



cultural diversity

June - July 2019

An exhibition of African art &
children's creative writing



cultural
diversity 2019

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cultural diversity

an exhibition of African art and children's creative writing

taking place at

The Bernie Grant Arts Centre

Town Hall Approach Rd
Tottenham Green
London N15 4RX

26 June - 26 July 2019



A Kambani Arts Initiative
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Sponsored by
The Big Lottery Community Fund
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Front and back cover painting

Inside front cover painting

This Page

Inside rear cover painting

Life & Essence

The Rising

Lady of Red

She Stopped & Conquered

Chike Obeagu

Kanayo Ume

Clement Onyekadi

Morenikeji Olumide

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1.1 Foreword

Chima Ezeilo



I am thrilled to present *Cultural Diversity* The Exhibition.

I have always felt my calling was to empower young people and this exhibition has provided the perfect opportunity to do just that - by getting children to explore diversity and express this through art.

I have had a great experience reaching out to schools and getting them involved. Engaging with young people is never dull and this was no different. Workshops in schools have been delightful. Watching children break from the norm and unleash their creativity was amazing. Some things stood out.

Breaking into spontaneous song at Sunrise Primary School, head teacher strumming along, guitar talking - that feeling proved irreplaceable.

Watching children at Crowland Primary school open up to the camera and take charge of challenging diversity issues whilst shooting documentary scenes. That was cool. Funny how they opened up even more when the teacher left briefly. We even did a Spanish stint - awesome.

And then there was the photoshoot at Chestnut Primary school. The children went wild. My apologies to the school for the noise. That's children for you.

Lastly, it would be an injustice if I fail to mention the incredible crop of artists that are featured in this exhibition. 19 are noted and credited but it was not possible to include details for everyone. A few were featured based on popularity, in part determined by participants.

Kambani Arts continues to give a voice to the voiceless, seeking new ways to promote a diversity of under-represented artists.

Moving forward, you will notice a feature on our signature project [FunDonor](#) at the back of the catalogue. Kindly take a moment to join us in empowering young people.

1.2 Exhibition Structure

The exhibition comprised a selection of diverse African art pieces from a number of artists. Each art piece was numbered.

School children from 3 schools in Tottenham took part; Chestnuts Primary, Crowland Primary and Sunrise Primary schools.

The task - interpret the art in their own way and use their findings to explore cultural diversity. Workshops took place in each school and at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre. The aim was to motivate and empower the children to be creative and think diverse.

At the start of the process children chose an art piece and noted its corresponding number. All children then took part in creating the *Diversity Tree* - a collection of thoughts on why each child believes they are different and how it makes them special. Children then went back to their schools and worked on their diversity story, expressed through creative writing.

Each child's written story was then displayed with their chosen art piece as part of the exhibition experience. The most chosen art piece was used as the catalogue cover theme image.

The catalogue features work from a number of diverse artists, 19 in total. Work is grouped in sections across the catalogue, numbered sequentially.

The catalogue also features each child's creative writing piece. Beside their name is the number which corresponds to their chosen art piece. You can find each piece in the catalogue. Some select artists are also featured. Names with no corresponding number represent children's piece's only featured on the diversity tree.

The exhibition is also the focus of a short documentary project that is being produced as an outcome of the exhibition.

Children from each school participated in the experience. Children were nominated to take control of the camera and record workshops. Advice and guidance was provided prior to workshops. Some children also took part in interviews and discussions, exploring the positive aspects of their differences.

The intention is to use documentary and exhibition outcomes to challenge adverse perceptions of cultural diversity.



Of Colours (1)
Obi Nwaegbe
Oil on Canvas



Of More Colours (2)
Obi Nwaegbe
Oil on Canvas



Life & Essence (3)

Chike Obeagu

Oil, Paper & Glue on Canvas



Arise (5)
Morenikeji Olumide
Oil on Canvas

Woman Why (4)
Francis Apanta
Oil on Canvas





The Last Dance (6)

Uche Asogwa

Oil on Canvas



Arise oh! Compatriots (7)
Ogechi Anyanwu
Oil on Canvas

2.1 Chike Obeagu A Brief Biodata

Chike Obeagu is a multi-talented leading contemporary Nigerian artist. He finds creative expression through painting, photography, installation art and poetry, using them as mediums to comment on social and political issues. He has a BA and MA in Fine Arts.

Chike has taken part in many international residency programmes and has won several awards over the years. His work can be found in public and private art collections internationally. He has taken part in Art Expo New York; La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy; Dakar Biennale; Emerging Trends, Miami; Experimental Frontiers Cape Town, South Africa; Visual Art Festival, Atlanta USA; Changing Faces of Africa, Liverpool; among many.

Chike currently lectures in visual and creative arts at the Federal University of Lafia, Nigeria. He is studying for a PhD at Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Nigeria.



Cultural Diversity at Chestnuts Primary School



Dave Stewart
Year 6 Learning & Support Assistant

Here at Chestnuts, we are proud to be at the heart of an extremely diverse community. Our children, our staff, our families, our carers are all from different cultures, religions, backgrounds, races and sexualities.

We are often told to be “accepting” of those different to ourselves, but we aim higher: we celebrate and feel proud to belong to this diverse community.

It is a privilege to be part of a wide range of cultures that we support through events like our International Evening and Kambani Arts' Cultural Diversity exhibition at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre.

2.3 Chestnuts Primary School A Picture Snapshot





Arissa Ahmed - 20

I picked this image because I think they have portrayed the woman as powerful. Also I think that because it's all red, it associates it as fierceness and the pose shows authenticity. It challenges the stereotypes happening both now and in the past. My mum is from Bangladesh and was born there while my dad was born here but also has a Bangladeshi background. I'm a British Bangladeshi.



Geazmina Morar - 20

I like number 20 because of the way she is expressing herself. The colour red symbolizes power. I also like this picture because it's very unique.

I'm the only one in my family that was born in England and the only one whose name starts with the letter 'G'. My mum's name starts with the letter 'I' and so do my dad's and brothers'. My parents came here all the way from Romania in 2004.



Devran Bakir - 3

My favourite image is 3 because it has a lot of colours and maybe when this boy grows up he will be picked on because of his race, but that's not right. It doesn't matter which race you are, we're all meant to be treated the same.



Frieda Miller - 20

This picture drew my attention because it is red and orange which suggests that she is a strong, independent woman and is someone you do not want to mess with. My background is from Canada, Scotland and Zimbabwe and my ethnicity is white. I can tell this picture is culturally diverse not only because EVERYONE is different and no one is the same but also because of the different style of clothing, the pose and the accessories she wears. She could be a model because she represents a beautiful, strong, fierce and determined woman and has personal flair that I admire.



Isabella Lechley - 20

I chose picture 20 because to me she feels like a real strong woman who fights for rights. In this picture she is coloured in red and orange - for me this describes her as powerful and dangerous not someone you want to mess with.

My mum is from Bulgaria and Germany; my dad is from England and my ancestors are from all over! I think she is different and wants to make a stand for what she believes in.



Davide Warhurst

My dad is from London. My mum is from Italy. I visit Italy very frequently. Me and my sister are bilingual (English and Italian).

My family is very diverse - I am happy to be part of it.



Khai'ree Abaton - 10

I like picture 10 because it looks like they are swimming in a rainbow. I like the colours and the figure looks like a leader. I am a mixture of Chinese, Nigerian, Jamaican, Indian and British. I am popular and I like playing football and being myself.



Ira Balaniou - 3

I chose this picture because the woman looks powerful and is standing in a strong pose and I think that she is inspired by dancing because in the background you can see two feet that look like they're dancing.

I think she represents cultural diversity because in the olden days black people couldn't do stuff like have a job, also red is quite a powerful colour that really stands out which is implying she is the odd one out - stands out of the crowd because she wants to dance.



Jasmine McNicoll - 20

Why blend in when you were born to stand out. I am different because I'm myself,



Natalie Samuels - 24

I like this picture [24] because there are so many different colours, but to put it in perspective, most of the page is taken up with black. I think that I would get on well with this person, I'm not sure why but I think it's because I'm the opposite of this person. His life looks filled with colours but is dominated by blackness. My life has times of darkness but I chose to fill it with things I like. The person in this picture is like the earth. He is made up of many different colours and other things, but it all fits together to form a piece that people look at, are proud of, and admire.

I am from all over the place. I was born in England and my mum & dad were too, but the roots of my family come from all over the world. My ancestors are German, Russian, Indian, Trinidadian and many more. I like to think of myself as a very cultural person because I enjoy food, festivals, religions and many things from all over the world.



Jibreel Bakir - 3

My favourite image is number 3 because I like the variety of colours used and I like that it's different to all the other images because it's a collage of different images using different paints.

He's very different to me - I am British but my family are from Mauritius.



Hermo Dimba - 3

My favourite piece of art is number 3 because it is a cute young boy who looks like he doesn't really fit in at school because of where he is from and his race. Maybe, when he gets older, what people say about him will get more effective, serious and in-depth.

No-one should be treated differently just because of race or culture, so therefore everyone must be EQUAL.



Valentino Darroux

I like that I am mixed race. I am Dominican and Italian. I am very special. I make people smile. There is only one Valentino.



Laila Salah - 20

The picture that I chose was number 20 because I think it shows power and energy. I like how it uses many shades of one colour to make it look powerful.



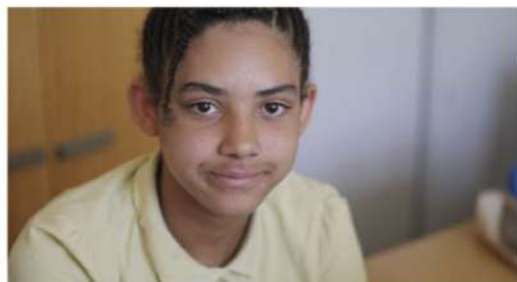
Leonie D'Aguiar

I am speshal because I have big ambitions to be prime minister. I am speshal because I can make people laugh. I am speshal because I have natural curly hair.



Kamuran Kaygisiz - 22

My favourite picture is number 22 because it is very creative and it's hard to draw – it must have taken a long time to draw it. The picture has footprints and handprints and they are all layered on top of each other so we don't know what's underneath the picture – it could be a secret. There could've been a story behind it. It's also in different colours; you could count them but it's hard because there are so many.



Mariam Doumbouya - 3

I chose this picture because the woman looks powerful and looks like a leader, model and someone very important. The colours red and light red symbolize power.

I am all over the place; my mum's side: English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish. My dad's side: African, French and German. I like this picture because she looks bold and courageous.

2.4 Morenikeji Olumide My Art Thoughts



Morenikeji Olumide has a Bachelor's degree in art, majoring in painting. Since graduating he has focused on his studio practice as a full-time artist and also engaged in a series of artistic research projects that have led to new discoveries.

One such discovery was the use of traditional African methods which empowered traditional ways of creating art by exploring Yoruba proverbs, folk tale, and adages.

He has taken part in many major international art shows and exhibitions. He works well with children and was the key workshop co-ordinator for *Mirror The Master*, a nationwide Children's art tour in Nigeria organised by Kambani Arts.

He is based in Lagos, Nigeria blessed with a wife and children.



This Moment Shall Pass (8)
Morenikeji Olumide
Oil on Canvas



Diversity (9)
Bertrand Chukwunonso
Oil on Canvas



The Rising (10)
Kanayo Ume
Oil on Canvas



Chit Chat (11)
Chukz Okonkwo
Oil on Canvas



Backtracking (12)
Chibuzo Aguh
Oil on Canvas

2.6 Kanayo Libuwa Ume Art Chose Me



Kanayo believes that he did not choose art, art chose him. Born in Onitsha, Nigeria, he has always been interested in the shape, texture and colour of things. He developed this interest at the Institute of Management and Technology Enugu, where he studied Fine and Applied Arts, majoring in painting.

Since graduating, Libuwa has had one solo exhibition and has participated in various group art shows in Nigeria and internationally.

Libuwa's art is heavily inspired by form and texture. And the subject of the human face is a constant in his work, because to him, it's the window to the heart and soul of everyone and carries with it, a multitude of stories.



Crowland Primary School A Diversity Snapshot



Maureen Dyer
Assistant Head and Inclusion Leader

Crowland Primary school is larger than the average school. The Early Years Foundation Stage consists of a nursery, which offers 52 part-time places, and two reception classes. The school population comprises pupils from a diverse range of minority ethnic backgrounds.

The largest groups are from African, Caribbean and White backgrounds. A higher-than-average number of pupils enter the school after the start of the academic year. Over 70% of pupils speak English as an additional language with Polish, Turkish, Portuguese and Spanish being the most popular languages. A lot of pupils join the school speaking little or no English.

The proportion of pupils supported by the pupil premium is above average. This is in addition to government funding. It is provided to give additional support to those eligible for free school meals and children who are looked after by the local authority.

There are also a number of disabled pupils and those with special educational needs who are supported through an Educational Health Care Plan.

2.8 Crowland Primary School A Visual Glimpse





Mu'Tasim Ahmed - 24

Image 24 is colourful. It represents different cultures. It has some dark colours which means something bad has happened to the person because of the way he looks and feels. I think the bright colours represent cultures because cultures have bright colours and that's what makes different cultures special.



Lugmann Haji - 10

This picture reminds me of a good day and a bad day because it is like a rainbow which forms if it starts to rain and the sun comes out. When it rains I feel bored, dull and cold but when the sun comes out it feels like a fresh start and new life. The person is unique. The person is like 'don't judge me' because everybody has different personalities, this is a free world. To me what the artist is trying to say is you can do what you like in life, don't let anybody get in your way or stop you from achieving your goals. You have one life and you have to use it wisely.



Zahera Rahman - 3

Image 3 is very bright and it reminds me of the Shalwar Kameez that we have in Bangladesh because they are very bright and colour is very important. This is also making me think of spring and new beginnings because the flowers look like they have just bloomed like they do in spring. I also think that the different shapes in the picture make it abstract and it shows how we are all different. It also makes me feel brave because the colours make me want to explore more. It reminds me of the jungle behind my grandma's house in Bangladesh.



Sarrinah Miah - 10

I chose this picture because it has multicolours and they stand out. This also makes me delighted and happy and peaceful when I look at it. The colours are magical. I think this is peaceful. Also I can link this to my culture and my clothing from the different colours.



Patricia Stefania Delureanu - 3

This picture makes me feel curious to know how the baby is feeling. Calm, peaceful, happiness, freedom, surprising, adventurous, elegant, magical, unreal, nature.



Aura Djemali Layne - 3

I chose this image because it's so calm and fresh. The picture makes me think of the beautiful smell of flowers and nature around me. It makes me think that no one is like me and we're all different so when I see this picture it makes me happy.



Arda Musdagi - 24

I think the picture I chose looks kind of mysterious because it makes me think that animals are slowly dying because the person looks very upset and very down and gloomy. His face looks like culture is dying. It makes me upset because no animals are nearby that's what makes me upset because it looks like somebody wants to help the culture but he doesn't know what to do because he looks confused.

He looks like he needs help and the reason why I think that is because it looks mysterious and someone alone trying to help the culture.



Amelia Bester - 3

I chose no 3 because it has vibrant colours and reminds me of freedom, love and peace. The picture tells me the baby is free and loves nature and culture. It shows the baby is happy to be different. The reason I said it likes nature is because I can see a lot of flowers and plants around the baby which gives me thoughts of beauty and happiness and love.

This picture connects to my culture because in my country it has a lot of fruits and vegetables and plants and flowers. The baby is different and unique.



Nicole Figueroa Ospina - 3

I chose picture number 20 because this picture inspired me to be myself and be what I want to be and who I want to be.

This picture fills my head with positivity because the picture is colourful and the picture stands out from every other one. This reminds me of myself because whenever I want to do something I will fight for it and achieve it.

This picture also explains how everyone is different and unique. This picture is a great example of cultural diversity because the girl in the picture stands out in HER own way. I like everyone else who stands out in their own way.



Erika Koka - 10

Image 10 makes me feel powerful, like the people in the image. It is different because the vibrant colours are like the rainbows in the sky, but instead of it being made of sun and rain, it is made of triumph and proudness. It shows how talented people are.



Daniella Owusu - 20

I chose picture number 20 because this picture is telling me that I should just be brave because sometimes in life you are going to have to stand up to people that always make fun of you. Don't let anybody else tell you that you are not beautiful because you are. And this is inspiring me because I want to be just like not caring about what people think of you. I know we are not all perfect, but perfect in our own way and nobody is going to let you down in life.



Roze-Su Karakuzu - 3

This picture makes me feel free because all of the plants are colourful and it makes me feel proud for the colour I am. It makes me think of nature and makes me feel calm. The body is making all the colours stand out and that means a lot. I feel as if she's in peace and she's very happy to be there. It also gives me power when I look at it to control my sadness. It makes me think we are all different and not perfect.



Vyretta Dadson - 20

I chose picture 20 because I thought it was very colourful and interesting. This picture relates a lot because she's just enjoying herself not caring what people think of her but thinking about yourself, and that's what I do. I also like the way she's sleeked her hair and her jewellery including her style of dressing. It makes me feel as if I'm back in Ghana all of us celebrating by wearing her clothing.

Sometimes people begin to bully you but you have to stay strong and stand up for yourself because you are you and no one can take that because it's part of you. Don't think about bullies, think about how to be able to keep your rights. We all come from different places and have different cultures.

Enjoy who you are and know that "You Are Unique" in every way so keep that fact and be happy about that.



Fatima Hashim - 3

This picture makes me feel like there is freedom and it is adventurous because she is in the outside world exploring. The picture is elegant and precise. The vibrant colours and flowers reminds me of Africa because the colours almost match the clothing we wear. It looks and feels peaceful. The setting is about nature and discovery. It looks like she is looking for someone or something. It makes me proud of my colour and makes me think that no-one is perfect. We are all different and unique.



Sumaya Uddin - 24

I chose this image because it is calm and vibrant. What it means to me is that the baby represents all cultures and the different colours make the different cultures stand out. I think the image is wild because the baby is not trapped in a room but he's outside with the different flowers mixed with different colours which represent different cultures, traditions, food and clothing.



Anna Da Silva - 3

I chose number 3 because it has nature and I really like nature. It makes me feel happy and joyful because it stands out and is so vibrant. This picture means freedom because the baby is free in the world and just wonders in beautiful nature. This picture reminds me of a picture that was taken in the forest, beautiful flowers hanging ready for someone to take pictures.



Munira Hussein - 23

I picked this picture because I really liked the background and because it was mysterious. I also like the picture because it has a lot of emotion.

The picture shows a blue person sitting on the steps with her head on her arms sitting on one leg crying. It makes me feel great and calm when I look at it and that's why I picked it. It also makes me feel proud of what I am.



Ta'kye Laniyan - 3

I like picture 3 because it creates a peaceful tranquil illusion in my mind. It makes me think that I'm playing outside in a park full of grass and climbing frame because it's one of my favourite things to do. When I'm in a park I feel relaxed, especially when the suns out. Its different because this picture shows that we are made out of the same things but look different and have different personalities. The picture also represents how stunning nature is. Nature is made out things, that look the same but it doesn't mean they are the same.



Andres Garces Parra

I think diversity is important because we can learn a lot from each other. I like the place I come from which is Spain and Colombia because they make yummy food. I like the fact I'm good at football.



Jahvina Harvey Watson - 3

It makes me feel relaxed and comfortable because how he looks, he looks like scented flowers that makes him smell like dandelions, red roses and violet flowers.

I like the way he smiles in the distance and with his astonishing eyes racing down on me, pitch black in the midnight his rosy cheeks makes the flowers grow they also light up because of him.



Remel Bernard St Hill - 24

I chose this picture because its magical and gloomy in its own way and the picture has its own way of showing it. To me this picture is full of joy and happiness like you're playing in the park.

It's not just people that are different, other things can be different too. Some pictures might have the same features but look different.



Chizaram Azubuike - 3

This image number 3 gives me the power to control my feelings mostly my anger. I imagine the girl is me and I'm on an adventure away from all the troubles in a fresh calm place that feels enchanted to me. This image also brings me close to nature.

I chose this picture because it tells me that as long as you work hard you are free. The reason I thought of this is because she came a long way and worked so hard to get the place, This picture gives me so many messages but the main message it tells me is believe in yourself. I thought to myself if a little girl can reach her goal so can I. my goal is to be a good student and when I grow up I want to be a cook. This girl has inspired me to do anything.



Jahziah McDonald

I think that my diversity is about sports because I am a pro at basketball and I am a little bit good at football.



Kendra - 24

I like my culture because we are different and unique. It won't be right if everyone was the same person, it would be boring. So I am very thankful that I am me and I have a culture and no one will ever be me or act like me. The best thing about being different is being you and no one else is the same as you, which makes me special.



Victoria Tacuri Naranjo

En España la musica que más se oye es el reggeaton. Una de las mejores cosas de España es la comida por egenplo la paella et arroz negro. Algunos bailes de España comola sevillanos Lugares que visitar: El querido Madrid, Cabaneros, Los picos de Europa (Está en España creol) Las playas de Barcelona Los Españoles somos de contra christes malos hacer tonteria y estar locos.



Erika Koka - 10

Image 10 makes me feel powerful, like the people in the image. It is different because the vibrant colours are like the rainbows in the sky, but instead of it being made of sun and rain, it is made of triumph and proudness. It shows how talented people are.

2.8 Ogechi Anyanwu A New Path

Ogechi studied Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, gaining a BA & MFA in Applied Arts. She moved briefly into teaching art after Uni.

Since graduating, Ogechi joined Access Bank, Nigeria's foremost art focused bank. They are the key funding voice behind many youth art movements, including Art X - West Africa's premier international art fair. Access Bank also sponsored Kambani Arts 'Mirror the Master' national children's art exhibition in Nigeria.

She has grown progressively with the bank and her creativity and attention to detail propelled her into the bank's key talent pool. She has maintained a key interest in the visual arts and has been commissioned to design several book cover illustrations for Pro-Life.

Though her life path has changed, her focus remains rooted in the arts.





The Secret Of My Joy (13)
Henry Okalazu
Oil on Canvas



Market Woman (14)
Henry Okalazu
Oil on Canvas



Maskful Identity (15)
Promise Adanta
Oil on Canvas



Rhythm of Our Time (16)
Chidi Ekwuonwu
Oil on Canvas



In Love Forever (17)
Chike Obeagu
Acrylic, Paper on Board



Dreams Of The Special Couple (18)

Chidi Egwuonwu

Oil on Canvas



When The Man Died (19)
Njoku Collins
Water Colour on Paper



Lady Of Red (20)
Clement Onyekadi
Oil on Canvas

2.11 Henry Okalazu Art is Life



Henry Okalazu is a Nigerian artist who found his calling early on through art. He believes art brings fullness, art gives life. He derives complete joy being an artist. It makes him happy, makes him content.

He studied art at the Institute of Management and Technology in Enugu and has developed his career by taking part in solo and group exhibitions in Nigeria and internationally.

He is in his zone when using art to express his feelings. Art has given him a sense of style and a greater all around understanding of life. His passion often infects his subjects and that energy is often felt when confronted with his work.

Arts is his joy, his life.



As Diverse as a Flower Sunrise Primary School

Education at Sunrise Primary and Nursery Schools is a harmonious balance between academic guidance, creative expression and inner growth, to develop the highest potential in every child.

Our holistic approach synthesizing the National Curriculum with the Montessori method nurtures the all-round development of the child: body, senses, emotion, intellect, creativity and spiritual awareness.

Neo-Humanistic education at Sunrise strives to materialize the principal that 'Human civilization is a beautiful garden with innumerable flowers of so many scents and so many varieties. We must take proper care of each and every flower'.

(P.R. Sarkar - Founder)



Mary Anne Meeta Lovage
Head Teacher

2.13 Sunrise Primary School A Casual Glimpse





Hamish Dossetor - 10

In 1920 in India, a baby was born and years passed and he grew up into a polite young man. But in 1939, war broke out and you know who got killed? You see, he got poisoned by a bad man but he survived and now is a Buddhist.



Elijah Jacobs - 24

What I like about the picture is how pixelated it is and how it looks very cool. And it looks very scary behind the football player and I think he was born in 1969. They put the painting in the museum.



Hussein Maiharaub - 24

The Lost Footballer - Once upon a time, there was a footballer called Jake. He was working hard for the world cup. While he was running and getting fit, he saw his trainer called Ronaldo. He was a very good trainer because he made Barcelona win the Premier League the year before.

Jake told Ronaldo, "I'm so worried we're going to lose the Premier League."

"Don't worry, Barcelona is going to win like last year." Ronaldo replied.



Maya Pico - 22

The Messy Painting - I really like that it is messy because I am really messy. And I like the pattern around the messy painting. I like the colours in the messy painting.



Madison Erasmus - 19

I like 19 because it has all the colours and the sides of their faces. The picture kind of makes me happy. In Africa, the man who was just a kid he can show his artwork to the world and so he went to the museum to show his art and they loved it. He became famous and rich so drew more and more. One day the people in London saw the pictures on Instagram, books and newspapers. They wanted him to come to London but he didn't want to because he thought he would be under arrest. One day the London people came to Africa and took him to London. He didn't get sent back, everyone clapped, he was happy then he went to the museum and showed his artwork. He got more rich and always drew and never stopped.



Luca Tribble Yahagi

I make people happy when they're sad.



Max Cole - 15

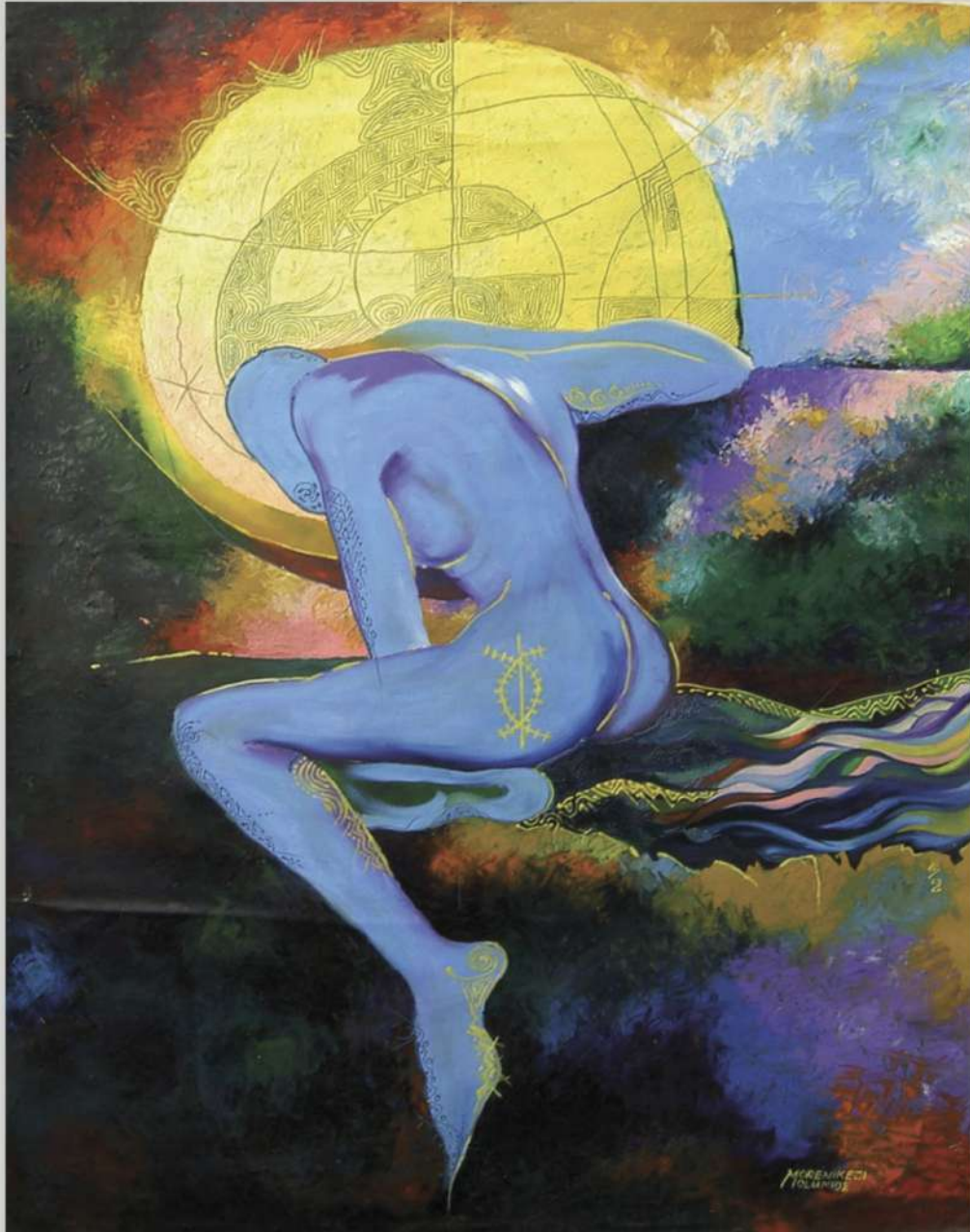
The Ghost - Once there was a family called the Andrews. They just bought a house - a haunted one. One night the dad saw something, it was crying, he went over to it but it stabbed him to death.



Mother's Care (21)
Kliff Jay
Oil on Canvas



Symbol Of Destiny (22)
Nonso Nwokocho
Oil on Canvas



She Stooped And Conquered (23)

Morenikeji Olumide

Oil on Canvas



Henry (24)
Chike Obeagu
Oil, Paper & Glue
on Canvas



My Culture (25)
Kliff Jay
Mixed Media on Raffia

3.1 Concluding Thoughts

Organising Cultural Diversity - The Exhibition has presented diverse challenges. Let me share some.

The core idea was to use art to empower children. This birthed the concept. The Bernie Grant Arts Centre had long expressed an interest in helping Kambani Arts host an exhibition and they offered an inviting hand. We obliged. Planning followed. Now, any curator will tell you the challenges of getting things right. Its rare. There's always the 'hindsight' way. But you have to ignore the numerous alternates and stick with a structure. We did, and many things failed.

The Big Lottery Community Fund initially rejected our bid. They wanted to see greater community engagement at the planning stage. So we took the setback on the chin, restructured our approach and consulted Tottenham schools directly. Many showed no interest. Obviously some did. The result - some incredible content within these pages.

We re-submitted our bid and this time it was accepted. What a relief. Planning could start in earnest. Children's workshop structures were put together, role play concepts planned, drama vs writing debated. We

engaged West End theatre producer, playwright and children's art enthusiast Olusola Oyeleye to handle the children's art workshops in schools and at the Centre. She was excited to assist. Sadly, two days to planned events, she suffered a painful bereavement. There was no way she could run the workshops. There was also no time to seek an alternative. What next? I had to step in.

It was nerve wrecking, but in the end, fun. We managed to engage the over 50 children that attended from all 3 schools. At the end of the Centre workshop, they came up with material for the 'diversity tree' and went back with a clearer perception of diversity and the strengths in being different.

There were many other smaller obstacles but I read this recently...

"A path without obstacles leads nowhere"

Quite right. Our path lead somewhere, somewhere nice. Lessons were learned and the old adage true to form - *Never Give Up!* So for anyone reading this that needed affirmation that you need perseverance, take it from me. When you set your sights on the goal, take the penalty like Ronaldo.

3.2 Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all stakeholders and participants that have contributed to making the exhibition a success. In doing so we apologise if anyone is missed out. This is not intentional and we appreciate your support.

Thank you to the Big Lottery Community Fund, in particular, Luke Petterson. He encouraged us to try again.

Thanks to the Bernie Grant Arts Centre, especially former Chief Executive Pete Courtie, encouraged by John Mangal. Also thanks to current Director Adam Gray and Hires Manager Wendy Gray. Thank you for your support and concessions. Thanks to Gina for your culinary support.

Thank you to Olusola Oyelele for talking me through motivational workshop methods in the trying circumstances. Thank you to Mary Zulu for her help in setting up the exhibition. And thanks to everyone that has volunteered help in one way or another. Its appreciated.

Most importantly, thank you to all participating schools - Chestnuts Primary, Crowland Primary and Sunrise Primary schools. The event would have been meaningless without the incredible contributions of your pupils. It has been a thoroughly enjoyable experience.





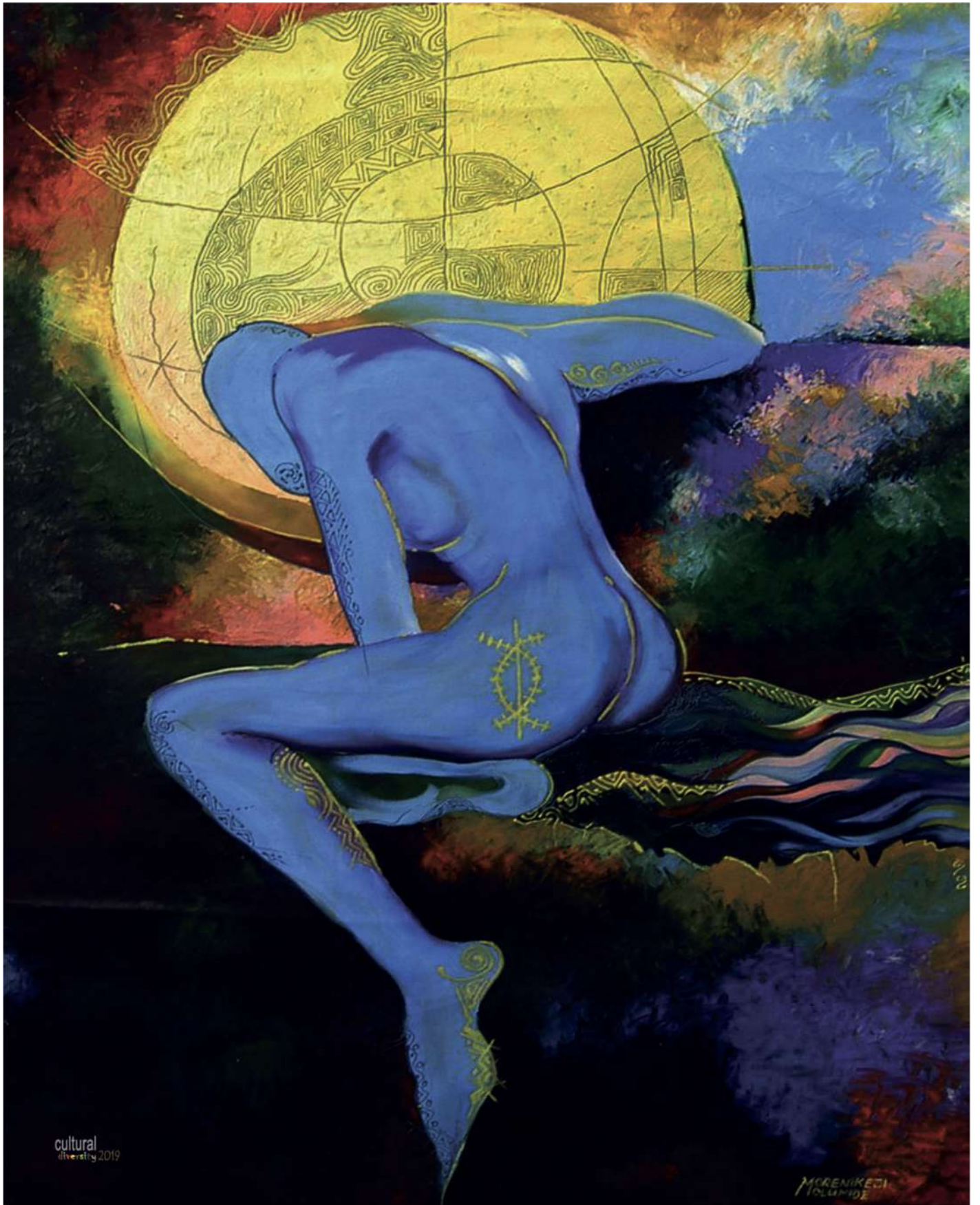
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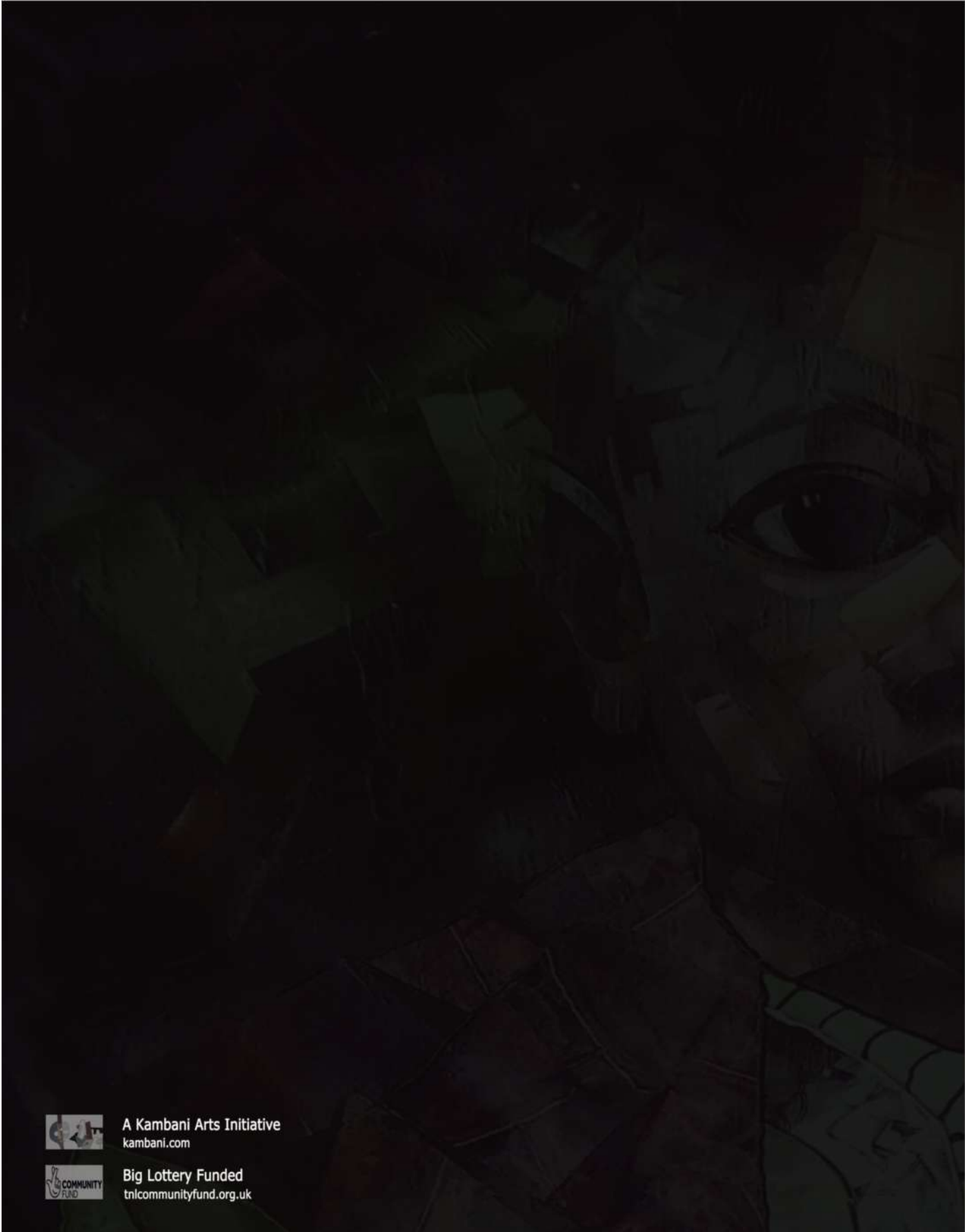
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