



# *Wray Banker*

*arreckly : towards a cultural identity*

Thursday, 1st February, 2007 at 6:30pm | National Gallery, Harbour Place





*"Many of my ideas come late in the night, usually when I'm trying to sleep. They can come from fragments of everyday conversations or images that get stuck in my head and reappear several hours later."*

*"I kin talk english good... but I'd rather speak Caymanian well."*

*Website: [www.webgallery.hu/kensington/banker](http://www.webgallery.hu/kensington/banker) Email: [uncleb@candw.ky](mailto:uncleb@candw.ky)*





# *April Bending*

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*"Images emerge subtly through gestural layers over heavy textures, creating subtle depths both visually and intellectually. Red represents artistic passion. Red is non racial. Break free of self imposed prejudices and isolation. Open your eyes, open your hearts."*

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# *David Bridgeman*

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*"My work explores themes of displacement, acceptance and fragility. Although essentially a self-portrait this piece is really a portrait of the thousands of people who have tried to settle in one place. Displacement, whether chosen for economic or political reasons, comes at a price. Is tolerance rather than acceptance perhaps the middle ground?"*

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# *John Broad*

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# The Turtler's Wedding

*"My reference for this mixed media piece was the Turtle Fishing Industry of the Cayman Islands. A whole community existed built around this sea creature. The Green Turtle is now a protected species, however for a time on Cayman this amphibian provided sustenance for the population.*

*I created a Wedding for the Turtler a watershed in his life with his new bride, the ceremony takes place at a time when the turtle supply was dwindling, and there was uncertainty about the future. The Canvas is arranged in an archaeological way with fishing tools and turtle shells juxtaposed around the figures I have included woven thatch as something from every day life at this time, along with some Cayman rope which was a parallel industry on the Island"*

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# Randy Cholette

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*Evident in Randy's work is his love for Cayman's natural surrounding, his honour for African Heritage and his observance of brotherhood and humanity.*

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# *Aston Ebanks*

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*"To think that everything we have accomplished is of our sole doing would be to delude ourselves. Sometimes in order to see our similarities we first need to see how different we are."*

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# *Kushana Gentles*

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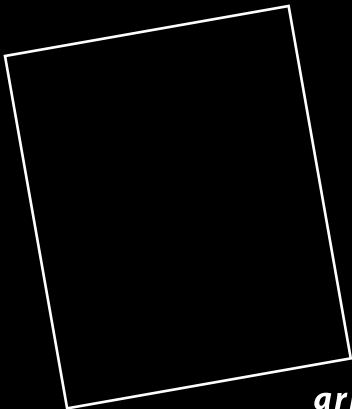




*"Cultural Identity for me means getting into your roots, into your "bones"; the place where you came from and what makes you unique amongst other cultural identities. Traditionally made from bones, dominoes, (or the game) was the inspiration behind "Double Blank". Played by many connecting us all, not only in the Caribbean but throughout the world by people of different cultures, race and ethnicity. Regardless of where your "bones" come from, we are all connected in some way and are all moving towards our own cultural identity."*

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# Anne Goulden

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"????."

Email: ?







# *Chris Mann*

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# *Taxonomy for a braver new world - This Years Model*

*(He's not a puppet; he's a real boy!)*

*"Is the classification of organisms, consumer culture, the search for self-identity, the uncertainty of values, accident and chance, the low culture of everyday life? Is how catching a likeness often depends upon distortion? Is pluralism: the coexistence of a variety of approaches?"*

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# *Renate Seffer*

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# Culturally Grafted

*"Grafted from a variety of species, each stem has been carefully selected to improve the characteristics of the other and help strengthen the roots of their mutual foundation. As the stems grow, they begin to bond forming one unique tree that reflects the colours and images of life. Standing tall and strong the tree's branches interweave and embrace its surroundings. Even in unfamiliar soil and a sometimes harsh environment, its roots continue to dig deep, determined to find the nutrients required to sustain its future. Society, like the stems of this tree, has been culturally grafting for thousands of years. Although we may not be embraced by our neighbour, we continue to merge; we continue to break cultural barriers and we continue to dig deep to find the nutrients required to sustain our future. This grafting has - and will continue - to open doors for future generations. It is what makes us unique, it is what strengthens character and, most importantly, it is what creates bonds that cannot be broken."*

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# Nasaria Suckoo

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*"I hope that the viewer walks away with a strong reaction to my work, whether it be positive or negative. Art that stirs nothing in a person is not art at all."*

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# *Avril Ward*

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*"I think a country like Cayman, 1) that has such a diverse population, 2) that is so transient with half the population moving in and out all the time, 3) that is very new in relation to the rest of the world, cannot have a contemporary culture that is very easily described in words. The "old" Cayman before the last 40/50 odd years has its culture, history and way of life but it isn't so anymore. The current culture will be better explained in perhaps another 50 years from now, where the filtering in and out of different groups"*

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