



## About the Artist

Born in George Town, Grand Cayman, Nasaria Suckoo Chollette received a BA in Theatre and an MA in Educational Theatre from New York University. Returning to Cayman, she taught for many years at John Gray High School as the Head of Drama before moving into social work, and later adopting a full-time art practice.

A storyteller, poet, artist, and cultural activist, Suckoo Chollette has always sought to understand her life journey through artistic expression. Her work explores themes of

female strength and empowerment, race and the repercussions of enslavement, as well as the erosion of Caymanian cultural traditions, and she uses her practice to incite dialogue around these issues. She is a member of the artists collective Native Sons and has exhibited widely, both with the group and as a solo artist, at the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands (NGCI), the Cayman Islands National Museum (CINM), the Morgan Gallery and numerous private exhibition spaces.

Suckoo Chollette's work is included in the permanent collections of NGCI and CINM, and is featured in *Art of the Cayman Islands*, the islands' first formal art history (Scala Fine Art Publishers Ltd., Fall 2016). NGCI exhibitions include: *Native Sons' Fahive* (2005), *The Persistence of Memory* (2011), *Metamorphosis* (2014), *All Access* (2015), *tIDal Shift: Explorations of Identity in Contemporary Caymanian Art* (2015), *Native Sons - Twenty Years On* (2016), *Speak to Me* (2016), *Mediating Self* (2017), *Revive: Contemporary Caymanian Craft* (2017), *Cross Currents - 1st Cayman Islands Biennial* (2019), *Island of Women: Life at Home During our Maritime Years* (2020), *Interior and Interiority* (2020), *Reimagined Futures - 2nd Cayman Islands Biennial* (2021) and *The People's Collection - A 25-Year Cultural Legacy* (2022). She has had her poetry published locally and internationally, and has published two books: *Storytelling Rundown* and *All the Joy in the World*.

Suckoo Chollette is the recipient of several National Arts & Culture Awards including a Gold Star for Creativity (2021). In 2006 she won the McCoy Prize competition for her painting *Maiden Plum*, and in 2019 won the coveted 'Bendel Hydes Award' at the inaugural Cayman Islands Biennial exhibition for her work *Becoming Again* (2019).