# African Fashion: Many Threads - One Cloth

# A Celebration of African Diversity in Fashion, Fabric, and Design Friday, October 27 to Sunday, October 29,2023

St. James Cathedral Centre – 65 Church St. Toronto M5C 2E9

The Cathedral invites you to an exhibit in celebration of Africa. African Fashion: Many Threads – One Cloth will focus a lens onthis vast continent – first and foremost through its textile design and couture but also through music, art, jewellery lectures, storytelling, and cuisine.

With its vibrant colours, bold prints, and flattering designs, African couture reflects the sights and sounds of this resource-rich and culturally diverse region. Small wonder it has become a major player on the global fashion stage – in tandem with the growing prominence of African music, literature, and art.

This year we are proud to salute Africa – the heartbeat of the globe, the cradle of humanity, the crossroads of ancient trade routes. This multifaceted exhibit reflects the efforts of countless volunteers of African and non-African descent – fashion and jewellery designers, models, academics, storytellers, chefs, and musicians.

Please join us at the Cathedral as all eyes turn to Africa.

The Very Rev'd Peter Wall Interim Dean and Priest in Charge

St. James Cathedral

#### Friday Evening - October 27 - Gala Opening 1

- Fashion show -featuring designers and alumni from George Brown College and Metro Toronto University's fashion programmes.
- Keynote speakers
- Demonstration of African headpiece tying
- Reception featuring storytelling, steel pan music and African finger food.

Guests are encouraged to wear their own African and African inspired fashions

### Saturday, October 28 – Full Day Programme <sup>1</sup>

African history, society, culture, economics, and the future of African fashion

- Lectures and panel discussion by expert speakers
- Tales of Africa by professional storytellers
- ♣ Poet Laureate George Elliott Clarke presents a poem in celebration of "African Fashion: Many Threads One Cloth."
- African drumming and exhibits
- Lunch will be provided

#### Sunday, October 29 – Open House – Free to the Public

Ongoing exhibits and a full program of African music in the Cathedral and Cathedral Centre

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A \$50 registration fee will be charged and will cover all Friday and Saturday events. Food at the Friday reception and lunch on Saturday are included in the registration fee.

## Scheduled Speakers, Presenters, and Musicians <sup>2</sup>



Caron Phinney Toronto Metropolitan University



Dr. Suzi Lima University of Toronto



Dr. Sara Fee Royal Ontario Museum



Dr. George Elliott Clark Poet Laureate



Dr. Fatima Hamlaoui University of Toronto



Kesha Christie Storyteller



Daryl Williams Steel Pan Musician



Saikou Saho African Drum Musician



Sarah Hood George Brown College



Kobena Aquaa-Harrison -Musician



Susan ida Boucaud Storyteller



Wairimu Nduati Speaker



Jayshree Khimasia Friends of Textiles- ROM



Maged Zareef Singer and oud player



Dunstan Morgan Speaker



Yosola Sholagbade-Adeoye Workshop Leader



Anthony Morgan Speaker



Dr. Rita Cox Storyteller



Rosa Fracassa George Brown College

#### Want to know more? Want to Get Involved?

If you are interested in volunteering, donating, or being a sponsor, or if you are just looking for the most up-to date information on this event, contact:

Nancy Mallett <u>nancyemallett@gmail.com</u> 416-920-1965 Or visit our website <u>www.stjamescathedral.ca</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> List of speakers and entertainers is current as of publication date and subject to change.