



## Curatorial Statement

### ***Fahive: The 5<sup>th</sup> group exhibition of Caymanian art by the Native Sons***

Formed in 1996, the Native Sons are a group of Caymanian artists now recognised as among the most respected and prolific in the Cayman Islands. Committed to inspire, foster, define, promote and encourage Caymanian art through education and exhibitions, their goal is to continually raise the standard of work created in our community.

Native Sons was the initiative of founding members Wray Banker, Al Ebanks, Anthony Ramoon and Miguel Powery who first exhibited collectively at the Harquail Theatre in February of 1996. The success of this show soon spurred another later that year providing a much-needed injection of new energy in the local art scene and, more importantly, cementing a knowledge and appreciation of a purely Caymanian aesthetic.

In the years following the group has since doubled in size and members have continued to exhibit both collectively and through a series of solo exhibitions and wide variety of art and cultural projects, on the island and abroad. Following their mandate they continue to encourage new members to raise the standard of art and the way in which it is presented.

The artwork selected for this exhibition illustrates a survey of work since the inauguration of the Native Sons. It includes diverse selection of themes and mediums executed through a wide variety of genres – ranging from realist and impressionist to abstract and conceptual – signifying that while these artists share a collective ideal their artistic vision remains truly unique.

The National Gallery is delighted to support the work of the Native Sons through *Fahive*, their fifth exhibition and first group show in over three years.

Natalie Coleman, Curator