# BAACHACS COLLECTIVE

162 DUKE OF EDINBURGH AVENUE, PETIT VALLEY, DIEGO MARTIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, 151520 T: 1(868) 717-6470 M:1(868) 749-8083 E: baachacs.collective@gmail.com W: www.baachacscollective.org



Commemorating the 50th Anniversary

### FROM THE LAND OF THE HUMMINGBIRD

Castle Killarney | 23 Jan – 9 Mar 2024

Tuesdays to Fridays 9–5 | Saturdays 10–2 All are welcome. Admission: free.

Bookings for schools and groups of 10 or more: Email: castlekillarneytt@gmail.com or WhatsApp: (868) 798 5574 "...Trinidad was called
The Land of the Hummingbird,
and so we called our magical dancing
little bird-child carnival costume
"From The Land of the Hummingbird"

...I spent five months working out this single piece of geometry, which finally was a very simple dancing iridescent circle."

-Peter Minshall from his address on receiving an honorary doctorate from The University of the West Indies, 1991

### PRESS RELEASE

# COMMEMORATING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF FROM THE LAND OF THE HUMMINGBIRD

### Port of Spain, February 07, 2024

In the roughly two weeks since it opened to the public, the commemorative exhibition on Peter Minshall's 1974 mas presentation From the Land of the Hummingbird has received more than 1,000 visitors.

Those who have ventured to Port of Spain's historic Castle Killarney to view the show include students from local universities, representatives of cultural and community groups, schoolchildren from at least 10 official school trips to the exhibition, diplomats, artists, as well as families and individuals from around Trinidad and Tobago and the world.

Visitors to the show are encouraged not just to view the artwork on display but also to engage. Costume pieces from Minshall's 2002 band Picoplat offer a chance to play mas in the shady galleries of Stollmeyer's Castle. In the exhibition's art activity room, children and adults alike are to be found colouring and sketching as the breeze brings in sounds from the neighbouring Queen's Park Savannah.

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In celebrating the success and popularity of the exhibition to date, the organisers - Baachacs Collective and the Minshall Mas Foundation - must thank the generous contributions of the show's sponsors. It is their donations - in cash and in kind - that have allowed this presentation of one of T&T's most treasured cultural and artistic resources to be staged free of any admission charge: an experience open to any and all who are able to make the journey to Stollmeyer's Castle.

In particular, we must applaud the support and commitment of (Stollmeyer's) Castle Killarney, under the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, without which there would be no exhibition. Further, we thank the Frank and Myrtle Cleghorn Foundation, whose instantaneous backing of the project provided not just the necessary initial funding for the show, but also functioned as essential encouragement that the exhibition could and would find the sponsorship it needed to proceed.

We are grateful to the National Carnival Commission and the Carnival Institute of Trinidad and Tobago, National Lotteries Control Board, and Massy Foundation for generous and invaluable support. Also, we thank the National Gas Company of T&T Ltd, Angostura Holdings Ltd, and the Trinidad and Tobago Association for Retired Persons Ltd for their contributions to the exhibition.

Special thanks is owed to Francis-Lau Construction for the tireless funding, fabrication and installation of the show's centrepiece: the steel-ringed circle in which Minshall's working drawings are displayed. Jimmy Aboud and Company Ltd provided targeted sponsorship for the creation of the brown cotton costume prototype that has captivated many of the exhibition's visitors. The BOSS Division of Business Supply Group Ltd donated the supplies which keep the art activity room functioning as an engaging space for both children and adults. And we thank Pearl and Dean (Caribbean) Ltd for the opportunity to publicise the exhibition to a larger audience.

Further, we are grateful for the spirit of partnership extended by the National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago, the Alma Jordan Library at UWI, Banyan Limited and Banyan Archive, Visual Art and Production Limited, and the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at UWI.

Finally, we are indebted to the continued support and indefatigable effort of Margaret Gittens and Gittens Real Estate Agents.

The show is open Tuesday to Friday, 9–5 and Saturday, 10–2; January 23 to March 9 at Castle Killarney. Admission is free. Suitable for all ages. For groups larger than 10, please schedule visits by emailing castlekillarneytt@gmail.com or calling/WhatsApp 1 868 798 5574.

https://www.baachacscollective.org/special-exhibition

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"Mas. It is an unprecedented conjunction of sculpture and dance – the dancing mobile – a revolutionary and very contemporary form."

-Peter Minshall from his address on receiving an honorary doctorate from The University of the West Indies, 1991 Admission is free. Suitable and open to all ages.

Tuesday to Friday, 9–5, and Saturday, 10–2 January 23 to March 9

Castle Killarney
Queens Park Savannah West.
Port of Spain

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#### **Visit**

https://www.baachacscollective.org/special-exhibition

to order exhibition publications and merchandise.

Online ordering form: https://forms.gle/z8vFeLz6CS2mKher7

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