have established themselves both in Britain and abroad, performing in festivals, concerts and clubs throughout Europe and Africa.

Aside from their successful group act, they often accompany Miriam Makeba as vocalists and dancers, and as a vocal group they have worked with Richard Strange, Hugh Masakela, Robin Scott and Caberet Voltaire.

Their unusual name 'Shikisha' is a Zulu word meaning 'belt it out, sing and dance like you never sang and danced before' and is an accurate definition of their performance. They present an exciting sequence of songs and dances - traditional Zulu dances and chants, street dances from their home town of Durban, and original songs set to contemporary Afro-pop backing. They have recently completed production of a single on the CBS label entitled 'Believe Me' which marries English lyrics to African music.

'Shikisha's' broader aim outside of performance is to expose and promote their traditional arts (which are fast disappearing) not only amongst British based Black South Africans but amongst the indigenous population of Black South Africa.

Contact:
'Shikisha'
2 Bath Street
London EC1
Tel: 01-253 1226

'SIGNS OF RESISTANCE' London Murals - Anti-Racism Black Artists Contribution

Photographer: Graham de Smidt
Assisted by: Hilary Jacobs
Artistic Consultant: Gavin Jantjes

The tape-slide programme is being prepared for presentation in educational institutions to introduce mural painting and particularly the influences and contributions of the "Black Experience". Completion end of March.

Contact:
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London E3 4DT
Tel: 01-981 3408

STAR PRODUCTIONS

Star Productions is based in Clapton, Hackney and has been in existence now since 1981. We operate as cine and video film-makers on a workshop basis and are currently funded by the GLC and Hackney Council. We are an Asian arts group whose main aim is to provide an alternative to the main areas of entertainment which are currently being offered to the population at large.

Our facilities and expertise are available to other groups in the London-wide area. We also aim to be a channel for others wishing to work in the media-sphere. To date, members of our group have gone on to work in the mainstream media as well as in general entertainment in the Arts and theatre. In the four years we have been established, we have been very active in writing and producing plays from an Asian perspective, which have been shown throughout the London area and have received wide acclaim. As an equal part of our work is concentrated on cine and video film-making, we have also spent time working on an idea for an original screenplay based on the lives of Asians living in Britain today. We feel this to be of particular relevance since this is the area which we feel has been neglected in the entertainment industry so far.

This then is the main area of work that we hope to concentrate on in the coming year.

Contact:
Star Productions
61 Thistlewaite Rd
London E5 0QE
Tel: 01-986 4470

STEEL BAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Contact:
Kirk Thorn
16 Swedenberg Gardens
Whitechapel E10
Tel: (Day) 01-608 0353/4
(Night) 01-488 3336

TARA ARTS GROUP

The GROUP was established in 1976-77 to express the Asian Experience in Britain through original plays in English. The GROUP's policy is to promote and develop Asian Arts as a distinctive artistic expression in Britain, drawing upon traditional resources to reflect contemporary experiences.

Tara Arts Group, which operates nationally, is subsidised by the Arts Council of Great Britain, the GLC, various local authorities and regional arts associations.

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1981-1986

Working for London
archive.parmindervir.com

The Group has 3 distinct areas of operation:

1. A Touring Theatre Company

Subsidised in the main by the Arts Council of Great Britain, the company averages 3 major touring productions each year, offering opportunities for new Asian writers, directors, performers and technicians. This company tours major theatre venues around the country, as well as community venues.

2. Theatre-In-Education

A professional Theatre-In-Education company supplementing schools' curricula by theatre inputs to the teaching of history, literature and social studies. The company has been subsidised in the main by the GLC.

3. Tara Arts Centre

Opened in September 1985 in South London, it is the only Arts Centre in the country offering a regular programme of performances, training workshops, lectures and films displaying the vibrancy of Asian Arts in Britain today.

Jatinder Verma
356 Garratt Lane
London SW18 4ES
Tel: 01-871 1458/9/0

TEMBA THEATRE COMPANY

Artistic Policy

The following is a statement of the aims and objectives of the Temba Theatre Company:

1. To enable people to share in the artistic expression of Black cultures and experience.
2. To enable people in Britain to see Black people in the wider context of the heritage and experience of Black people around the world.
3. To assist the development and representation of Black writing in British theatre.
4. To commission new plays and interpretations of plays which highlight the richness of language.
5. To do imaginative productions of the classics from all traditions.
6. To operate as a theatre research centre and archive.
7. To have regard to the ethos of integrated casting.
8. To have an Education and Community Outreach Programme
9. To have a Young People's Theatre Company.
10. To promote the art of drama for as large and as varied an audience as possible.
11. To maintain a profile as a national touring company.

Temba receives financial assistance from the Arts Council of Great Britain, and its activities are part funded by local authorities, various Regional Arts Associations, and commercial sponsorship.

It is hoped that in 1986 Temba will be presenting the work of its writers, actors and directors in Europe, USA, Canada and the Caribbean.

As West Indian World recently observed, all this makes Temba "one of the most successful and certainly the busiest Black Theatre Company in Britain!"

Contact:

Alby James
Room 208
Dominion House
101 Southwark St
London SE1 0JH
Tel: 01-261 0991

PROFESSOR EDMUND TETTEH

As an indication of the international respect accorded to Edmund Tetteh, one of Ghana's most prestigious contemporary artists, Tetteh has held scholarship and lecturship posts in over 50 different international institutions since 1952, which have included Yale University, Harvard University, London University and the Library of Congress U.S.A.

Born in Awutu, Ghana in 1928, Tetteh has risen from his beginnings as a student at the University in 1952, to become the Head of the Department of Painting and Sculpture at the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana in 1980. Tetteh's career as an artist, writer, award-winner, lecturer and juror has spanned over 30 years, during which time his contribution to a world-wide appreciation of contemporary Ghanaian Art has been immense. Some of his past students who have themselves achieved great respectability include Atto Delaquis, Ackam, Ofei Nyarko, Quao, Asihene and Meshack Asare.

Tetteh's versatility and evolutionary style extends from quiet watercolours to more boldly intricate abstract and semi-abstract paintings in various media.

Contact:

Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
Tel: 01-960 1867

TRIBESMAN COMMUNITY ARTS WORKSHOP

The aim of Tribesman Community Arts Workshop is to promote and encourage awareness of black music in British youths, particularly those of Afro-Caribbean descent.

Special emphasis is given to developing the interest of these youths in participating in the creation/playing of improvised jazz music.

It is considered important that this jazz music is linked to the Afro-Caribbean styles as opposed to the normal American influenced jazz disciplines.

TCAW will establish a mobile workshop with the objective of providing a resource centre or forum for experimentation, education and participation in this art form.

Contact:
The Mobile Music Workshop
154 Agar Grove
London NW1 9TY
Tel: 01-340 3190

UMOJA THEATRE COMPANY

Umoja Theatre Company was founded by Gloria Hamilton in the summer of '83 in the response to the growing social and cultural needs in our urban communities. The work of the company is to encourage and create various opportunities for young people in the field of community arts.

The objects of the company shall be to educate the public of multi-racial communities situated within the United Kingdom.

Umoja provides a professional theatre in-cultural-education service for schools, clubs, community centres and arts centres for the community in their leisure time.

Since setting up, the company has produced two summer projects for the GLC, one for Islington Play Association, performed Pulse, appeared in 'SPARKS', a series for the BBC television, toured schools with the Christmas panto 'ANANSI', and toured London with 'Black Skin, White Mask', Success or Failure' and 'In Nobody's Backyard'.

Contact:
St Michael's Vicarage Annexe
Thompson's Avenue
Camberwell
London SE5
Tel: 01-701 6396

UTHINGO - DANCE GROUP

Uthingo has been in existence since 1983.

Uthingo has a special interest in encouraging young people, particularly black people, to know and understand the value of their own culture and traditional heritage and thus gain confidence in their skills and potential. This extends to all ethnic minority groups.

Women are in the fore both in administration, teaching and performing, and are actively encouraged to participate in all aspects of the work.

Uthingo has been involved in workshops for disabled people - mainly mentally handicapped adults and youth - which is of particular concern to Elliot Nguban, who intends to expand this programme of work.

Uthingo creates jobs in the Arts for South African refugees and exiles and is unique in this country in that respect.

Uthingo were included in major GLC Anti-racist outdoor presentations and theatre celebrations in the Jubilee Gardens, Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Shaw Theatre.

Uthingo has been supported by Anti-Apartheid as part of the campaign against the shooting of South African children.

Uthingo have performed at many special festivals such as African Sounds for Nelson Mandela at Alexandria Palace and Sounds for Mandela at the Forum which will shortly be released on film.

Uthingo recorded part of the sound track for 'Mandela' a film by Lionel Ngakane, as well as appearing on 'Bacchanal' for Channel Four.

Contact:
Diana Taylor
309 Kentish Rd
London NW5 2JT
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WEST INDIAN WOMENS ASSOCIATION

Contact:
Conna Flamma
71 Pound Lane
London NW10
Tel: 01-451 4827

AUBREY WILLIAMS

Aubrey Williams was born 1926 in Guyana, South America, where he was educated and worked in the civil service. During service in the north-west jungle of Guyana, Williams lived with the Warrau, an indigenous Indian tribe. Throughout which time he extended and intensified his application in art, strongly influenced and motivated by the lives and life he shared. Of that time Williams says, "By being with them I came to grips for the first time in my life with the philosophy, the pattern, the whole history of these people".

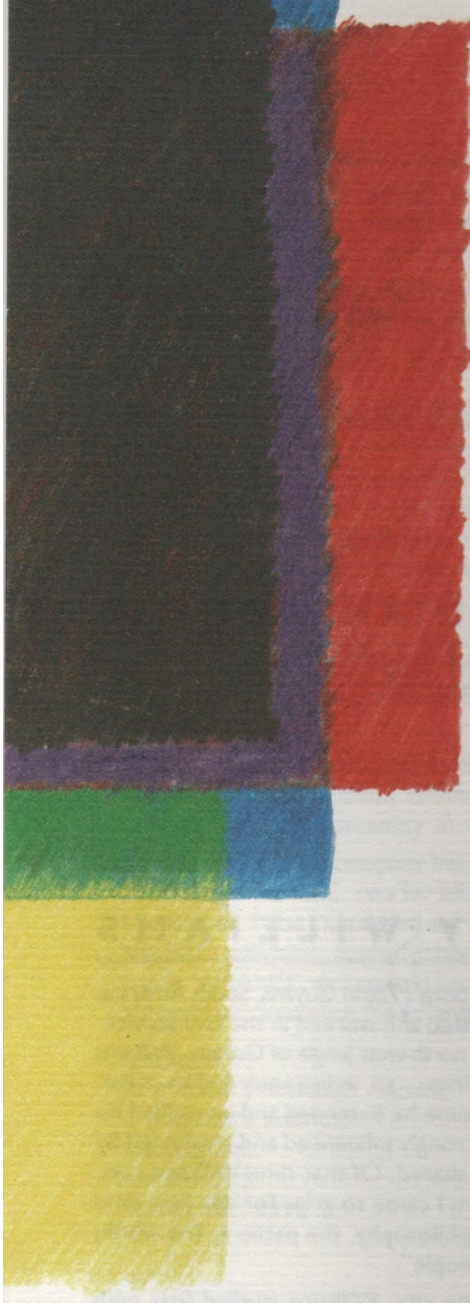
On his return to the city, Williams studied first with De Winter and Burrowes (Guyanese painters) and participated in the Working People's Art Groups.

Williams came to Europe in 1952 and travelled extensively, settling in London in 1954 where he studied at St Martin's College of Art.

Presently lecturing in London, William's energy and commitment to art are legendary. An outstanding artist, Williams has also lectured at various academies and associations which include Oxford University, University of Kent, University of the West Indies (Jamaica) and the University of Guyana.

Stemming from his experience with the Warrau, for a long time pre-Colombian motifs have formed the basis of Williams' painting, this fusion of the indigenous with the more familiar European styles of abstract painting supports one corner of the base of Williams' popularity. However the foundation rests on the fact that Williams' art is of a unique category which lies beyond classifications.

Contact:
Westbourne Gallery
453 Harrow Rd
London W10
Tel: 01-960 1867



THE C O L O U R S OF BLACK

A BLACK ARTS SHOWCASE
3RD AND 4TH FEBRUARY 1986
10.00AM UNTIL 6.00PM
AT CONFERENCE HALL
COUNTY HALL LONDON SE17 7PB
TELEPHONE 01-633 2611

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RACE EQUALITY UNIT

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