



*African & African-Caribbean
Design Diaspora
Press Release 08/2012*

Untold Gold

2012 AACDD BARGEHOUSE FESTIVAL

Bargehouse, Oxo Tower Wharf, London SE1

19 – 30 September 2012

An initiative of the
British European Design Group
www.bedg.org



Supported by



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ENGLAND**



Untold Gold - 2012 African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora Bargehouse Festival



Bargehouse
Oxo Tower Wharf
Bargehouse Street
South Bank
London SE1 9PH

**September 19 - 30
admission free**

www.aacdd.org

Since its debut in September 2010 as partner of the London Design Festival, the three year African & African-Caribbean Design Diaspora programme (www.aacdd.org) organised by the London-based British European Design Group (www.bedg.org) has brought together and exhibited more artists and designers of African and African-Caribbean origin from more countries and more creative disciplines than any other previous single initiative of this kind.

The title of this year's **AACDD Bargehouse Festival 'Untold Gold'** places the outstandingly beautiful and original work of more than 150 artists and designers from the UK, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean within the unique backdrop and raw space of Bargehouse, London.

All five floors of the listed Bargehouse building, opposite the Oxo Tower on the Southbank – the capital's new hub for exciting multicultural and multinational art and performance activities - will be devoted to showcasing exceptional works from creatives of African and African-Caribbean descent.

Disciplines represented will include fine art, sculpture, design, graphic design, photography, multimedia and music, architecture, furniture, lighting, textiles, home furnishings, ceramics, fashion and fashion accessories, jewellery and beauty, as well as live music and other performances.

In addition, a simultaneous virtual exhibition will showcase the work of artists and designers whose pieces cannot easily be transported from their countries of origin.

The **2012 AACDD Bargehouse Festival 'Untold Gold'** will also include the special feature exhibition 'A life apart?' showing the similarities of tools and objects of daily use in traditional societies in rural Africa and the Western World in the past.

The superbly crafted artefacts of daily use by traditional African artisans pay homage to their magnificent manual skills and indigenous creativity, which have yet to be recognised as important cultural heritage by the Western world.

The AACDD project will create its own legacy, by highlighting the talents of new and emerging artists and designers, many of whom have not had the opportunity to showcase their works before.

London 15 08 2012



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Bargehouse is owned and managed by
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For the first time, individual projects will be curated by participating artists using a specific theme to create special installations or a specific body of work dedicated to the multiple and complex cultural and political issues of Africa, the Caribbean and the black diaspora.

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Amongst the projects will be:

'Black I am'
by fine artist Juliette Goddard

'TSTM / HPH'
(Transatlantic Slave Trade Memorial /
Habitat for Humanity - Trinidad and Tobago)
by architects Herman and Fola Morgan

'Utopia'
a multi-disciplinary project by graphic
designer/ artist Abi Wright

'For Nature I love'
by sculptor/artist Gary March

'Layered Identities'
by textile designers Juliana Dugbatey,
Bezem Kassan, Julie Kouamo and
Eva Sonaike

'Body Adornment'
by artist/jeweller/designer Anita Quansah

'An Imaginary Return'
a mixed media installation by ceramic
artist Basil Olton

'Dialogues'
work by ceramic artists curated by
Munirah and Basil Olton

'African Inspirations'
two fashion projects working in the interface
between African heritage and cutting edge
western world couture by Bezem Kassan
and Beatrice Newman

'Camouflage'
an art installation by Jamaican Maroon
artist Frank Lumsden

'Head of the House'
an installation of re-used furniture by
Yinka Ilori focussing on the changing
attitudes of the younger generations of
African and African-Caribbean descent
towards their elders.

'Absent Art'
An interactive installation providing a
virtual angle on artwork and designs by
artists from the global African and African-
Caribbean diaspora who's artwork can't be
physically exhibited. Visitors are invited to
virtually explore each piece and connect
with the artist using their smartphones.