

ARTIST'S BIO



Designer **Isy Obi** is the Founder of Isy B., the award-winning fashion brand from the Cayman Islands. Isy B. was recently named one of the “Caribbean brands to watch” by the Caribbean Journal and since its launch in 2015, the brand has garnered an impressive list of successes, locally and internationally. Isy B was awarded ‘Lifestyle Designer of the Year’ at Phoenix Fashion Week in the USA in 2016, and in 2017 her brand successfully launched a capsule collection for Evine, the third largest home-shopping network in the USA.

The company’s designs have been featured on Macy’s website in the USA and on red carpets across the world from the Grammys to Cayman Film Festival. In 2017, Isy B was selected to represent the Cayman Islands at Carifesta.

Isy B’s aesthetic is crafted from thoughtful designs that tell stories through harmonic elements and visually balanced forms. Her aim is to create designs that come from the heart, and to visually connect with her wearers at the heart level.



Jawara Alleyne is an award-winning Caymanian fashion designer and artist, currently practicing in London. He is a National Gallery scholarship recipient with a BA in Fashion Design and Marketing from the prestigious London College of Fashion – University of the Arts, London. Since graduating, he has worked with a host of international fashion brands such as Giles Deacon and Peter Pilotto, where he currently works as a Studio Coordinator managing the operations of design development within the studio.

Jawara’s work is an inspection of his Caribbean culture and an exploration of the attitudes and values that underpin it. Imbedding work within the context of his experiences, he challenges his audience to think more deeply about notions of representation and self by pushing the boundaries that define Caribbean art and fashion. This goal has led to an extensive exploration of gender and masculinity and the revisiting of prescribed formulas of how to view and create for the male form.

The name Jawara means “lover of peace”. Accordingly, he has created a brand that aims to peacefully and lyrically explore evolving concepts of identity. Telling the stories about the Caribbean people, his own people, in ways they have yet to explore.



ART OF
FASHION

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

24 August to 30 November 2018


Butterfield

This exhibition and related programming is made possible due to the generous support of Butterfield.


Butterfield


NATIONAL
GALLERY
CAYMAN ISLANDS

ART OF FASHION

The worlds of art and fashion have simultaneously co-existed and converged for decades, with the boundaries between the two disciplines becoming increasingly blurred. Major artists regularly collaborate with top fashion brands while fashion-inspired art is now a permanent fixture in galleries and museums around the world.

This spirit of creative collaboration informs Art of Fashion, a new National Gallery (NGCI) exhibition featuring collections by Caymanian fashion designers Isy B and Jawara Alleyne. Commissioned by NGCI to respond to their permanent collection, the designers were given free rein to interpret the artistic history of the Cayman Islands, from early intuitive art by Gladwyn "Miss Lassie" Bush and Charles Long, through to the emergence of

the Native Sons, and on to the critically engaged contemporary art that is being practiced today.

Each designer has approached the challenge from a unique viewpoint using color and pattern, shape and volume, draping, and embellishments to reinterpret some of the most iconic artworks in the island's history. The resulting collections act as a celebration of the two disciplines, while representing how art and fashion can harmoniously inform one another.

This exhibition seeks to support the growing fashion industry in the Cayman Islands and to illustrate how the National Art Collection continues to inspire the creative process. It is curated by Natalie Urquhart with assistance from Simon Tatum.

GUIDED TOURS

National Gallery guided tours will enhance your experience by offering memorable moments and behind-the-scenes insights with stories of the works of art and the artists who created them. Custom tours and packages are also available. By booking a tour and supporting the National Gallery, you are investing in Cayman's creative community and cultural heritage, both of which play a vital role in the health of our community. 30 minute tours start at CI\$10 per person. To book a tour email events@nationalgallery.org.ky.

Fashion are available for students and youth groups of all ages. Students will discuss the exhibition and get hands-on with interactive content. For information or to book a tour contact education@nationalgallery.org.ky.

STUDENTS & TEACHERS

Free Student Tours for All Ages

Guided Tours and Activities by Appointment

25 August – 30 November

Monday – Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm

Free guided tours of the temporary exhibition Art of

FAMILIES

Fashion Forward Family Fun Day

Saturday, 13 October 10:00am - 1:00pm

The NGCI Education Department is hosting a free family fun day filled with art activities inspired by the exhibition *Art of Fashion*. Fashion-themed activity sheets, games and art stations will be available for children of all ages in the National Gallery, in addition to a pop-up silk-decorating workshop in the studio from 10:30 - 11:30am.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase in the Art Café.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Members' Preview Reception

Friday, 24 August 6 - 8pm

A special late-night event for members and their guests to celebrate the opening of *Art of Fashion*.

Fashion Documentary Screening

Wednesday, 24 October 6 - 8pm

Fashion Documentary Screening

Wednesday, 14 November 6 - 8pm

Lecture Series

Ongoing

A series of lectures pertaining to the exhibition hosted in the Dart Auditorium. For a complete schedule visit nationalgallery.org.ky/whats-on

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Lecture with Fashion Designer Jawara Alleyne

Saturday, 25 August 6 - 7:30pm

Join fashion designer Jawara Alleyne as he discusses his new collection "Sons of Sons: Metaphors of Freedom" exhibited in *Art of Fashion* and inspired by works from the National Art Collection. The Exhibition Hall will remain open until 7:30 for extended viewing before or after the discussion. Admission to both the lecture and the exhibition is free and all are welcome.

Lecture with Fashion Designer Isy B

Wednesday, 5 September 6 - 7:30pm

Join fashion designer Isy Obi as she discusses her new collection "I AM" exhibited in *Art of Fashion* and inspired by works from the National Art Collection. The Exhibition Hall will remain open until 7:30 PM for extended viewing before or after the discussion. Admission to both the lecture and the exhibition is free and all are welcome.

Lecture with Costume Designer Sarah McDougall: Costume Design from Page to Stage

Wednesday, 19 September 6 - 7:30pm

Join costumier Sarah McDougall as she discusses the process of designing costumes, from the initial sketches on the page through to the debut on stage. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

Adult Workshop - Kimono Wrap Decorating with Costume Designer Sarah McDougall

Saturday, 29 September & Saturday, 6 October
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Age: Adult (ages 16+; maximum class size 10)

Fees: CI\$100 per person for the two-day workshop

Channel your inner fashion designer through a variety of applied decoration techniques to enhance your very own boho-style kimono wrap. Trendy, versatile kimono wraps are the perfect layer to give an outfit a complete look or to cover up over a bathing suit at the beach. They might look complicated to make, but under the guidance of experienced textiles teacher Sarah McDougall you'll be able to come away with a completed one for yourself as well as the skills to make them for your friends too.

VISIT

Exhibition halls, the NGCI Store and Art Café are open Monday - Saturday 10am to 5pm. Admission is free. Donations welcome.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

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