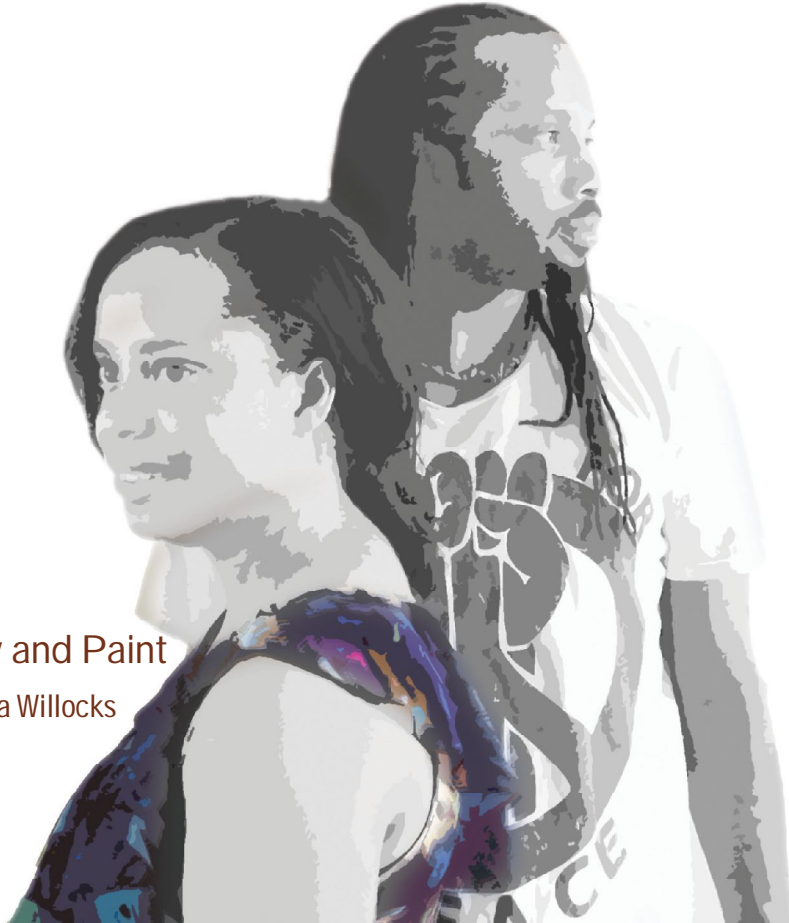


A Fusion of Poetry and Paint
by Brian Brown and Lattecha Willocks



DANDY LION

DANDY LION

A Fusion of Poetry and Paint

Poetry by Brian Brown
Paintings by Lattecha Willocks

FRONTWORD

Lion's tooth,
Kid glove and cane
All coexist, beneath a Lion's
Mane

Adaptable survivor
Profuse in its splendor
Similes, brevity
Dandelion's remedy

Complexity and gravity,
Schizo-free-nic tendencies
Dandy Lion mic in hand
Dandelion from brush and
wand

Flower pow'r, watered and
brushed
Works of heart carefully rushed

Mane attraction, blood and sand
Instinctive heroes, hand in hand
Expression unfettered
Emotions unclothed

Accidental conspirators
if truth be told
Fearless lens, water and oil
Artistic blends from years of toil

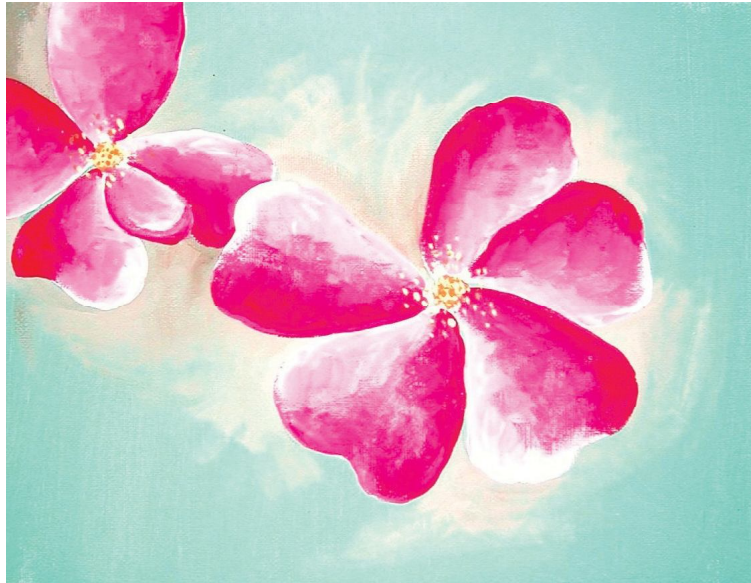
Cultured roots, inspired humility
Grounded stars, reserved tranquility

Dandelion roots, infused with trust
Colourful mutiny, from stones and
dust.

Lattecha Willocks and Brian Brown
February 24, 2012

DANDY LION

L.W.



HIBISCUS MORN
Acrylics on Canvas

DANDY LION

To understand a Jamaican, you don't have to live in Jamaica, but by the same token watching a stereotypical BBC Special or a CNN anti-Jamaica Report won't do it either.

To understand how a Jamaican thinks & why we are the way we are, you have to talk to a Jamaican, live with them, see & feel their reality. Then and only then will you realize that it's our collective experience & colourful history and culture that makes us so special.

Look pon wi beautiful landscape, beaches, fruit trees and these lovely smiling dark-skinned people.

Max out yu credit caad, save fi 3 years to come lock up yusef inna all-inclusive hotel...that includes everything except the Jamaican experience. Come meet some of the most trusting, genuine people on earth. Ya man, jus come to Jamaica and feel awlright...

A few days in paradise it jus' nice, nuh true? Fi real! Just don't go downtown Kingston, Gully, Rema, Jungle, Waterhouse, Flankers, Rose Heights, Granville, Glendevon...

Anyway. Cut the B.S. - di commercial

done! Wha really a gwaan?

Well, reach ya chu slavery, black & white involve. British colony 'til '62, Independent mi r--s! 95% black population, 95% white owned. Dictionary definition- Independent: not reliant on authority or control of another entity. Self-governing.

Den what yu call the IMF, World Banc, NAFTA - control? Then I guess CIA means Cordially Inviting All...

White men love our dark chocolate beautiful Nubian princesses. Di wickest slam awaits. Stellas line-up to reclaim their groove with a strong big-hood Jamaican man. Rent-A-Dread nuh? Only \$59.99 a day!

Let's talk about stereotypes.

Jamaican posses, gunmen holding a country under siege. People selling and smokin' weed in the streets. "How do the natives live?" some ask. Native! You outta order. How does the Native American Indian live in America? Africans in Africa? After all, we are originally from Africa. Oh yeah - "I just came out of my hut to walk 10 miles to the only source

B.B.

JAMAICA - NO PROBLEM MON
September 2004

DANDY LION

of clean water in my village and to collect some bush to clothe my 14 illiterate children by 13 different women." Satisfied? Does that answer your question?

FYI. We have more satellites (oops, should I have said that?) & churches per capita than anywhere in the world. Question is, is that something to brag about? Many have bigger houses and dearer cars than you'll ever own. We even get some brand new cars before you! Oh drug money you say, ok. And all your operations are done only with approved money from congress, or is that Columbia? I forget which.

Poor illiterate beggars, still no problem
Underpaid, under-rated, overly vilified, no problem mon
Loved for our unique vibe, culture, lingua and music. I bet that's no problem, to you.
Politicians sell out our birthright. That happens everywhere right?
Everybody's problem.
Musicians, religious sects teach, tell us to turn the other cheek, get yours in the afterlife.
I never liked pie.

Do you want to know?

Youth given too few options but to follow the way of the gun. No formal lessons, but a masters in street education. Go to school, get a degree & be proclaimed intelligent. You're now officially smart! Brainwashed to believe that somehow

your parents' money spent to make you learn something makes you a better person, than the next person, who isn't enlightened.
Welcome to the Intellectual Ghetto.

Play the game or be a spectator.
No Problem Mon.

Why are more 20 year olds increasingly committing suicide? Why is a 12 year-old comfortably committing homicide. "Mi mek 9 duppy arreddy bwoy, yu ah gaze!"

Still no problem.

Chickens come home to roost all over the world, here too. Do I make more enemies that I already have when I mention El Hajj Malik Shabazz – Malcolm X, Marcus Mosiah Garvey, 9/11, Vietnam, Grenada, all of Africa; country by country by country. La Mumba, Kaunda, PW Botha, Hiroshima. Am I wrong because civilian casualty is a part of war? Did I create the situation? Don't worry, be happy.

Still no problem mon.

"When yu check it out lawd, no weh nuh betta dan yaad" Ah guess at di end ah di day, a music a keep wi. "One good thing about music, when it hits you feel no pain."
Ah wish it was enough Bob.

DANDY LION

DJ's & drug dons run tings now. Some nasty, some fool-fool, some teach, educate, entertain. Mirror what's going on in the garrison, di country. Ah guess a music a keep wi from revolting. Gi di worl an' original music form; genesis of rap, rock & roll and so on.

No Problem Mon.

One in every 500 yout maybe 100 either think bout or swallow drugs fi mek a money. Go school fi how long, caan get a job or work fi 10 years and have what to show. Tek 2 flight an' buy a house an' car jus like dat. Hmm. Decisions like these tuff man, tuff.

I could go on and on, but that would be a problem. Respec due to the original rock. Di most precious gem is not in the underpaid mines of South Africa, it's in the Caribbean. And, love wi or hate wi, we will still win the Scripps Spelling Bee, unless yu ban us from entering without a reason. But, no, that wouldn't happen, would it?

We will be as violent as we need to be to survive, like you or anybody else.

We will still produce some of the brightest minds, greatest talents to give centuries anthems.

Still be the smallest most influential country in this time, most popular tourist destination, well, maybe not as much after this, but...we'll still give a real smile when you are greeted or none at all.

Still the place that stands out when you visit, and yes, still the best marijuana on the planet.

No more messed up or greater than any other nation. Yes mi breddrin, we tek it a little slower inna Jam-Dung. But we will always live and die fi each other, love each other like no other and express exactly what we feel. You keep coming back, so we must be doing something right.

Some problems, but it still alright.

One Love!

It began with a collision.
Not an accident, it was foretold in the writings...

After cosmic events, sometimes there are rumblings,
Minor explosions, smoldering
Appetites go on vacation
Thermal energies are released,
Can't breathe, rarified air
Longing, appeased

Big Bangs create masterpieces, he said
Lives are birthed, as are art and other great works
Collisions can start infections, of mind and body
This collision!

When two objects collide, can one go on unaffected?
The spirited, quirky, uber-nerdy genius
The revolutionary lion - hearted - dandy
Two divergent paths, become one?
A new language is born
A Black Whole

We inspire, create...
Nothing['s] safe
Life doing what it's meant to do
Hurt, live, leave, happy, love
He felt, unrehearsed
She said, research

Impossible, it was a dream!

Can collaborators collide,
and still hide inside?

The Butterfly, Effect-ive
Naturally selective
Childlike reflex
Adulthood perceptive
Never coincidental

Leap of faith
Fateful nights
Bed of roses
Playful fights
War of the Words
Master piece of minds
Mirrored images
The perfect crime

Freaks of nature
Locked in days
Naked spirits
Wayward ways
Boyhood fantasies
Girlish coy
Man & woman
Girl & boy.

Brian Brown and Lattecha Willocks

March 13, 2012

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Brian Brown is the catalyst of this synergy and sees this as a creative purge, a transition to other means of artistic expression. He is an entertainer by craft, writer by design and poet by chance.



Lattecha Willocks is the spirited, quirky, über-nerdy genius, who came onboard after an auspicious collision of ideas and ideals. Her childlike enthusiasm for words and pretty pictures infuses this production with symmetrical passion.