## Made in Jamaica Maureen Salmon **Guest Curator**



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Open Dialogue Project 1984/85 South East Arts Board Cultural Diversity In addition to my performing arts officer role, I also led on cultural diversity. Having recemption of the term

not the right start point Instead, I embarked on

conference 1995 at the Royal Society of Arts as a model of good practice to inform policy.

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...... My story I was born and had my formative education in the newly independent Jamaica in a culture of optimism. The Jamaica national Pledge was

part of the school curriculum.

'Before God and All mankind. I pledge the love and loyalty of my heart. The wisdom and courage of my mind. The strength and vigour of my body in the service of my fellow citizens

I promise to stand up for justice, Brotherhood and Peace, to work diligently and creatively. To think generously and honestly, so that, Jamaica may, under God, increase in beauty fellowship and prosperity, and play her part in advancing the welfare of the whole human race.

In spite of its colonial past, Jamaica on gaining independence was thinking of its place in the world in advancing the welfare of the whole human race. Today, Jamaica one of the most recognisable brands through its culture and peoples' creativity.

The Pledge has influenced my philosophy. It is the spirit of who I am, being of African Caribbean decent, sensibilities woven into European cultures to create my personal global image, brand that is evolving constantly

I arrived in England on 14 February 1972. Among my most treasured belongings was my school report which guaranteed me a place in a top stream class at Aylestone High School in north west London Although, I achieve a good academic education, I was acutely aware that this was not enough, the world beyond Aylestone was different, I created my own five year manifestol I operate in an international arena School in north west London

A personal reflection of the first fifteen years of my career is documented in Journeys & Discoveries – Lives in dance 2000

This was update in my article The Dance of Leadership' published in 'Black Women in Dance: Stepping of the Barriers 2016'. A personal perspective, based on a thirty-year journey, captured through different roles in dance, cultural sector and wider society.

I am currently a Senior Lecturer in the Design School at London College of Communication (LCC) and a researcher on the Creative Lenses Project. Lalso teach on the MA Arts and Cultural Enterprise at Central Saint Martins and EMBA (Fashion) at London College of Fashion (LCF).

I am the founder director of Freshwaters Consultancy which offers fresh thinking, new ideas, perspectives and approaches to helping individuals and organisations create sustainable futures. I design, develop and deliver programmes in leadership. entrepreneurship, profes practice and strategic development.

freshwatersconsultancy.co.uk

## **Disruptive Leadership: Creating Sustainable Global** Futures 2018-2021.

This display is the first stage of my practice-led research project. It is a collection of artefacts, books and articles marking significant tipping points in my career and leadership practice that illuminates why we need a 'decolonising of the curriculum'. The exhibition is in line with one of the LCC Design School' manifesto pledges: 'We believe in the value of interrogating the past to shape our futures'.

It demonstrates how I have exercised personal and position power as a student and throughout my career to help achieve greater social, economic equality and prosperity in society. I have also shared some of the people and books that have influenced me.

I hope these stories inspire collective thinking, emotional responsibility and actions to create different futures. There is no quick fix, culture change requires mindset shift and a deeper understanding of individual personal power to effect change.

Decolonising the curriculum is a journey, not a destination that requires transformative educational leadership strong in emotional capital. In the words of the late South African President Nelson Mandela, 'Education is the most powerful weapon to change the world' I am a visiting professor at Madiba Leadership Institute, ISM Group Senegal.

As we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Windrush, let us envisage and create the future for the next 70 years and beyond!

For my mother, Pearl Salmon, my late father Patrick Salmon, and the Windrush generations. The future, Charlie Battaglia, my nephew.

Maureen Salmon 15 October 2018.

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