



## Flawless, beautiful artist

**Chester Francis-Jackson**  
Contributor

**S**HE HAS mounted over 100 exhibitions of her works in 28 countries around the globe, and has earned rave reviews in as many languages as is spoken in the 28 countries that she has exhibited in. Born in Munich, she now lives between Negri, Jamaica; and Geneva, Switzerland. She's as beautiful as she is enigmatically talented, a natural linguist, she's perfectly at home in five languages, and that does not include the Jamaican dialect.

Schooled in a monastery from age four through 16, the flawless beauty of an artist, whose ageless face belies her history as an artist and world citizen, the budding artist emerged from her monastic schooling to enter the more traditional educational system of her native Munich, where she earned a diploma in architectural designs, and went on to do some work in interior designing, later spreading her wings to embrace her natural singing talent, before eventually finding her true love—painting.

### MULTICULTURAL ARTIST

Known professionally as Djamila, this fabulous artist has over a 20-year relationship with this her preferred home away from home, and clearly, the influence of the island, its people and culture, are very clear, and powerfully so, in the works of this multicultural artist. Her credentials are evident in her touring exhibition, which contains such interesting interpretations of the Tuareg of the Sahara and Sahel regions of North Africa, the allegoric, but yet clearly contextual cultural images associated with rural Jamaican life; the images of the less glamorous side of life in Western Europe; as well as images and interpretations taken from her globe-trotting musings.

Having shown her works in such places like London, Paris, Berlin, Geneva, Gstaad, Basel, Madrid, Tangiers, Rabat, South Africa, Lesotho, New York, and Negri, she took her travelling exhibition to Kingston two Sundays ago. Jacks Hills really, to the home of the late Rupert Lindo, now survived by his fabulous widow Joan Lindo, and their son, Alexander, at their Valjour residence.

Well, my darlings, Valjour—a combination of names—is indeed one such fabulous place. Perched high above the city of Kingston, on the Jacks Hills fault line, the home was designed to mimic the wing span of a jet in full flight, the lovely deck jutting out and seemingly suspended in mid-air, adding that vital touch to complete the airborne effect—the cockpit.

### EXHIBITION SETTING

One enters Valjour via a charming little courtyard that leads into what is called the drawing-room. Well, for the exhibition, the courtyard, and the parking area immediately beside it, were decorated with colourful murals to house a number of internationally-acclaimed murals by the artist, while the drawing room was done-up with a number of easels housing some of the artist's more recent works, and strategically placed to accommodate as well as to illuminate the fabulous backdrop of Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Thomas, St. Catherine and the tip of Clarendon, that was the fabulous view afforded from the cockpit.

There was an early afternoon drizzle, however, and this occasioned the reordering of the order of the exhibition, with the walls of Valjour being used as display areas. This gave way to a number of easels housing some of the artist's more recent works, and strategically placed to accommodate as well as to illuminate the fabulous backdrop of Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Thomas, St. Catherine and the tip of Clarendon, that was the fabulous view afforded from the cockpit.

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Djamila is indeed one fabulous artist! Her works not only enthrall, they communicate the essence of the subjects portrayed, in a manner that transforms the artist into the realms of worlds hitherto unknown, but her genius might easily lie in her ability to avoid depicting her subjects as inanimate objects to be admired, but avoided, but rather as contemporary extensions of our more surreal experiences.

### FABULOUS FEAST

And so it was, my dears, that with Shiraz flowing, a fabulous feast of finger-food, and excellent society in attendance, and suspended right up there closer to the clouds, that anything else, the Sunday afternoon never looked better. And luvvs, with young Alexander Lindo entertaining in spots, with his guitar and arsas that ran the gamut of pop, and the opera and guests meandering about the fabulous open spaces in gardens that give those afraid of heights the willies. A misstep could easily land the unfortunate person in lower Papine.

Well, sweet-things, it was like that, and then some, with those spotted at the mid-afternoon into early evening including: Hugh Levy; Mrs. Brunetta Matthews; Cecil Cooper; United Nations officials Godfrey and Kay Xuerab; Jeanne Hausen of the Embassy of Peru; the lovely Trefina Asidu; Johnny Abbott; William Lampert and wife Anna Kaiser; Dawn Woodstock; David Versailles; Heidi Pyne; Mr. and Mrs. Neville Roche; the lovely Lorraine Fung; Vijay Myers;

Christopher Dunkley; Claudette Forbes; Locksley Walker; Kerry-Ann Hephburn; Maria Lee; among several others.



WINSTON SALL/FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

Artist Djamilia Liniger shows one of her works at the 'Cocktails with Fine Arts' show, held at Mountain Spring, Skyline Drive, Jacks Hill, on Sunday, May 7.

At left: Artist Djamilia Liniger (left) with (from second left) Kay and Godfrey Xuerab and Joan Lindo at the 'Cocktails with Fine Arts' show.

The President and Members  
of the  
Advocates Association of Jamaica  
request the pleasure of your company  
at a  
Gala Event in Honour of  
Ambassador the Hon. Dudley Thompson, B.A., Q.C.  
Attorney-at-Law  
and  
the Launch of the Dan Ramsay, Q.C. Scholarship  
at  
The Hilton Kingston Hotel  
Grand Independence Ballroom  
Saturday, May 27, 2006

Guest Speakers: Mr. Harry Belafonte  
UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

Cocktails: 7:00 p.m.  
Dinner: 8:00 p.m.

Dress: Black Tie  
Contribution: \$6,000.00

Tickets Available from The Advocates Association  
57 Ladbroke Street, Tel: 922-6207

# Bus Ticket Big Money Prize Promotion

Mr. Wayne Barrett  
Deputy Manager,  
Spanish Town (left)  
presents the prize.

Mr. Theodore Dillion is Big Money Winner!!

Five More Big Money Draws To Come.  
Last Draw, June 23.

Mr. Wayne Barrett  
Deputy Manager,  
Spanish Town (left)  
presents the prize.

Mr. Craig Dunbar is Big Money Winner!!

Theodore Dillion, factory worker, was the Big Money 12th place winner of \$10,000 for the Fifth Draw. He travelled to work on a Route 22A from Central Village on May 1. His wife saw the ticket number in the Monday Star.

Portmore Resident Craig Dunbar, brought in his ticket from the 21A bus he took on Sunday, May 7 making him a 4th place winner of \$10,000. Mr. Dunbar, a hospital worker, was on his way to work in Spanish Town.

**SmartCard**  
Smart Card tickets eligible

### EUROPEAN UNION FILM FESTIVAL 2006

Bob Marley Museum, 56 Hope Road, Kingston  
May 20 - 29, 2006

Sunday, May 21 - 8:00 p.m.

#### SPAIN - 'Solás'

Directed by: Benito Zambrano  
Starring: Maria Galiano and Ana Fernández  
Mara, whose parents live in the country, cannot stand her father's authoritarian ways and moves to the city.

Monday, May 22 - 8:00 p.m.

#### BELGIUM - 'Hop' (U)

Directed by: Dominique Standaert  
Starring: Antje De Boeck and Jan Decler  
An African teenager named Justin and his father struggle to overcome racism in their predominantly white surroundings and the hassles of being illegal immigrants.

Tuesday, May 23 - 8:00 p.m.

#### GERMANY - 'Rossini'

Directed by: Helmut Dietl  
Starring: Golo George and Mario Adorf  
Jakob Windisch has written the number one best-selling novel. Since he is very shy, no one has seen him.

Wednesday, May 24 - 8:00 p.m.

#### FRANCE - 'Right Now'

Directed by: Benoît Jacquot  
Starring: Isild Le Berio and Ouassini Embarek  
A girl from the bourgeoisie discovers the pleasures of bacchanon, following her lover in his illicit life.

Thursday, May 25 - 8:00 p.m.

#### SPAIN - 'Carol's Trip'

Directed by: Imanol Uribe  
Starring: Clara Lago and Juan José Ballesta  
Imanol Uribe's film 'Carol's Trip' is yet another film from Spain that uses that country's devastating civil war of 1936-39 as its background.

Friday, May 26 - 8:00 p.m.

#### BELGIUM - 'Steve + Sky' (+16)

Directed by: Felix Van Groeningen  
Starring: Ilus De Voogdt and Delfine Balfat  
'Steve + Sky' is the story of how Steve (Ilus De Voogdt), a socially awkward teenager just released from jail, falls for Sky (Delfine Balfat), a naive young prostitute trying to get out of the life.

Saturday, May 27 - 8:00 p.m.

#### GERMANY - 'Comedian Harmonists'

Directed by: Joseph Vilsmaier  
Starring: Ben Becker and Helma Feich  
Comedian Harmonists tells the story of a famous German male sextet. Five vocalists and pianist.

Sunday, May 28 - 8:00 p.m.

#### SPAIN - 'The Other Side Of The Bed'

Directed by: Emilio Martinez-Lázaro  
Starring: Paz Vega and Natalia Verbeke  
Paz Vega breaks up with Pedro, reasoning that she is in love with someone else, distraught, Pedro tries to get Javier, his best friend, to figure out who the lover is, but Javier is reluctant, as it's him.

Monday, May 29 - 8:00 p.m.

#### FRANCE - 'Work Hard, Play Hard'

Directed by: Tyro heimer Jean-Marc Moutou  
Starring: Jérôme Rénier and Laurent Lucot  
A decent young man is led into business by a hotshot of the management consultancy firm he's begun working for.

ADMISSION: Adults \$350/Children \$250

Tickets available in advance at the Bob Marley Museum  
All foreign language films have English subtitles.

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