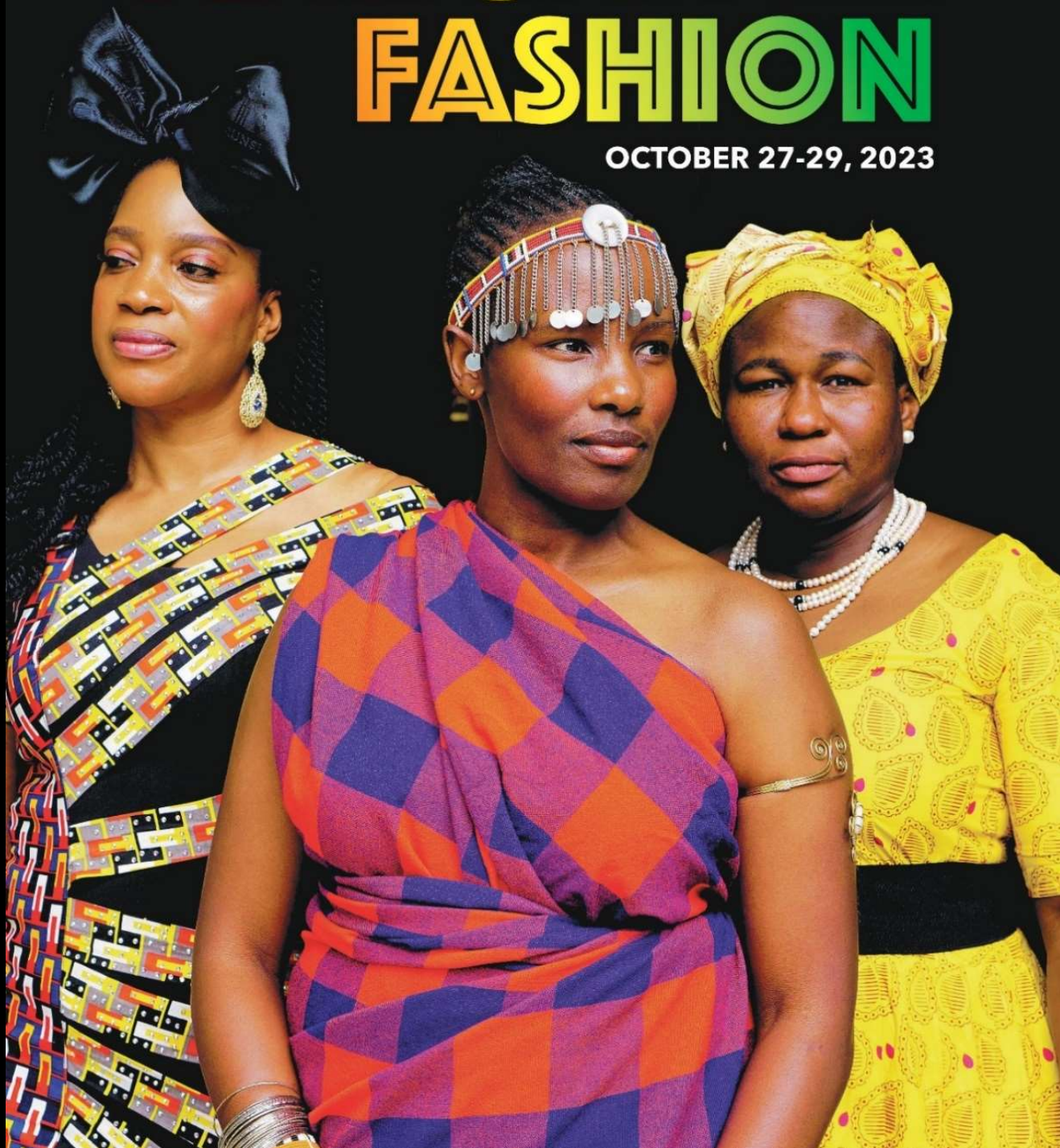


# AFRICAN FASHION

MANY  
THREADS,  
ONE CLOTH

OCTOBER 27-29, 2023



Programme of Events

**Please Note:**

Details in this programme are current as of the date of publication, but are subject to change prior to the event.

**Friday Evening – Oct. 27, 2023 – Gala Opening**

6:00 PM	<b>Doors Open</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Daryl Williams, Rachel Walcott, Trenyce Sweeney of Pan Fantasy Steel Band will play as guests arrive.</li></ul>
6:30 PM	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Very Rev'd Peter Wall Interim Dean and Priest-in-Charge St. James Cathedral Toronto</li></ul>
	<b>"Expressing Cultural Identity Through the Creative Process of Design"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Caron Phinney, Associate Professor Toronto Metropolitan University Creative School</li></ul>
	<b>Fashion Show</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rosa Fracassa, Acting Chair, School of Fashion and Jewellery. George Brown College, introduces a fashion show by student designers from George Brown College</li></ul>
	<b>"Identity and Legitimacy of Fashion in Contemporary Africa"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wairimu Nduati, Parishioner, St. James Cathedral</li></ul>
	<b>Fashion Show</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Caron Phinney introduces a fashion show by designers from Toronto Metropolitan University Creative School</li></ul>
8:00 PM	<b>Reception</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• View the exhibits.</li><li>• Opportunity to talk with the Fashion Show designers.</li><li>• Headdress-tying demo by Yosola Sholagbade-Adeoye</li><li>• Try your hand at playing a steel pan instrument.</li><li>• Enjoy a generous buffet of West African foods.</li></ul>
9:45 PM	<b>Doors Close</b>

## Saturday Morning, October 28, 2023

8:45 AM	<b>Coffee Served</b>
9:15 AM	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Yosola Sholagbade-Adeoye</li></ul>
	<b>“Let’s Sing” Egyptian Quartet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- performs in Arabic on traditional instruments. Maged Zareef, leader, singer, lute &amp; oud; Sally Ismail, singer, percussionist; Maher Shaker, guitar; Ibrahim Khalid, table.</li></ul>
	<b>Introduction of this morning’s Speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- David Grant</li></ul>
	<b>“The Diversity and Development of Africa’s 2000 Languages”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr. Fatima Hamlaoui, Associate. Professor Department of French, University of Toronto</li></ul>
	<b>“Africa and the History of Global Textile networks: Highlights from the Royal Ontario Museum’s Fabric Collection”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr. Sara Fee, Senior Curator Global Fashions and Textiles, Royal Ontario Museum</li></ul>
	<b>“From Enslavement in Virginia, Resilience in Jamaica, to Freedom in Sierra Leone and Canada: A Family History.”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dunstan, Barbara &amp; Anthony Morgan</li></ul>
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	<b>Break &amp; Exhibits</b>
	<b>Performance on ancient instruments from Ghana and Mali</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kobena Aquaa-Harrison</li></ul>
	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- with this morning’s speakers moderated by David Grant</li></ul>
12:15 PM – 1:45 PM	<b>Lunch</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informal Canadian deli lunch</li><li>• Exhibits, talk with musicians, listen to storytellers.</li></ul>

## Saturday Afternoon, October 28, 2023

1:45 PM	<b>Gambian percussionist Saikou Saho</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- performs on the drums to open the afternoon session. Performance is devoted to the years following African independence.</li></ul>
	<b>Storytelling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr. Rita Cox</li></ul>
	<b>“Why An Eco-Friendly Manufacturing Industry Is Crucial to Africa’s Future”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tejal Dodhia, owner and CEO of Thika Cloth Mills, Nairobi, Kenya</li></ul>
	<b>Storytelling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kesha Christie</li></ul>
3:15 PM - 3:25 PM	<b>Break &amp; Exhibits</b>
	<b>“How the Fashion Industry Is Addressing Environmental Concerns in Africa”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jayshree Khimasia, Fashion Designer and Volunteer Chair of Friends of Textiles and Costume, Royal Ontario Museum</li></ul>
	<b>Poet laureate Dr. George Elliott Clarke</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- recites a new poem especially composed for “African Fashion: Many Threads-One Cloth.”</li></ul>

## Sunday Afternoon, October 29, 2023 - Free to the Public

### Starting at 12:30 PM

- Coffee Served in the Cathedral
- Take in exhibits on display in the Cathedral Centre (Snell Hall)
- An afternoon of music in the Cathedral building and in the Cathedral Centre (Snell Hall)

In the Cathedral	In the Cathedral Centre (Snell Hall)
<b>Adam Solomon</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Juno Award winning Kenyan guitarist performs</li></ul>	<b>"Let's Sing" Egyptian Quartet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- performs in Arabic &amp; traditional instruments. Leader Maged Zareef, leader, singer, lute &amp; oud; Sally Ismail, singer, percussionist; Mahal Shaker, guitar; Ibrahim Khalid, tabla.</li></ul>
<b>The Palm Wine Band from Sierra Leon</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- performs under the direction of Theophilus Morrison and featuring Adesina David During, Harold Pabs-Garnon, David Kofi Williams, and Solomon Olu-Cole.</li></ul>	

### At the Conclusion of the Program

The Cathedral Church of St. James invites you to attend their Evensong service at 4:30 PM in the Cathedral building.

## Our Speakers, Storytellers and Musicians



**Kobena Aquaa-Harrison.** Kobè, director of cultural development at Toronto's Abandze Embassy studio, is a Ghanaian-Bermudian performer, producer, composer, and storyteller, garnering many awards in music, media, film, television, dance, and theatre. Afrosonic jollof, Kobè's trademark musical style, is described as "the sound when jazz, rock, reggae, and hip hop come face to face with their ancestors."



**Susan ida Boucaud.** Susan can be heard telling stories at Toronto's 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling and performs at and co-produces many storytelling events. Susan's website, Her Voice Returns, at <https://www.facebook.com/HerVoiceReturns/> provides further details of her work.



**Kesha Christie.** Kesha is a dynamic storyteller who connects people and cultures through African and Caribbean folktales. She has a weekly podcast called Walk Good and a YouTube channel under Talkin' Tales, which amplify the power of stories. She is founder of an annual storytelling and cultural event, which celebrates the oral tradition. For details see [www.talkintales.ca](http://www.talkintales.ca)



**Dr. George Elliot Clarke.** An internationally celebrated artist, and a poet laureate of Toronto and Canada, George hails from Nova Scotia and is a scholar of African Canadian literature at the University of Toronto. His acclaimed titles include Whylah Falls, Beatrice Chancy, Execution Poems, Traverse, and J'Accuse. He wrote the libretto for James Rolfe's tragic opera Beatrice Chancy.



**Dr. Rita Cox.** Rita is an award-winning master storyteller who has performed across North America and abroad. She teaches courses, leads workshops and seminars, and performs for adults and children.



**Tejal Dodhia.** Tejal is the owner and CEO of Thika Cloth Mills, established by her late father and his brothers in Nairobi, Kenya. After leaving Kenya in 1991 to study in England, Tejal returned in 1998 and devoted herself to this important economic enterprise, which employs 650 workers and serves 400 Kenyan customers. Her goal is to restore the company's workforce to the 2000 it employed in her father's day.



**Dr. Sarah Fee.** Sarah is senior curator of Global Fashion & Textiles at the Royal Ontario Museum and teaches in the Art History Department of the University of Toronto. Sarah focuses her primary research on the textile arts of Madagascar and the textiles trades of the western Indian Ocean world. She recently joined an international team studying the textiles imported into Ethiopia from 1500 to 1900.



**Rosa Fracassa.** Rosa is acting chair of the School of Fashion and Jewellery at George Brown College. Rosa has master's degrees in Italian studies and drama and is working on her PhD dissertation in drama. She has worked teaching children in theatre and event production. With her passion for sustainability, Rosa is involved with faculty and students in many projects in fashion and jewellery.



**Dr. Fatima Hamlaoui.** With a PhD from the Sorbonne in Paris, Fatima is an associate professor in the Department of French at the University of Toronto. For almost 15 years has been describing, analyzing, and comparing sub-Saharan African languages, particularly from the Bantu family. Her current a project focuses on the relationship between trauma, working memory, and language among survivors of the Rwandan genocide living in Canada.



**Jayshree Khimasia.** Of Indian ancestry, Jaishree was born and brought up in Nairobi, Kenya. A fashion designer by trade, she is also a watercolour and ceramic artist. In the past 15 years, Jayshree has been involved in repurposing silk saris in India, teaching rural women's groups and employing them to do the hand-stitching. She is a volunteer at the Royal Ontario Museum and chairs the Friends of Textiles and Costumes at the ROM.



**Anthony Morgan.** Anthony is the new co-host of CBC television's *The Nature of Things* and an award-winning science communicator, PhD researcher, startup founder, and game designer. With a passion for bringing science to the public, he has hosted TV and radio programs, written for newspapers, and collaborated with municipal governments. On the steering committee of the misinformation-tackling organization *Science Up First*, Anthony has been named one of CBC's top 20 millennial change-makers.



**Barbara Jane Morgan.** Barbara is a health policy professional with a passion for social history and sharing African oral traditions. Following a lifelong interest in the history of the diasporic Krios, she has spent several years uncovering her family genealogy and developing a detailed family tree. Through *African Curator* and other collectives, she explores dynamic ways to share stories of creolization and identity before transatlantic slavery and to evolve the narrative through innovation and engagement.



**Dunstan Morgan.** Born in Freetown, Sierra Leone, Dunstan came to Canada as a foreign student. Tracing his ancestry back to 1792, Dunstan has a remarkable family history and a well-documented African heritage story to tell. After studying natural sciences at the University of Western Ontario, he switched to business at George Brown College. He now combines a passion for healthcare with business experience, and is currently a specialist in supply chain, materials, and logistics management in a healthcare system.



**Theophilus Morrison.** Theophilus leads the Palm Wine Band from Sierra Leone. Also featuring Adesina David During, Harold Pabs-Garnon, David Kofi Williams, and Solomon Olu-Cole.



**Wairimu Nduati.** Wairimu, a parishioner at the cathedral, is of Kikuyu and Maasai (from her maternal grandfather) lineage. A graduate of the University of Western Ontario in economics and sociology specializing in minority groups, she works in Toronto's downtown core as a legal ethics and risk analyst. She is a passionate believer in the authenticity of African fashion and design, and she dabbles in modelling African couture whenever possible.



**Caron Phinney.** Caron is an assistant professor and undergraduate director of the Fashion Program at Toronto Metropolitan University. She holds an MA in the history of decorative arts and design from Brighton University, UK, and a Bachelor of Design from the (the former) Ryerson School of Fashion.



**Saikou Saho.** A cultural ambassador and percussionist from Gambia, Saiku has been teaching African drumming for over 25 years. He facilitates drum-building programs in schools, prisons, and communities, making history and culture part of the hands-on lessons. Saho owns the Kensington Market store and gathering spot known as African Drums and Art Crafts. As an elder in Toronto's African, Gambian, and other drumming communities, he has led endeavours to highlight the healing and unifying power of the drum, the beat, and the rhythms of the Motherland.



**Yosola Sholagbade-Adeoye.** Yosola Sholagbade-Adeoye. Co-chair of the African Fashion exhibit, Yosola is a long-standing member of the Cathedral's congregation. Originally from Nigeria, she wears exquisite African outfits with beautiful head ties to church on Sundays, Yosola will demonstrate how to tie African headpieces and will tie headpieces for participants to keep.



**Adam Solomon.** Adam is a Juno-Award-winning Toronto guitarist originally from Kenya. His albums include River Road, Kaya, and Tree of Life.



**Daryl Williams.** Born in Toronto of Antiguan heritage, Daryl has been a member of the Pan Fantasy Steelband Orchestra since 2005 and plays professionally at many events and festivals. Daryl was introduced to the steel pan in Antigua and Barbuda at the age of 12. Currently, he can be seen at Toronto's Harbourfront, the Farmer's Market, at a Beach Resort on Rice Lake, and at music festivals around the GTA. Daryl will perform with two other members of the Pan Fantasy Steelband Orchestra Rachel Walcott, and Trenyce Sweeney.



**Maged Zareef.** Maged is a lute and oud player and singer who arrived in Canada from Egypt in 2021. He is the founder of "Let's Sing," a takht, or oriental, band in which members perform in Arabic and play the traditional instruments of oud, tabla, and qanun. Maged is a graduate of the Institute of Oriental Music in Cairo and will perform with three members of his band: Sally Ismail, Ibrahim Khaled, and Maher Shaker.