CREATINGCOMMUNITY & CU ture



Atlanta, GA, Hartsfield- Jackson International Airport. There was a time when traveling you could get to the airport with minutes left to go before catching a flight. I remember the days laughing at people running through the airport with giant luggage traveling behind them to get to the plane before it took off and I was also one that got laughed at while trying to do the same. Those days are long gone and if one is following the regulations, then you air at the airport 2 hours ahead of time. What does one do with that time? Once I made it through security and the maze of escalators to get to the train, I was presented with an interesting option to get to my gate. There was a sign that stated 5-minute walk between gates. I paused and thought why not, a little exercise could never hurt, and perhaps I would find something to eat along the way.

What I was not expecting to be greeted with an art exhibition. Massive works in stone from Zimbabwe were placed before me as if it were just for my enjoyment. No one else was in the corridor at the time so I took full advantage of the wonder and awe of these artistic creations. Thinking that no one would believe me if I would later share this story, I immediately started filming as I walked. Then I thought how selfish of me to keep this all to myself so I started a Periscope; 99 viewers joined live from around the world as visitors on a new discovery between the T & A gates in the airport.

The exhibit is created to give you two audio experiences with two visual experiences. There is a photography exhibit on the walls that compliment the sculptures. There is music that plays in the background as one walks through the exhibit. The traditional placards are attached at the base of each piece with information about each artist and the title information, along with an audio tour dial-in from your phone.

The official tour site states:

This permanent collection of 20 contemporary stone sculptures from Zimbabwe debuted in 2001 and is one of the largest publicly owned and exhibited collections of its kind. Located in the pedestrian corridor of the Transportation Mall between the T Gates and Concourse A, it features 12 of Zimbabwe's top artists. Though the Art Program chose these sculptures for their intrinsic beauty, the themes explored by the artists also seem universal. The works delve into the importance of family, humanity's relationship with nature and desire to be spiritually connected. The Art Program hopes that these common themes resonate with passengers of all backgrounds.

To create each piece, the talented Zimbabwean artists skillfully hand-carved the stone to rough out the initial form without the use of power tools. Next, the artists smoothed out select surfaces with sandpaper. Wax was applied to some of the surfaces to create contrasting textures that enhance the work's beauty and emotive qualities.

To view my walk with the Zimbabwe Sculptures visit YouTube Channel Artist Yvette Michele at the following link ZimbabweSculptureinAtlaIntaAirport

> For more information on the sculptures and the artist visit: http://www.atlanta-airport.com/passenger/art

KISSING LOVERS By Edronce Rukodzi Born 1952 Guruve District, Zimbabwe

Rukodzi's "Kissing Lovers," created from Springstone, represents the greeting of a reunited couple and the strong spiritual bond that ties them together. The two figures, both seen in profile, merge to create the image of one figure. He most often sculpts human figures with leaf-like heads and crescent slits for eyes. In cultural terms, the elongated head shape signifies those who live in the spirit world, hidden from view beneath a canopy of trees. As with much of his work, a strong sense of geometry permeates his design.

SOURCE: Airport Art Program - Atlanta Airport

ART on AIDS & HIV

South Florida has Highest AIDS Rates in USA. Artist of all ages have a message to share in helping this epidemic that is affecting our community.



SCRUBBING OUT THE STIGMA by joining the World AIDS Museum & Educational

Center and Artist Yvette Michele by sharing the art in Social Media. This is the message from the artist, Darius Daughtry.

IAM". Scrubs #64. IAM

Your neighbor Your barber Your best friend's father

Your grocer The pretty girl that just spoke! Your colleague

The guy next to you at the bar Your favorite athlete

music

movie star The answer to the question unasked Your reflection in the looking glass

I AM HIV

You can view this work of art and others at the World AIDS Museum and Educational center in Wilton Manors, Florida.

Arts Beat Calendar Highlights

Inclusion to Arts Beat Calendar Call for advertising opportunities at 954-525-1489



6:00 pm Every last Saturday of the month. Art Walk at FAT Village, & Mass District. Musicians, singers, poets, and visual arts. Vendor opportunities available at the mass district call 954-588-4670. Check trolley routes for pick up and drop off times.



6:30 pm Every 4th Tuesday of the month musicians, singers, poets, and performers take the stage at ArtServe for Open Mic Tuesdays. Sign up or come out and enjoy some awesome talent. Hosted by SOSOS' Chris Monteleone. Doors open at 6:30 for sign-up. Performances begin at 7:30. http://www.artserve.org

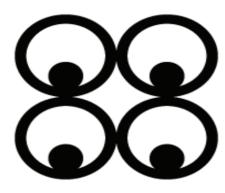
Photography Credits: Westside Gazette Stock Photography, ART on AIDS & HIV, Traditions in Stone, Artist Yvette Michele Booth



KISSING LOVERS







Ntesie Mate Masie

[N-Teh-Sih-Eh Mah-Tih Meh-Sih-Eh]

TRANSLATION: I heard and I kept SYMBOLISM: Knowledge & wisdom

Adinkra symbols are used to communicate evocative messages that represent wisdom, norms, culture and life in society.

SOURCE: www.adinkraproject.com



Email us your best young artist ages 6 to 12 and we will pick a lucky winner to showcase in an upcoming edition. Please include the following:

- Photo
- Name
- •Age Grade
- School

send email to arts@TheWestsideGazette.com

arts organizations, arts education

and art happenings.

