

Do You Know?

There are 3 Main Art Categories.

1. Visual Arts

Sculpture

Painting & Drawing

Graphics

Film & Video

Installation

2. Performing Arts

Dance

Music

Theatre

3. Literature

Poetry

Drama

Novels and Short Stories



FRESH INSPIRATION FROM YOUNG ARTIST



It is our great pleasure to introduce you to Ms. Mia Ma-low, a nine-year-old artist known to many through her Facebook and Instagram pages entitled, simply, 'Mia's Drawing'.

Mia's mum Mrs. Nyla Malow explains that her daughter's love and passion for art began as a form of therapy to help her to better express and control her emotions. Since being diagnosed with autism at the age of 3, Mia had encountered development delays, one of which – a particular challenge - was her speech. Then the magic of ART entered her life.

"Art came in as a way for her to communicate and express herself, a therapy as we call it" - Nyla says.

Nyla continues by saying that she believes kids on the spectrum are gifted people and that with the right help and encouragement they will discover their special gift as this is what will help them open up and achieve many things.

Autism is sometimes poorly understood; yes, it affects every child differently and the first few years of a child's life are the most difficult stages a parent will go through, but giving up is not an option. Rather taking on the task and helping your child is the right way forward. Kids with autism teach us to appreciate the little things in life things which we take for granted every day. A person never outgrows autism, it stays with them for life, but they do learn to adapt and cope better with the world around them. As for Mia, she may appear to be just like any other little girl growing up, but she has her difficult days when she strives to overcome her problems and just grow!

Mia's mother continues: "Then came the day when we decided to share her art to inspire and raise awareness on her condition and make sure that her talent kept growing. Mia's ability is an excellent example of the unexpected gift autism can also grant. At first she would only share her drawings and paintings with close family and friends, but then people started asking if they could buy her work. She instantly became more inspired to want to draw and paint more, knowing she had a crowd waiting out there for her artwork. Mia also enjoys reading the comments from her fans and seeing how many people follow her every post.



"Last year we were approached by an artist who wanted her to participate in a small exhibition which featured mostly Seychelloise ladies. She was the youngest amongst them. It was her first exhibition and she was so excited, she had a whole selection of artworks that was displayed and she sold quite a bit too. It was amazing to see how she interacted with her fans and communicated with them so well."

Last year, she also participated in the Zenn Artis Lemonn Kreolofonn competition organized by the National Arts Council of Seychelles (NAC).

"The transition from a little girl, who at three years of age hated crowds to today's Mia, now having her own exhibition. You can imagine the joy for us as parents to see how far she has come and what she has accomplished with love, patience and understanding.

Her art is now featured almost daily on her pages and also at **Le RENDEZVOUS CAFÉ** in town."

In future Mia wants to save up her money and have her own gallery. Her dream is to become not just an artist but an archaeologist as well. "We shall wait and see", her mum Nyla says. "We will be there to support and encourage her in whatever she decides to do. We take it day by day and we are positive that she will achieve great things in life."

TRIPLE THREAT: DAD, SINGER SONGWRITER & ENTREPRENEUR

My name is Rico Padayachy, I am a 27 year old musical artist and I go by the stage name ASLAN. I am currently engaged to my loving fiancé Marquise Charlette and we have a two-year-old daughter together. Apart from being a singer and songwriter, I am also an entrepreneur and the face behind Marketing Guru.

What inspires you to sing?

My daughter is my inspiration. Growing up, music was not in abundance in the household as it wasn't something which was considered of great relevance and importance. The focus was always on school and work, choosing any art as a form of work was not really an option.

As such, for my daughter I want her to be able to see the joy music brings into our lives and I want her to be able to express her creative side and live a colourful life. Whether she chooses to follow in my artistic footsteps and takes this direction or not, at least she'll know it's an option.

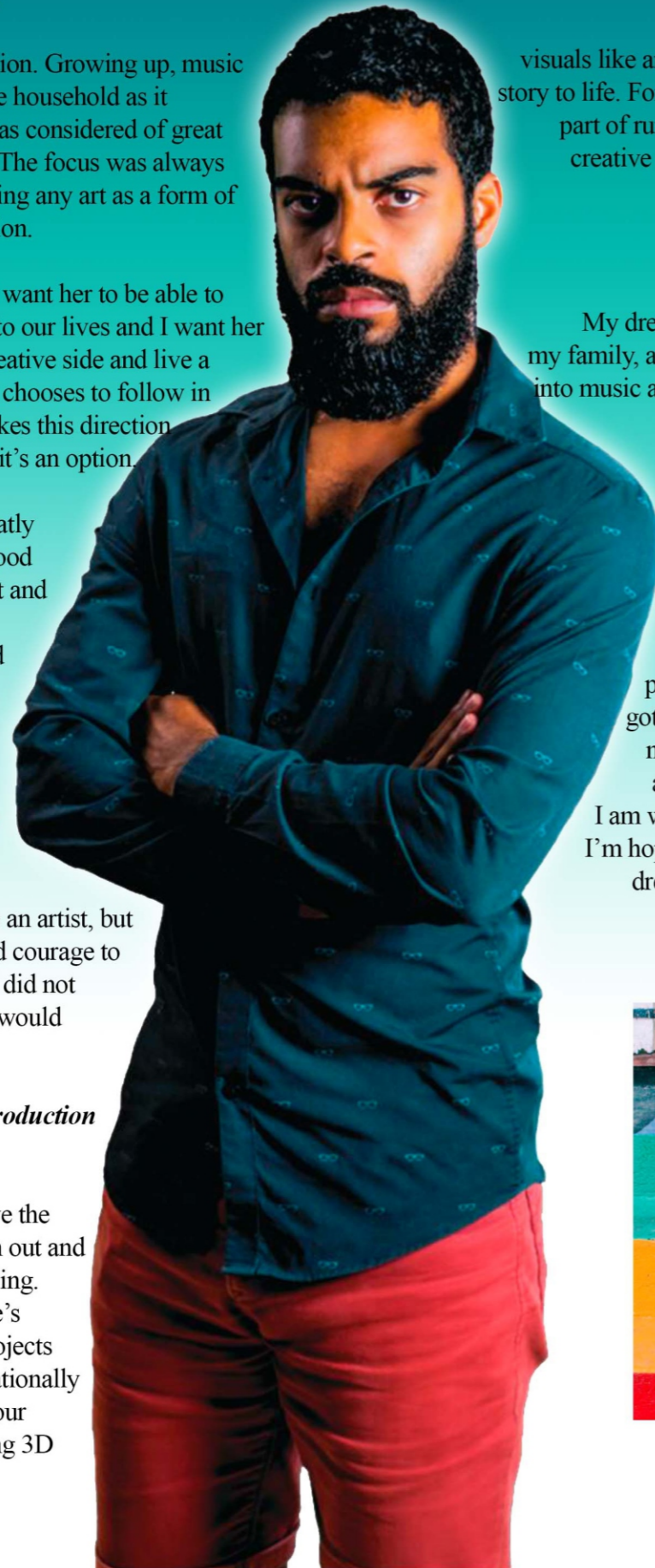
Someone who has also greatly inspired my music is my good friend, fellow musical artist and producer Xtra Big. He has helped me a lot vocally and creatively to surpass my previous efforts and make inspiring music.

Did you always want to be an artist?

I have always wanted to be an artist, but I never had the strength and courage to follow it through because I did not believe it was something I would succeed in.

You have your own film production house, tell us about that.

At Marketing Guru we have the chance to creatively branch out and make something from nothing. We are able to bring people's wild ideas to life, create projects that have even been internationally acknowledged, especially our films/series. I just love using 3D



visuals like animations and virtual effects to bring a story to life. For me, the real reward and my favourite part of running my own production house is the creative output which is widely appreciated by the public.

Your dream or aspiration

My dream is to successfully build a house for my family, and I would love to see my little girl go into music and maybe onday re-sing all my songs, I know she'll do them even better too.

I would also love to see our films and other projects go international and help lift the media industry in Seychelles. There is such an abundance of talent in Seychelles various great actors, producers cameramen who just haven't gotten the same support and opportunities necessary to take them to the next level as their counterparts abroad. Moreover, I am working on my first ever album which I'm hoping to release this year, 2021, and my dream for that is that it is appreciated and loved by people.



LIFE AS A STUDIO PRODUCER

Ruben Larue is a musician, producer and the owner of the ROOBI Sound located at the Creative Industry and National Events Agency (CINEA).

We asked Ruben what is next for him and whether he is working on anything new/?

The idea of opening his own studio came when he was materializing his 2nd album. "I wanted to know how to produce my own music according to my style and what I wanted to hear", he said.

After doing this for a while for my own pleasure, I thought - why not turn it into a business? I must admit that it was not easy at first, with the whole pandemic situation. Many artists were not producing. I also had to prioritise myself. When launching a new business one has to make some sacrifices and for me it was to stop performing in the hotel industry to be able to give more time to the studio work.

I remember recording at home in the living room and I have to say that this is why I am proud of myself when looking back to where it all began."

Ruben told the NAC that he has worked with quite a number of artists, including Mr. Jean Marc Volcy, composer of the song "Atrap Lafimen" and performed by Lauren, Mr. Joseph Sinon. Elijah and many others.



"I am actually working on compositions for a new album, which will comprise of 14 songs. The album is entitled 'Konplet' because it has every genre of music composed and performed in my own unique way.

Ruben concluded by saying that the album will hopefully be released by the end of this year. It has taken him 3 years to launch this new product, however he assures his fans to prepare themselves to have their minds blown! "It's going to be a good one!" is his promise.

He concluded our conversation by telling us that at this time it is not easy for artists to produce new material. "Yet, we do it from the heart, and we would really appreciate it if the public could valorise the efforts being made by purchasing original products.