

I am an artist. I am an aspiring griot. I am panafrican. I am African.

Culture is the canvas that holds the image of of society's general beliefs, values, norms etc. Arts contribute to culture, both in reflecting and in shaping the culture, and being a subset of cultural manifestation.

Heritage is our highest self throughout eras in history in which we find strength and truth and better nature. It is what should stand as beacon, hope, and never be downtrodden nor eroded nor neglected.

We as members of these island states are members of a region and further, as we traverse the earth, are members of diaspora- Caribbean diaspora and of course deeper- largely African diaspora.

Caribbean roots are Global roots and the foundation of global excellence when we understand our heritage. Not just the history they teach in schools (and I refuse to divert to discussion the function of "post-colonial" education systems, not only in socialization but also indoctrination and mental disenfranchisement, at this time) but before labour injustice, apprenticeship, slavery, conquest, crusades, trades, etc. as far back as Imhotep and before...We are the genesis point of life, civilization, hygiene, technology, cultivation, movement and more.

And so embracing the spirit of Sankofa and going back within to retrieve from our heritage the essence of our identity and venerating, and reaffirming and re-establishing it in our culture particularly through the arts is largely the aim of my work. And I believe the goal of any serious, conscious Caribbean artist.