



CENTRAL BANK OF
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Kinetic Artist Guy Beckles presents “Symphonic Synchrony” at the Central Bank Museum

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. Monday, October 31, 2023 – The Central Bank Museum brings to the public an exhibition of kinetic art entitled “**Symphonic Synchrony – Two Heads Are Better Than One**” by one of the foremost practitioners of the genre, Guy Kingsley Edward Beckles. The exhibition will feature the work of 24 prominent local artists Beckles collaborated with to create, as he puts it, “Art that moves and Art that moves you”. The public will have an opportunity to experience and engage with this mystifying genre of art from November 6 – 30, 2023.

Beckles has been part of the global art scene for decades, taking on many roles during his career, and since 2004, he has assumed the role of a full-time kinetic artist. After graduating from Dartmouth College in the United States in 1977, Beckles entered the field of education, teaching at the secondary school level in Trinidad. He has since exhibited locally and on the international scene in London, New York, Washington DC, Toronto and Florida.

In defining the genre, Beckles said, “The kinetic art I create is subtly influenced by my extensive travels throughout North India, North Africa, Western China and Europe. My work is often reflective of a society’s dynamics - the ethnic, cultural, political and social constructs. I seek, explore and ponder ‘the duality of life, the yin and yang, the ebb and flow’. I hope to evoke curiosity and amazement, where the viewer asks – how, why, where and when about each piece, or smiles or remembers a childhood memory.”

As a means of defining Kinetic Art, Central Bank Museum Education Officer Al Alexander offered, “As far as definitions go, the field of aesthetics remains an area not bound by static naming conventions. This is evident in the plethora of definitions that can be offered for the term ‘Art’ and the artistic movements that have emerged over time. ‘Kinetic Art’ is one of those movements, a genre of ‘kinetic aesthetics’ that bridges the divide between art

that is viewed in time, for example, Dance, Music, Poetry and art that occupies space like painting, sculpture/two and three-dimensional work.” He added that kinetic sculptures, while maintaining their physical-visual qualities, are designed and constructed on the physics of motion, also known as kinematics, and designed with predefined movements.

Speaking on the exhibition, Alexander shared, “Through *Symphonic Synchrony*, the artist has taken another step outside the proverbial box by transforming paintings done on vertical cylinders by local artists into kinetic works of art. These dynamic cylinders rotate simultaneously in opposing directions and are activated by motion sensors when the viewer stands in front of a piece. ‘Optical Art’ is a related genre of visual art dedicated to creating aesthetically pleasing optical illusions that play on the viewers ‘visual-depth-perception’. In this kinetic art show, these collaborative pieces go a bit deeper and engage the human psyche through the use and ‘movement’ of art’s visual elements.”

Participating artists include Carlisle Harris, Kenwyn Crichlow, Peter Minshall, James Armstrong, Jackie Hinkson, Glenn Roopchand, Wendy Nanan, Makemba Kunle, Sundiata, Sarah Beckett, David Boothman, Theron Shaw, Shalini Singh, Mary Beckles, Sherwin Banfield, Fitzroye Hoyte, Reita Antoine, Tessa Alexander, Shalini Seereeram, Deborah Clement, Antonio Butts, Michael Duverney, and Everold Rebeiro-John.

For further information, please contact the Central Bank Museum via email at museum@central-bank.org.tt or call/WhatsApp (868) 483-0702. Visitors can view the exhibit during the Museum’s standard opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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