



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

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February 15, 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts Re-Launches Sparrow Exhibition at Piarco International Airport

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts is delighted to announce the re-launch of the ‘Treasures from the Hideaway: Mighty Sparrow Memorabilia’ Exhibition in the Departure Lounge of Piarco International Airport, Port of Spain. The Exhibition that was officially launched on February 14, 2023, pays tribute to the life and career of the world’s undisputed Calypso Monarch, Dr. Slinger Francisco, also known as The Mighty Sparrow. Through an array of photographs, memorabilia, documents and recordings patrons will be taken on a journey of Sparrow’s indelible contributions to local, regional and international music scenes. Throughout his career, The Mighty Sparrow has captivated crowds with his mix of humour and socio-political-themed Calypsos, Soca and much more.

Treasures from the Hideaway is a collaboration between the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, The Mighty Sparrow and his family, and is being facilitated by the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (AATT). The project advances the Ministry’s thrust to boost cultural confidence in the people of Trinidad and Tobago, to honour our cultural icons, and to promote Trinidad and Tobago’s culture to local and international audiences.

In her remarks, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, Ms. Simone Thorne-Mora Quinones emphasised the importance of the Performing Arts, Cultural and Creative Sectors in promoting tourism goals. “The Ministry’s Culture Division is excited to engage our diasporic, regional and international audiences, inviting them to celebrate alongside us and to learn more about the stories, spaces, people and achievements of our sweet T&T,” she said. She added, “The Ministry is grateful for The Mighty Sparrow’s contribution towards enhancing performance and promoting culture in Trinidad and Tobago and across the globe.”

Ms. Karen Francisco, daughter of Dr. Slinger Francisco, was also in attendance and thanked the Ministry for showcasing her father’s work and legacy. She spoke of her father’s courageous and successful journey, having emigrated from Grenada to Trinidad and Tobago at a young age and making a name for himself locally and abroad. “Anyone can do the same,” she said. She expressed her desire for the exhibition to be inspiring to all who view it.

The ‘Treasures from the Hideaway’ collection is currently under license by the Ministry until February 2025. This exhibition is one of three cultural exhibitions currently on display across Trinidad, each emphasising a different aspect of Trinidad and Tobago’s culture and heritage. The Ministry is inviting the public to visit the ‘Carnival in Trinidad and Tobago’ Exhibition at Trincity Mall, which showcases the evolution of the Steelpan, Carnival Kings and Queens Soca Monarch Competitions and more; as well as the ‘Amazing Facts about Trinidad and Tobago’ Exhibition in Gulf City Mall, San Fernando, which highlights the intangible traditions and tangible elements of Trinidad and Tobago’s cultural heritage.



From left to right: Corporate Communications Manager of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Zola Joseph; Cultural Officer III of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, Mr. Damian Richardson; Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, Ms. Simone Thorne-Mora-Quinones; and Daughter of Dr. Slinger Francisco, Ms. Karen Francisco performing the ceremonial ribbon-cutting together to mark the official re-opening of the exhibition.

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