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**SEPT 2018**  
**SPECIAL EDITION**

# Cultural XPRESSION

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

**SIGMA**

**DUTCH PARLIAMENT**  
SUPPORTIVE OF WYATTE'S PROJECT

**CLIMATE CHANGE**  
The impact it will have on the NRRP

By ECO St Maarten

WorldCharts  
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# MAJOR FIGURES IN AFRO CARIBBEAN HISTORY

## Remembering Bert Williams Pt 2

By Wiki

**BERT WILLIAMS**  
(November 12, 1874  
– March 4, 1922)

A white Southern monologist objected to the integrated bill, but the show went ahead with Williams and Walker and without the objector.

In February 1906, Abyssinia, with a score co-written by Williams, premiered at the Majestic Theater. The show, which included live camels, was another smash. Aspects of the production continued the duo's cagey steps toward greater creative pride and freedom for black performers. The nation of Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) was the only African nation to remain sovereign during European colonization, repelling Italy's attempts at control in 1896. The show also included inklings of a love story, something that had never been tolerated in a black stage production before. Walker played a Kansas tourist while his wife, Aida, portrayed an Abyssinian princess. A scene between the two of them, while comic, presented Walker as a nervous suitor.

While the show was praised, many white critics were uncomfortable or uncertain about its cast's ambitions. One critic declared that audiences "do not care to see their own ways copied when they can have the real thing better done by white people," while the New York Evening Post thought the score "is at times too elaborate for them and a return to the plantation melodies would be a great im-



George Walker, Adah Overton Walker, and Bert Williams in *In Dahomey* (1903), the first Broadway musical to be written and performed by African Americans

provement upon the 'grand opera' type, for which they are not suited either by temperament or by education." The Chicago Tribune remarked, disappointingly, "there is hardly a trace of negroism in the play." George Walker was unbowed, telling the Toledo Bee, "It's all rot, this slapstick bandanna handkerchief bladder in the face act, with which negro acting is associated. It ought to die out and we are trying to kill it." Though the flashier Walker rarely had qualms about opposing the racial prejudice and limitations of the day, the more introspective and brooding Williams internalized his feelings.

Williams committed many of Abyssinia's songs to disc and cylinder. One of

them, "Nobody", became his signature theme, and the song he is best remembered for today. It is a doleful and ironic composition, replete with his dry observational wit, and is perfectly complemented by Williams' intimate, half-spoken singing style.

"When life seems full of clouds and rain, And I am filled with naught but pain, Who soothes my thumping, bumping brain?"

[pause] Nobody.

When winter comes with snow and sleet, And me with hunger and cold feet, Who says, "Here's two bits, go and eat"?

[pause] Nobody.

I ain't never done nothin' to Nobody.

I ain't never got nothin' from Nobody, no time.

And, until I get

somebody from somebody some-time, I don't intend to do nothin' for Nobody, no time."

Williams became so identified with the song that he was obliged to sing it in almost every appearance for the rest of his life. He considered its success both blessing and curse: "Before I got through with 'Nobody,' I could have wished that both the author of the words and the assembler of the tune had been strangled or drowned.... 'Nobody' was a particularly hard song to replace." "Nobody" remained active in Columbia's sales catalogue into the 1930s, and the musicologist Tim Brooks estimates that it sold between 100,000 and 150,000 copies, a phenomenally high amount for the era.

Williams' languorous, drawing delivery would become the primary selling point of several similarly structured Williams recordings, such as "Constantly" and "I'm Neutral." Williams even recorded two compositions entitled "Somebody" and "Everybody." His style was inimitable. In an era when the most popular songs were simultaneously promoted by several artists (for example, "Over There" was a top-10 hit for six different acts in 1917-18), Williams' repertoire was left comparatively untouched by competing singers. Describing his character's style and the appeal it had with audiences, he said: "When he talks to you it is as if he has a secret to confide that concerns just you two."

Williams and Walker were prominent success stories for the black community, and they received both extensive press coverage and frequent admonitions to properly "represent the race." Leading black newspapers mounted campaigns against demeaning stereotypes such as the word "coon." Williams & Walker were sympathetic, but also had their careers to consider, where they performed before many white audiences. The balancing act between their audience's expectations and their artistic impulses was tricky.

**MORE IN OCT  
2018 EDITON**

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# The COCI Supports Agriculture



## DUTCH PARLIAMENT SUPPORTIVE OF DENICIO WYATTE'S PROJECT



**THE HAGUE**--The Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament wants clarity from Dutch State Secretary of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Raymond Knops about the intentions to demolish the St. Maarten Agricultural Research and Development Center of Denicio Wyatte.

Parliament's Permanent Committee for Kingdom Relations, on the request of Member of the Second Chamber André Bosman of the liberal democratic VVD party, during a procedural meeting on Wednesday decided to request a letter from the state secretary, who was in St. Maarten on Monday and Tuesday.

According to Bosman, the objective is to bring attention to this matter and to put pressure on the St. Maarten government, in particular Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure VROMI, Miklos Giterson, to support Wyatte's initiative and to abandon the demolition plans which may proceed as soon as today, Thursday.

Bosman expressed his discontent about the government's intentions. "What bothers me deeply is that the St. Maarten government thwarts a positive initiative and destroys it, instead of supporting it," he wrote, in motivating his request for a letter from the state secretary.

Member of Parliament (MP) Ronald van Raak of the Socialist Party (SP) wholeheartedly backed Bosman's request. "We are not the St. Maarten Parliament, but this upsets me. I have noticed before that there

is little support from the St. Maarten government for good initiatives by citizens, and that these are even thwarted. It is important for St. Maarten to set the right priorities," said Van Raak.

Bosman and Van Raak visited the Agricultural Research and Development Center when they were in St. Maarten in January 2016 for the Inter-Parliamentary Consultation of the Kingdom IPKO. "Rene 'Koto' Wilson invited us to visit the districts, to see the schools, the infrastructure and he also brought us to Wyatte's project." Both MPs got a positive impression of Wyatte and his sincere efforts to develop agriculture in St. Peters.

Bosman said he had deep appreciation for Wyatte's undertakings. "He decided to prepare the rocky soil to grow organic vegetables and fruits. School classes are visiting the project and learning about growing healthy, local food. The community is involved, which is a good thing. A project like this should be cherished, not destroyed," he told The Daily Herald after Wednesday's meeting.

The fact that the three concrete structures of Agricultural Research and Development Center were built without a permit shouldn't be a reason to destroy this project. "There are enough other illegal structures on the island which remain untouched. Here you have someone who is working for the good of the people. And what does government do? Crush it. I think that is not a correct decision," said Bosman.

In his opinion, Minister Giterson should concentrate on

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

# VROMI HAS 'NO INTENTION' STOPPING SPACELESS GARDEN

**THE DAILY HERALD** - ST. PETERS- Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure VROMI Miklos Giterson denied "insinuations" that the ministry is seeking to stop the development of an agricultural and research centre planned by Spaceless Garden in St. Peters.

"This ministry has no intentions of stopping the Spaceless Gardens project or destroying the grounds," Giterson explained. "It has always been, and still is, our intention to work with Mr. Wyatte to find the best solution as long as it



Minister of VROMI and Mr Wyatte

is within the parameters of the law." "The point of contention centres around three concrete structures erected on the property without the proper per-

mits in place and the non-compliance in removing said structures after numerous stop-orders were given." Minister Giterson says.

The structures in question are located

on government property in St. Peters that was originally rented to President of St. Maarten Agricultural Research and Development Foundation Denicio Wyatte by former VROMI Min-

ister Maurice Lake in August 2014, for a three-year period.

At the end of that period, former VROMI Minister Christopher Emmanuel declined to renew the rental contract of Wyatte citing complaints received about the land use and outstanding rental payments.

During that time, requests from Wyatte to acquire long-lease rights to the property were also denied due to the location of the parcel being designated for residential use according to the draft development plan Cul-de-Sac, Minister Giterson explained.

After the passing

of Hurricane Irma in September 2017, which destroyed the wooden structure previously built on the property, Wyatte, still operating despite the expired rental agreement, began to build a concrete structure to replace the wooden one.

In October 2017, the Inspection Department of the Ministry of VROMI learned of the concrete building structure being erected without the relevant building permit being granted as stated in Article 7 of the Building Ordinance.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

# SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPMENT AND AGROECOLOGY: USM KICKS-OFF OF ITS SEMINAR SERIES

**POND ISLAND,** Philipsburg, St. Maarten-On the evening of Thursday, 21 September 2018, over 60 people attended the public semi-

nar on Small Island Sustainable Development and Agroecology at the University of St. Martin. Invited speakers included Tadzio Berenvoet of



Mr Wyatte (left) Mr Tadzio Berenvoet (center) and Mr Arjen Alberts - Photo sxmislandtime

the Nature Foundation, University of Amsterdam Ph.D. researcher Arjen Alberts and Denicio Wyatte of the St. Maarten Agriculture Research and De-

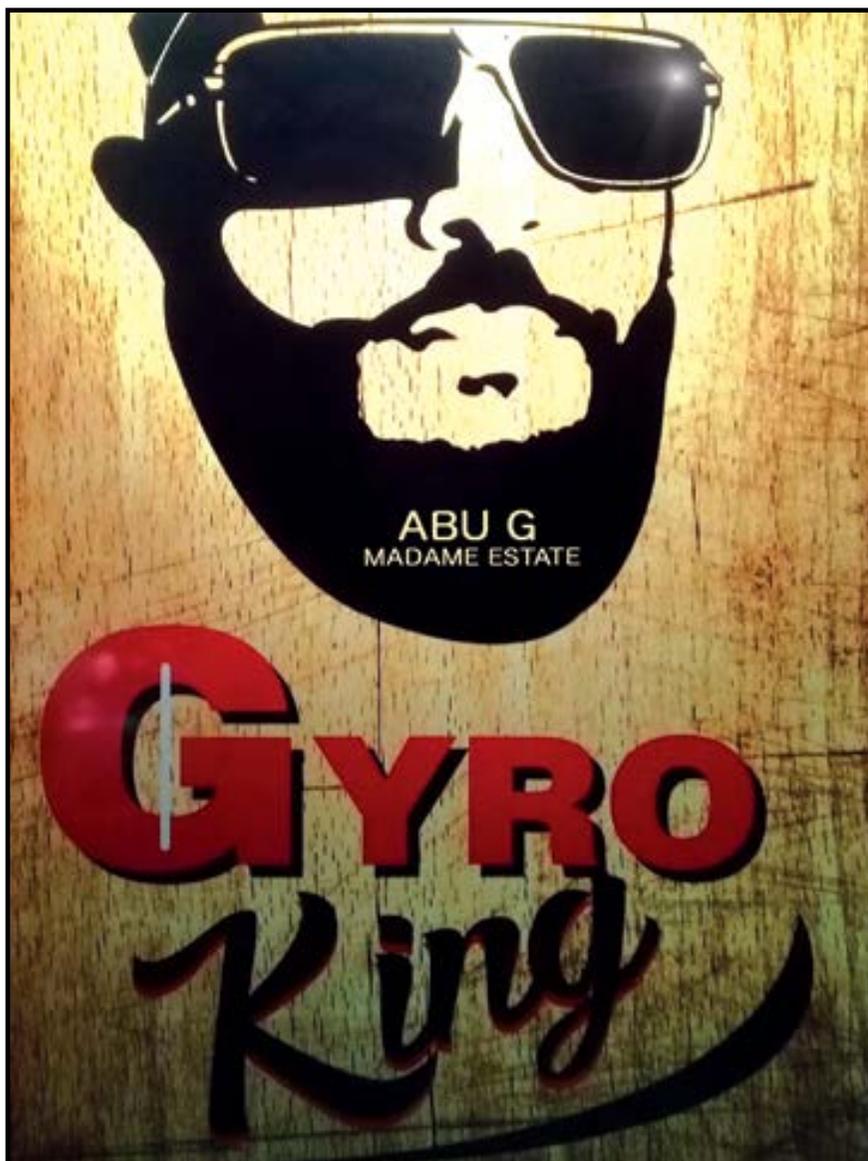
velopment Foundation.

The event kicked-off the 2018-2019 USM Seminar Series, which is meant to house and promote knowledge, science, research and ideas of innovation flourishing on St. Maarten and in our region for the purpose of building a university that caters to the social needs and collective hopes of the country within the framework of the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda.

Selected for her involvement in community debates and dialogues, Ms. Melissa Gumbs hosted the evening by welcoming guests, introducing speakers and leading a structured Q&A session following presentations on Nature Conservation, Small Island Tourism Economy and Agroecology. While USM President Dr. Antonio Carmona offered brief words of welcome, Drs. Loekie Morales gave a motivational introduction to the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"One thing that remains clear is that, based on the information we received this evening, St. Maarten needs to start looking beyond tourism. And even when thinking about tourism, we need to come to terms with how tourism has changed," said Dr. Carmona during

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**



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# CELEBRATING EMANCIPATION PT4

## SLAVERY AND THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IN ST. MARTIN

Photo by Members of the 100 Voices Choir

By Patina Magazine

Not only was St. Martin too small to make this pairing viable, but the long-established agreements of free transit between the two sides of the island as well as the common ownership to its most important resources, the salt pans, meant that the relationship between French former slaves and Dutch not-yet-freed slaves was perfectly fluid.

The practical ramifications of this were predictable: slaves on the Dutch side demanded conditions that were comparable to those of employed workers on the other side of the island. In other words, the system of forced labor had expired in St. Mar-



tin, or at least it was doomed to live out its last days.

This has led to the generalized claim that, to all extent and purposes, slavery was abolished in St. Martin in 1848. While an argument can be made that this indeed was the case in terms of the mercantile relationship

between slave-owner and slave, master and vassal, the fact remains that individuals catalogued as slaves in the Dutch side of St. Martin through the 1850s essentially had no rights, no claims, no legitimate existence under the law outside of what was granted to them with the consent of their

master. Evidently, this aspect of slavery is far removed from the lacerating image of blood-drawing whips and shackles normally associated to the system, but an aspect that must still be regarded as immense-ly significant, insofar as it concerns human dignity.

Both the fact that

slaves in St. Martin were practically free and that the institution of slavery was still current on the island by the time the Dutch finally resolved to terminate it in 1863 were tacitly acknowledged by the government when it paid slave-owners on Dutch St. Martin for 1,878 slaves at the rate of 100 guilders per slave. Though a substantial improvement on the first offer of 30 guilders per slave, the resources allocated to St. Martin by the Dutch bursary were almost nominal compared to the 200 guilders it paid for each of the roughly 6,000 slaves in Curaçao and the 300 guilders per slave it put aside for the close to 35,000 slaves freed in

Surinam.

And yet, nominal or not, the gesture was laden with great symbolic meaning. Obviously it was a means of protecting private property, and as such it clearly played into the interests of the planters. But at the same time it also constituted recognition—deliberate or not—for a group of people that for too long had remained oppressed. Belated, partial, insufficient as this recognition might have been, it signaled the successful end of a mighty struggle of close to seventy years and marked the beginning of a new chapter in the history of this island—a chapter, by the by, that is still in the making.

### VROMI HAS 'NO INTENTION' STOPPING SPACELESS...FROM PAGE 4

"At that time a stop order was issued to halt all further building activities and to remove the structure and materials from the premises. Despite the stop order Mr. Wyatte continued to build," Giterson said.

In early April, Wyatte met with Minister Giterson to request a renewal of the rental agreement. In that meeting Giterson said he offered Wyatte an alternative location from which to operate his project to which Wyatt refused.

As a follow-up to the meeting, in a letter dated April 23, the minister reportedly informed Wyatte of his findings that the area in question was being claimed by residents in the near

vicinity of the parcel who claimed that their family obtained the land by prescriptive rights.

This prompted the minister to temporarily deny Wyatte's appeal until the matter could be fully reviewed. Wyatte then filed a complaint with the Ombudsman against the minister's decision. An investigation by the office of the Ombudsman concluded that there was no evidence of impropriety by the minister in the handling of the case, Giterson stated.

In July, Wyatte reportedly was "once again" informed that his non-compliance in the removing of what was now three concrete structures was a violation of the law.

In reaction, Wyatte again challenged the ministry's decision and asked the Court to intervene on his behalf. On July 24 the case was presented and on August 17 the verdict was given in which it was stated that VROMI was within its legal right to have the structures removed.

After the ruling, Wyatte requested and was granted another meeting with Minister Giterson which took place on Wednesday, September 5. At that meeting, new information and documents were presented by Wyatte on the proposed uses of the structures and how they fit into his ongoing agricultural research and development. Minister

Giterson granted Wyatte a few extra days, until Friday, September 7, to present additional documents, VROMI said.

Wyatte feared his project would be demolished Thursday, September 6, on the first anniversary of hurricane Irma.

After a recent visit to Spaceless Garden, Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunications (TEATT) Stuart Johnson said that while he does not have responsibility for the VROMI Ministry, which deals with land, he would reach out to his colleague minister to see what, if anything, can be done to save the garden.

Minister of Educa-

tion, Culture, Youth Affairs and Sport Wycliffe Smith also visited the garden and said afterwards that there must be

some way to work this matter out positively.

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# ECO SXM AGRICULTURAL CENTER ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Students of the Charlotte Brookson Academy along with Ms Henry of UNESCO visit ECO SXM to conduct a video interview for school project.

## PRIME MINISTER

of Barbados Hon. Mia Amor Mottley, delivered her maiden speech at the United Nations General Assembly on September 28, 2018. This speech brought a level of inspiration to us at ECO SARDF.

Our next press release was to focus on community development and the NRRP, but find climate change is of much priority and there for we choose to touch on it in this edition.

The speech was directed around climate change, an issue today that many seem to overlook while debating on other issues that truly have no valuable relevance to the current times and situations that we the citizens of the world face.

Earth is crying out as its inhabitants

continue to focus on only personal wealth or what they may be able to gain for the times of those that are in the power of dictatorship.

The way we treat the earth seems to reflect the way we treat ourselves. What we forget is that the earth itself is significantly compounded of the same quantity of minerals that construct and safeguard the development of man and life itself.

The biology and agro-ecology that founded the pillars of life and that contributes to the sustainability of mankind are basically one in the same.

This same way our body is able to heal our broken bones, is the same way the earth tends to repair itself after being damaged or deprived

of its very same minerals that needs to maintain functionality. It's safe to say, that just as the same as we take vitamins and minerals to keep our body at its best performance, is the same way that that the earth needs these valuable resources to keep its "immune system" at optimum functionality..

The earths immune system is infected by humans

We gathered the information below as a reference from Wikipedia on the term "Gaia" which is a term used to describes a Concept of the Earths immune system.

The Earth immune system is a controversial proposal, claimed to be a consequence of the Gaia hypothesis. The Gaia hypothesis

holds that the entire earth may be considered a single organism (Gaia). As a self-maintaining organism, Earth would have an immune system of some sort in order to maintain its health.

Some proponents of this speculative concept, for example, hold that humankind can be considered an "infection" of Gaia, and that AIDS is an attempt by this immune system to reject the infection. "Cancer" might be a more accurate term, as humans evolved within Gaia, and are not external invaders. An opposite view is that humankind is Gaia's immune system itself, perhaps

evolved to avert future catastrophes such as the Permian and Cretaceous mass extinctions of species.

James Lovelock's book "The Revenge of Gaia" suggests that Gaia has many mechanisms for eliminating civilizations that do harm through greenhouse gas emissions and global warming, but suggests that with increasing heat being received from the sun, Gaia's ability to "bounce back" as it did after the Permian and Cretaceous extinction events, may be increasingly compromised.

Paul Hawken suggests in Blessed Un-

rest that when Earth is considered a living system then Earth's immune system is made up of the million or so organizations all around the globe that are working for social justice, the environment, and indigenous people's rights. Many of these groups are linked through the Internet and other means so there is a vast network of interconnected people and groups working to protect the planet, its people, and all beings. - By Wiki

Understanding the biology behind the whole theory leads us to only understand that if we

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

## SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPMENT ...FROM PAGE 4

the seminar's hors d'oeuvres reception which was sponsored by UNESCO St. Maarten.

Denicio Wyatte recalled that throughout the last couple of years, his Research and Development Centre has hosted young guests from the United States and Europe, mostly students and visitors interested in community development and agriculture. "No longer do they necessarily want to stay in big hotels and beaches, they want to come to where the people are living and working, they want to see the commu-

nities", he said.

Mr. Arjen Alberts clearly made an argument for rethinking development on St. Maarten. During his talk, he made reference to the place of migration and immigrant communities in the reality of small island tourism economies stating, "we can't understand our society without knowing that small island tourism is what draws the immigrants." Meanwhile, the renowned activist, researcher and nature conservationist Tadzio Bervoets made reference to the need for stronger and enforced laws, an

environmental tax and a national plan for waste management. All three speakers agreed that USM has a role to play in St. Maarten's post-Irma recovery and future socio-economic development.

Among the public figures present at Thursday's seminar were MP Silveria Jacobs, Minister of Public Health, Social Development Labor Emil Lee and Mr. Jason Fan of the Beijing International Exchange Association's Committee of Sustainable Development. In October, USM is scheduled to hold a seminar on Health and the Natural Sciences. The USM Seminar Series is co-sponsored by the Think & Do Tank of St. Maarten.

## DUTCH PARLIAMENT SUPPORTIVE OF WYATTE'S PROJECT ...FROM PAGE 3

other, much more urgent issues, such as tackling the toxic and burning dump, creating a sustainable waste management system, having the roofs of people repaired and fixing the infrastructure.

"Demolishing the Agricultural Research and Development Center was totally wrongly set as a priority. It

costs negative energy in a time when the energy should be focused on positive things," said Bosman. The St. Maarten Agricultural Research and Development Center is scheduled to be demolished on or any time after Thursday, September 6, on Hurricane Irma's anniversary. According to Wyatte, St. Maarten has al-

ready taken a great loss from a natural disaster and if this "man-made disaster" of demolishing his project should occur, the country would have taken "a great, significant loss" towards building back a better, stronger, more resilient island.

**The Daily Herald Sept 5, 2018**

## VROMI HAS 'NO INTENTION' ...FROM PAGE 4

"I will try my best to see how I may be able to approach and have a positive conversation with my colleague Minister Giterson to express the importance of your project with

hopes that it can be positively resolved," Minister Smith told Wyatte.

Wyatte said last week he would be trying to establish communication with Minister Giterson to

sit and discuss possibilities on moving forward with the project.

**Published by The Daily Herald Sept 9, 2018**



# THE FARMERS SEE: HEALTH BENEFITS OF LULO FRUIT PT 1

By [goodhealthhall.com](http://goodhealthhall.com)

## HEALTH BENEFITS of Lulo ( Naranjilla) Fruit

Lulo is a citrus fruit which grows on the tree of the same name and is sometimes described as a combination of both lime and rhubarb. It is also known as naranjilla, and in terms of botany, it is called as Solanum quitoense. It is a subtropical perennial plant from South Western America and is also cultivated in regions of Ecuador, Panama, and Colombia. Lulo is a good source of many nutrients like vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, dietary fibers, phytonutrients, and polyphenols etc. and presence of these compounds make them very beneficial for our health, and in this article, we will know about the major health benefits of lulo fruit

### (1) Make Our Immune System Stronger

Our Immune system plays an important role in keeping us healthy and for protecting us against various diseases causing microbes like bacteria, virus, fungi etc. It is the defense mechanism of our body that prevents diseases causing microbes like bacteria, virus, fungi etc. from invading our system, and thus reduces the risk of various diseases and infections. And, even if they manage to enter our system, it is the immune system that fights against them and makes us healthy again.



Eating lulo fruit on a regular and moderate basis has been found to be very beneficial for making our immune system stronger.

This immune strengthening benefit of lulo is mainly due to the presence of antioxidants such as vitamin C, vitamin A and other antioxidant compounds like phytonutrients, polyphenols, flavonoids etc. in them. These antioxidants fight with the free radicals in our body stabilizes them and prevents them from causing oxidative damage to our cells, including the white blood cells that form the backbone of the immune system. This strengthens our immune system and when our immune system is stronger, we are less likely to be infected with a cough, cold, flu and fever etc.

In addition to this, lulo fruit is also a good source of many nutrients such as vitamins and minerals that aids in keeping us healthy and this also helps in making our immune system stronger.

### (2) Good For Digestive Health

Consuming naranjilla on a regular and moderate basis has been found to be very beneficial for our stomach and aids in keeping our digestive system healthy.

This benefit of lulo fruit is mainly due to the presence of dietary fibers like pepsin in it. The dietary fibers present in the lulo fruit acts as a natural laxative which means it improves bowel movement and ensures smooth elimination of stool from our system. This not only provides relief from constipation but also provides relief from other gastrointestinal problems like abdominal pain, bloating, gas, irritable bowel syndrome, flatulence and gastric ulcer etc.

In addition to this, they are also a good source of antioxidants like vitamin C, vitamin A and other antioxidant compounds that protect our digestive system from the oxidative damage caused by the free radicals, reduces the risk of colon cancer, intestinal cancer, stomach cancer etc. and thus

helps in maintaining digestive health.

### (3) Good For Eyes

Our eyes are our window to the world, and they allow us to enjoy the beauty of

this world. It is very important for us to take good care of our eyes, and lulo fruit can help in doing the same.

It has been found that eating lulo fruit on a regular and moderate basis is very beneficial for keeping our eyes healthy.

This benefit of lulo fruit is mainly due to the presence of antioxidants like vitamin C, vitamin A and other antioxidant compounds like phytonutrients, polyphenols etc.

The antioxidants

present in the naranjilla fruit fights with the free radicals of our body, stabilize them and prevents them from causing oxidative damage to our eyes. This minimizes the risk of age-related macular degeneration, cataract, glaucoma etc.

Vitamin A present in the lulo fruit is an essential nutrient for our eyes. It improves our vision and keeps our eyes healthy.

### (4) Make Our Bones Stronger

Regular and moderate consumption of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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# THE FARMERS SEE: LULO...FROM PG7

Lulo fruit has been found to be very beneficial for making our bones stronger and for reducing the risk of osteoporosis.

Osteoporosis is a condition in which our bones get weak and fragile, and are more prone to damage and fracture.

This bone strengthening benefit of lulo fruit is mainly due to the



presence of essential minerals like calcium and phosphorus in it. Calcium is a vital

nutrient for our bone health as they are responsible for bone development and

strength. When our bones are stronger, they don't get damaged easily, and this reduces the risk of osteoporosis.

In addition to this, lulo is also a good source of other nutrients like magnesium, manganese, vitamin K etc. and these nutrients also play a significant role in keeping our bones healthy.

## ECO SXM AGRICULTURAL CENTER ON CLIMATE CHANGE...FROM PAGE 5

look at humans as atoms collectively we will notice that we form the mass of this earth and is responsible for preserving and maintaining its longevity so that in return may provide the sustainability of our livelihood.

The earth has given us everything in abundance yet we as humans seek to find more. If we decide to continue taking all of the most valuable minerals out of the earth and continue to compromise its immune system, how do we expect for earth to maintain the livelihood of mankind?

The theory is pretty simple, you cannot take out what we are not willing to put back in. We also can not deprive the earth from performing its revitalization duties. What

would happen if we talk out all the iron, zinc, copper etc out of our bodies or daily eatings habits and we don't keep ourselves active? The body would show signs of deficiency, but easy for us we can solve that problem by perhaps getting an Iron tablet from our doctor or indulging in one of nature's natural most highest resources Iron such as callaloo. But how do we prescribe the right medication for the earth's immune deficiency problems? This is simple, we stop taking out and start adding back.

Climate change is a serious issue and can only be resolved by each and every one of us will have to contribute towards gradually embracing an impact. The mechanisms of nature always remains

and it's natural form to maintain the production of its minerals and resources. Once the process is not disturb, it helps the cycle of life maintains it's efficiency unless interrupted buy a dis-ease by man. A disease or dis-ease or basically the same in plain english, we infect the earth by emitted pollution's, cutting down of trees, building dams to control more land space and the list goes on. In return she show her symptoms by hurricanes, coastal erosion, flooding, tsunamis and the list goes on !

We have to start taking into consideration banning single use plastic, converting to bio, solar, water, wind or electronic energy solutions, using waste energy methods

and most importantly start cultivating more plants in places where we have destroyed many natural resources, habitats and plant life species. Not just in St. Maarten, this needs to be a worldwide action. All these different elements maintain the stability of the earth, man and life itself. Without having the surety of life itself of mankind based on all these natural disasters as a reaction of the Earth's cry for help, what will be left after the next mass destruction for us to debate? To far have we implemented the laws of man the and have forgotten the laws of nature, but she has only now start to enforce her laws.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

BY ALLRECIPES

# VEGATERIAN AND VEGAN RECIPES

## Vegan Banana Blueberry Muffins



### INGREDIENTS

- 2 very ripe bananas, mashed
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup whole wheat pastry flour
- 1/2 teaspoons egg replacer (dry)
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1/2 cup blueberries

### DIRECTIONS

Prep 5 m | Cook 25 m | Ready In 30 m

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Grease muffin cups or line with paper muffin liners.

In a large bowl combine mashed bananas, sugar, baking powder, salt and flours; mix until smooth. In a small bowl or cup combine egg replacer and water; stir into banana mixture. Fold in blueberries.

Spoon batter evenly, about 1/4 cup each, into muffin cups.

Bake in preheated oven for 20 to 25 minutes, or until golden brown.

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SG eco ST MAARTEN



**“Have a Mission”**

# WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF SINT MAARTEN?

**ST. MAARTEN TAKE PLACE?** How can critical projects i.e. the local landfill, also known as “The Dump” be solved, where there are no more fire outbreaks, which are hazardous to the health? Where do those who are newly in power find the time to bicker and disagree when the lives of so many are at stake?

With almost a year since hurricane Irma has passed, Sint Maarten needs a united government to be present, and operate as such, more than ever. Sint Maarten needs a government that will focus

on what’s important, rather than upon the disagreements amongst themselves, whereas the saying goes, “Country before man”. Now is the time to see that being emulated by our government. Now is the time for them to tap into the unlimited resources have they: the young professionals that are willing to give back to their country, despite living abroad. There are locals abroad who are willing to help move the island forward as the world moves and are willing to bring St.Maarten into the future. All that is



needed is support, open-mindedness, willingness to try and see, and courage to travel into the unknown. There are young professionals, such as ourselves (UPG), who have ideas on how to deal with the Dump issue: Operation Pelican.

The fear here is that no one wants to ask for help, and what intern ends up happening are the same results, the same people in power with different faces, who may possibly run the country into the ground. What we have seen so often is that if projects are carried out ourselves, then the bragging rights go to those who can

say “we did it without anyone’s help!” At this point, it’s about something being done and tapping into the resources at their fingertips. Therefore, the question remains, “Where do those who are newly in power find the time to bicker and disagree when the lives of so many are at stake?”

**Unleashed Potential Group**



**RAS ITAL  
DEN NAH REALLY  
CARE FI WE**

More times seem like the people naah matta. Dem focus and argue to much on di thing dem wha aint mek no sense ataal.

Climate change a wha go set every man straight. If man nah set the right law den in place, mother nature a go enforce she law pun us.

Look sharp, things a get worse and the more dem stall pon di things dem, the more we see dem nah care about demselves, much less fi care bout we!

## ECO SXM AGRICULTURAL CENTER ON CLIMATE CHANGE...FROM PAGE 8

The change for climate action can only come through the capacity of implementing policies, awareness building and finances being directed in the proper places to achieve this mission. The procrastination of governments World wide not prioritizing this factor, Will be the don’t fall of not only the pillars and foundation that it has built its colonialism power on, but the same lives of the people that’s help them to maintain that position of power. But we must always remember that, without the people which are the atoms that consists of the protons, neutrons and electrons, There can be no power’ Wyatte explained.

The St. Martin agricultural research and development center hopes to contribute its research and resources to tackling this present issue of climate change. The center once able to be completed will focus on continuously building awareness and conducting research in developing new possibilities and opportunities that may focus on helping individuals, communities and government to gradually take a step towards playing their part in leaving behind an Eco Footprint.

“ I am very grateful to see that members such as Andre Bosman and others of the second chamber support actions as agriculture for country St. Maarten. This also shows that members in the second chamber are also open for dialogue on issues such



*Allow the kids to take action from a young age*

as climate change because they understand the importance of what a eco footprint may have on the environment and economy in times to come. This also can only add value and strengthen our NRRP. I am also thankful to hear that Minister Gitterson of VROMI is looking forward towards positive collaborative efforts with the development center.

I respect the fact that the minister has also requested to be granted more time to review the documentation presented to him that I submitted on record between the timeframe of 2014 in 2018. Allot of things can be blown out of proportion via the media so it is always good to keep a paper trail.

This is the main reason why I also choose to not press to much on the issue via the media and give the minister the time he re-

quested to review what was presented to him and hope he does the right thing. The reality we also face is that, this is also our job, and the more time that also goes by also drastically affects how we are able to handle our responsibilities, the livelihood of our family members and community.

We need to minister to also keep this into consideration. Currently we have visitors from schools and community members that visit the farm but yet we still have the restroom that we need to set in place to cater to their sanitary needs.

It’s hard to really function while just having to sit back and wait. We are not asking for any money from the World Bank, so sometimes you do feel like “hey why so long wait towards doing something positive” if most of the resources are there at the function. We just need a chance to function and hope we may be able to be granted the opportunity to get back to our community outreach efforts. Wyatte expressed

“We must remember that no one is promised tomorrow. So once we’re in the right place, at the right time, to do the right thing, then it must mean that we are actually chosen to make a difference Today.” - Wyatte

Mr Wyatte’s next meeting with the minister of VROMI was rescheduled from Sept 20, 2018 to Oct 5, 2018.

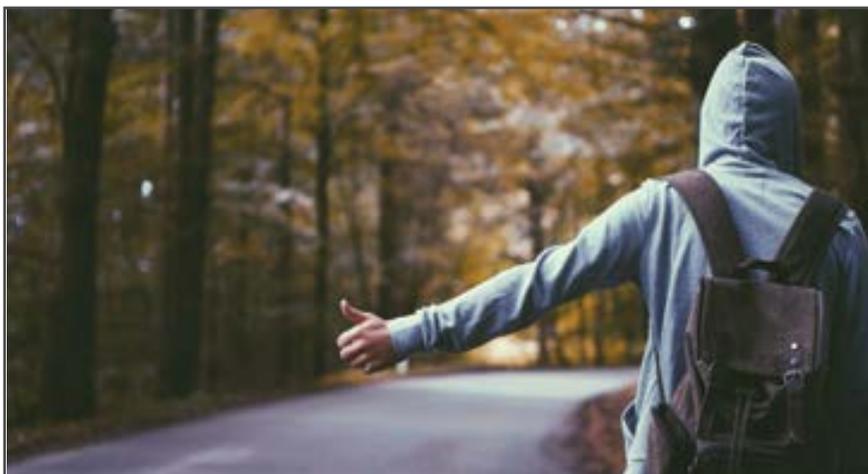


## IS THIS WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE?

**AS I SIT** around observing and evaluating the things that are occurring, not only in my life but also in the world. I oftentimes ask myself if this is where I'm supposed to be.

In the very beginning from our years transitioning from play school, pre K, early stimulation, primary, high school and college. Where are you now at this present time in your life, was this the path you envision for your life?

Some might say yes, this is exactly where I wanted to be. Other minorities might say no. My question is, why is it this way? Why do we have a rise in the population who are working regular 9-5 jobs that they sometimes don't like or not what they actu-



ally studied for.

Now this is where it seems to get a bit confusing for me, and I can safely say, the rest of the working class summed up of young men and women along with elder adults. Sometimes the plan we have for ourselves mapped out in our heads doesn't always fall into place as we planned out.

Here's my 2 cents on why I believe it doesn't. From a young age you are taught all the basics that you will need to carry you through life, we all at some point and time get the "stay in school, work hard and you will achieve all your goals that you have set for yourself" speech from those around you who ac-

tually wanted to see good for you. But, what they failed to let you know is that it's not an easy road and it's not all a bed of roses.

After completing all your schooling and acquired your degrees you set out to accomplish for yourself, you then come back home from college pumped up and excited to put what you've learned to work because all of this knowledge you have obtained makes you eager to want to prove yourself now. Your journey now begins, you start job hunting and you're very proactive in doing so. From newspaper ads to online postings and word of mouth of course, you start out on your journey applying for all jobs and opportunities that you see in the field you think you're qualified for. Now this is where the roadblocks pop up. You apply and attended the interview. After the interview, the response you get your Is either you're overqualified or you don't have enough experience.

This is what really puzzles me, how are you to gain experience if you can't get a chance to do so? This forces our younger generation to land jobs that has absolutely nothing to do with what they actually studied for. This at times frustrates them

and causes some to act out of character at their work places. Why you may ask? It's really hard to be somewhere you're not happy or able to show or prove your skills you've obtained in college. So, now that the thought is lingering in your head and you ask yourself, is this where I'm supposed to be?

What is the government doing to safeguard the future of our kids and to ensure that when they return home it will be a much smoother transition to get started and establish themselves?

Why do we have qualified young and old adults here in our country and yet when opportunity arise foreigners are hired to fulfill the position?

In order to gain experience I first have to be able to prove myself, how can we do so without even getting a chance? This is where the system has failed most of us and it's makes it harder to maintain a healthy lifestyle and keep your head above water, so to speak. You know some folks are built strong and can always maneuver and bounce back from economic failures. But, what about that other percentage that can't and end up either strung out on substance abuse or even suicidal thoughts? You know, I once came across a post that read "I Love My Country, But I'm Disappointed In My Government". You know what my dear friends, it's sad but the honest truth. When you really sit back and analyze the factors given to us, we didn't fail in this system that we are exposed to. The system is what has failed us. Why is it so hard for a local citizen born and raised to open up a business and have it flourish? Why on every corner and in every crack you can find a foreign supermarket or restaurant flourishing? What I realized in this life we

live in, is that everyone wants to see you doing better but not better than them. We need a wake up call, our parliamentarians and government to as well.

Those who actually want to help us build a sustainable system where we can have our kids go off to college and actually want to come back home to work and live comfortably, have yet to still show their faces.

Who is actually to blame when elections are in progress, who is putting the same folks back in charge? Still we see and hear the cries out for change and a better way of life. So ask yourself again, is this where I'm supposed to be?

If not, let's get together and start a movement to stand firm, let's make tomorrow better than yesterday. Let's pave the way for our youths so years from now we can safely say that our economy has improved and their future can be bright. This way they won't be the ones sitting down holding their heads asking if this is where they supposed to be?

Remember, Nothing Changes if Nothing Changes. The secret to success doesn't lie only in the dreams of wanting better for yourself, but, in waking up and making sure your actions match your determination. In closing I always like to leave positive thoughts lingering in your mind. When life gets a bit tough on you and you feel like you can't make it, remember that a diamond is just a chunk of coal that did well under pressure. Always ask yourself if what you're doing to day is getting you closer to where you want to be tomorrow. Stay blessed and express yourself.

**Written by Latoya Ruan 25 September 2018**

**IN THIS** month's edition of Cultural Xpression we get back to seeing what some of our local artist have been up since the passing of Hurricane Irma. Diversified artist, Sigma Defence has been on the music scene here in St Maarten for quite some time and has allot to add to the culture. As the music scene grows on the island there are many artists that are adding their unique swag and dialect to the growing sector. With so much to offer artistically and lyricaly from the local music scene, CX continues to bring you one step closer to discovering and highlighting the artist that put in the hard work with hopes to one day put SXM on the map.

**What is your name and how did the name Sigma Defence come about?**

I was born Lorenzo Gomez. Sigma was given to me in my youth. It meant all the different styles as one. Not only am I known for rapping but I also sing, compose music, act and model. I've been in musicals like RENT and Jesus Christ Superstar. I've produced and written songs for many local artists. The DEFENCE part of my name was added later by friends who used to play street basketball with me. Whenever I would block someone's shot attempt they would scream out "Sigma Defence" so it stuck.

**What is your educational background or selected field of skill?**

I studied Hospitality and Tourism Management. It was boring so I focused more on marketing which at the time was very exciting. I love doing things with my hands, repairing television sets, building computers, learning to play a new instrument. Those are things that are attractive to me. And I do them well. What I do for cash these days? Well, besides the few gigs here and there, I do graphic and audio design. It helps to pay the bills and support my habits and hobbies.

**How long have you been doing music in the hip hop field as an artist?**

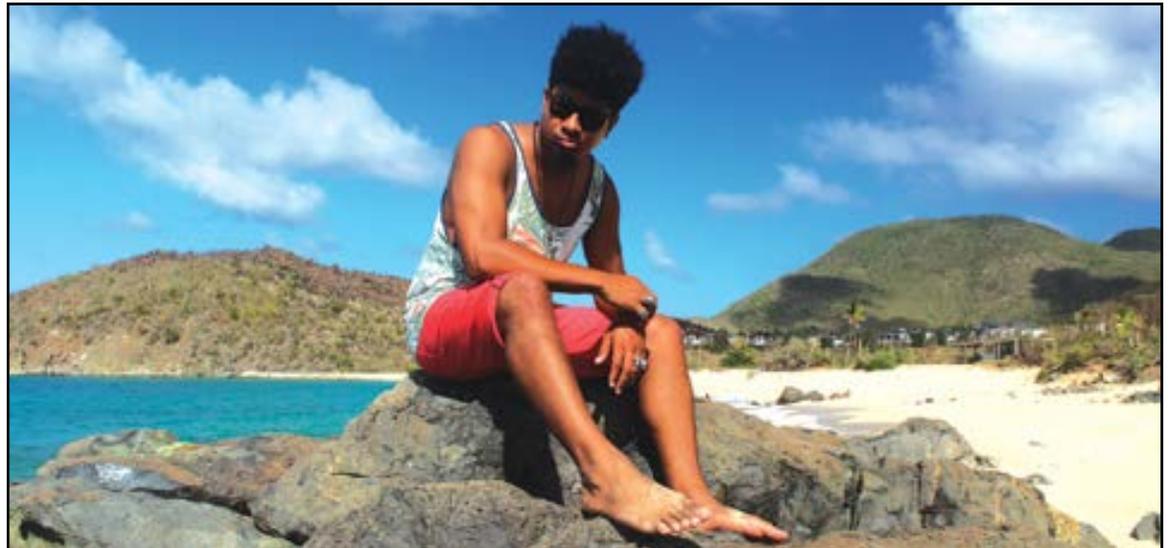
My first stage performance was at 5 years old. Singing at the Catholic Church in Simpson Bay. I remember not feeling afraid to sing in front of those people. In fact, there was a rush of energy that felt like what I can describe now as addictive. I was hooked after that.

**Of all the different genres being Caribbean rooted, why did you choose this particular genre?**

Firstly, I didn't choose this genre. It sort of chose me. See, back when I was in primary school I was a quiet kid that kept to myself. I sort of started making a name for myself by performing in the school's talent shows. I sang and danced and starred in my own original creations. When I changed schools due to the family moving to a different district, a boy came up to me and asked if I can write him a few rap songs for him to perform. So rapping for me sort of started there. At that time, rapping was very popular. In fact, no one had really known of any young people from St. Maarten who did that. So I sort of got a buzz from that. At some point I decided to start performing my rap songs. I recorded a few tapes back then on a karaoke machine. It was nice. I guess, I choose rap music because it is a great way to say whats on your mind in either a clear or abstract way. I have always been a fan of poetry. So the combination of that with the beats is something that appeals to me. You don't really get that pure combination with any other genre. But that's changing now..

**EXCLUSIVE**  
**INTERVIEW**  
**SIGMA - THE ART OF KEEPING IT HIP HOP**

By Wattzz Publishing



**Do you face any challenges being a hip hop artist out here in the Caribbean?**

Oh yes. But that's nothing new. Right now, things on the island have sort of changed back to how it was when I was a kid in respect to the genres promoted. Hip Hop has taken a back seat and Soca and Dancehall are back in the front of people's selection. Which is fine. I really don't mind being the minority in this selected field. It makes what I do even more special because there isn't an oversaturation of folks doing what I do. Don't get me wrong, I receive a lot of support from radio and club DJs. There are some great producers who got their start doing rap beats and now do soca. And don't let me get started on the long list of artists who crossover to be or stay relevant. I totally understand going where the money is and I respect that. In the region, I think people would be willing to listen and support anything once it sounds good. If its whack, the audience will sense that and not get behind it. You'll notice that even more when you make music other than soca.

**What are your observations of the music scene here on St Maarten and do you think that there are more potential artists locally that have international potential?**

St. Maarten is like this: we don't want to help you off the jump unless you are family. Which is okay. However, the worst part is that people don't want to see other people make it. They are afraid of someone going out there and becoming bigger than them. Where does this "crab in the bucket" mentality come from? I don't know. I've experienced more hate as I get more popular. It's a limit that people want to put on you. They want to see your videos get less than 1000 views naturally because they want to be perceived as better than you. Our island is such a beautiful and unique place. There so many artists here who have the potential to be so huge commercially and critically. But you need to have stamina and drive to survive here. Especially if you are doing something different

that the "norm" or "accepted". I think that is important to leave as much as you can to expose your art to other cultures and people.

**What genders of music do you feel have a great impact on the outside world influenced by our Caribbean culture?**

Right now, Soca is taking over the world again. Its not the first time and I would call it the third wave of soca. Afro-beat is another genre that people have taken a liken to. There are splashes of dancehall in all the major genres now. People love to turn up and have fun.

**How did Hurricane Irma affect the music scene here on the island for an artist such as yourself?**

The destruction caused by Irma really set back what I was trying to do with the release of LPCT 2, a project with my rap partner Simpletune. We had this huge plan to release it in such a way... In the end we had to get creative. I didn't want our baby to be released and A no one listen to it and B have no one care because they had other stuff going on that was more important. I believe in the power of music. We wouldn't even be having this interview if it wasn't. So we did something that no one was doing. We performed all the songs from LPCT2 live with an actual band and backup singers. Entrance was free and thanks to the sponsors, we had free food and drink. It was a success. People tell me they had never seen a show like that and it inspired a lot of people to start doing their thing again.

**What would u like to see change or adapted in St Maarten that will help inspire more local artist to be more productive?**

We need more workshops. We need an artist guild or some association to represent us. We need laws to help protect us and our craft.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 12**

**EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW SIGMA....FROM PG 11**

We also need to be paid on time. I see a lot of people give up because of money. Some great musicians that will be lost to time unfortunately.

**Do you think making music in St Maarten can be one to uphold a sustainable lifestyle and take care monthly responsibilities?**

If all you want to do is drugs and eat food then sure. I know some people who do it. The money isn't enough to be able to buy a house or to invest in something big at this point. We really have to remember that our island has a small population and there is only so much money being spent to see local artist perform. But that's changing..

**Do you listen to other local artist, Mention a few?**

I try to keep my ear to the radio, Facebook and the streets. I love whats happening with all the new songs from SXM artists. There are a lot of them who don't get much attention with all the great work they are doing and there are also some whose hustle and talent gets them



relatively far. The list of artists I follow is too long. I love to support everyone. And once you keep consistent, I'll support.

**Which local artist have you collaborated with or would like to collaborate with?**

My main collaborator is Simpletune. I love that guy. He is so underrated it's a crime. He is also the most genuine and selfless person I know. I've done music with my mentors, people who inspired me, Tutpic Megalops, Rukshun, Candid Child aka Solano. I've worked with some up and comers. But, I would really

like to work with some big guys like Fish and King Beau Beau. I think those guys could teach me a lot and we could come up with something unique. (Right now though? I am trying to get an audience with the Ruff one).

**What keeps you motivated currently?**

Age? Love? Destiny? I don't want to waste this gift that I have. I don't want to die not knowing what I could be or could've done.

**Who or what are some of your biggest inspirations?**

The women in my life. My mother is my biggest inspiration. She did her best for us with so little. My grandmother, a strong woman who taught us the difference and benefits of right and wrong. My woman, for staying with me through all of this. Musically? MJ, Biggie, Kool G Rap, Kendrick, Prince... there are too many to tell you.

**Where do you see yourself in the next year?**

Travelling. Doing what I love to do.

**What can St Maarten and the World Expect next from You?**

More music. More videos.

**If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would it be?**

Geographically, I am already here. I love my island. Even when it sometimes doesn't love me back. #dumpstillburning

As you know our Cultural News Magazine is focused on a number of community awareness building topics, most importantly Agriculture and Community development. **What are your thoughts and views of the importance of Agriculture for St Maarten?**

Agriculture is very important to any society. Not only does it provide food and raw materials but also employment opportunities to the population. We need to diversify our economy. Tourism has helped us grow exponentially since it was implemented. We have had people from all over enjoy the benefits of it. But look at the side effect of tourism. Look at the dump. Look at the price of food. Look how many people are out of jobs when the hotels close down. Look at the amount of Casinos we have on the Dutch side.

**What do you think can bring more community members together to focus on positive development issues for their surrounding communities?**

A drive to make our community better. You need to have love in your heart to want to bring positive change. I hope people can put aside their differences and work together to make our island as good or better than it once was. Before its too late..

As we come to the end of the Q and A interview:

**Who would like to give a shout out to and also some inspirational words for our youngsters and upcoming artist that look forward to taking on music as a career possibility!**

Never give up on the thing that most satisfies you. If you love to play music, do your best to become great at it. Whatever it is you do, do your best and be good to people. The energy and intentions you put out into the universe always come back to you. Also remember, support your community. Volunteer. And love one another #NotJustSoca #IFromHere

My new single Dream Land is now available on the Caribbean World Charts stream it free there. Support me by following my journey at fb.com/SigmaSXM. All my songs are available on iTunes, Spotify, Deezer, Amazon and Tidal.

Nuff Respect goes out to Sigma Defence, one of St Maarten's next rising stars... Cultural Xpression wishes you all the best on your journey forward!!!!

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Empowered by:

# EASY ECO TOURISM STEPS TO START TODAY

**By danflyingsolo.com**  
**Travel** and all that it encompasses is not the most environmentally friendly of affairs.

We all need to play our part in protecting the future of our planet. Sure, it's a big task and way beyond the average person's means to make a huge change to the world, but don't fret. It's a piece of piss to make an impact and reduce your footprint.

**How?**

Travel and all that it encompasses is not the most environmentally friendly of affairs.

We all need to play our part in protecting the future of our planet. Sure, it's a big task and way beyond the average person's means to make a huge change to the world, but don't fret. It's a piece of piss to make an impact and

reduce your footprint. How?

**Cut down the plastic**

In many parts of the world, if you ask someone why they don't recycle it will be more than a language barrier you have. For a lot of people, concerns rest more on their next meal or making enough to survive. For us, the tourist, however, it's a different situation. Easy ways to cut the trash are keeping a plastic bag on you, not using the mini condiments at breakfast, carrying full-size toiletries instead of using the hotels and drinking coffee in the store, not on the go. These are all easy steps towards becoming a zero waste traveller.

**Refill your water**

Buy yourself a refillable water bottle



with a filter before your trip and get it topped up on the go or from the breakfast buffet. I can't imagine the millions of bottles that are emptied in seconds ever year and then burned into the atmosphere. Once you start, you will be amazed how many places will fill it up for you.

**Offset your flying**

Whenever we fly we are setting off heaps of carbon into the air. Luckily, our good friends the tree are able to turn this back into healthy air again. Sadly, with deforestation, this is getting harder. Most airlines now offer you the chance when booking to offset your journey but if not sponsor a tree planting group or similar.

Don't change the linen

Crisp white sheets are a guilty pleasure when travelling, but make the most of them on night one and then don't get them changed unless they really need to be. Towels, same rules. Slow travel also helps this massively instead of moving hotel every night plus you get to soak up the local culture much more.

**Walking is the sightseeing king**

It is so easy in a new place to jump in a taxi if you aren't sure where you are going or buy a bus pass. Download Google Maps which lets you track where you are even without a data connection and get your best walk-

ing shoes on. Not only are you helping the planet you are also much likely to discover those little-hidden gems you would otherwise miss. Better still, scrap the map and get totally lost.

**Skip the Chopstick**

It is estimated that 40 billion disposable chopsticks are used each year in China alone. That is one hell of a waste of all those trees you have just planted. It might not be as exotic or cool to ask for a fork but you are helping cut down on this crazy waste of the world's natural resources.

**Buy Local**

It goes without saying anything that has been 'imported' has travelled one heck of a way to get to you. The local brands might not be quite what you are used to but they do the job whilst you do good. You are also more likely to be helping the local economy rather than giving your dosh to a multi-million dollar company in a different country. Good work!

**Grab some trash**

Litter is a killer, especially when it gets into the ocean. If we all just grab one plastic bottle or piece of trash a day from the beach or wherever our adventuring takes us it is a simple task that will go a long way in cleaning up this world we live in. Forget the 'it's not my job' approach and makes an easy win for the environment.

**Kill the Airco**

Sure, you might not be paying the bill but the amount of electricity that running air-con costs is insane. In monsoon season in Indonesia I know I had it glued on, but flip the switch as often as you can.

**Invest in a local solution**

Heard of Kiva? It's a loan solution to help entrepreneurs in lands that might not have access to typical loans. For as little as \$25 you can keep recycling the money you put in to make a real impact and start businesses and dreams for people. Find those who have real solutions for problems their home place faces and give some money to make an impact.

**Educate Others**

It is easy to forget and not realise when you are in a new country that the infrastructure might not be what you are used to at home. Slip it into a conversation and help others know what tiny steps they can take to help us keep this beautiful planet clean, what's easier than having a chat?



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# 50

## CREATIVE ART & CRAFT BUSINESS IDEAS FOR 2018 PT 8

By Profitable venture.com

### Candle making

Did you know that candles have been in existence for over 2,000 years, and would not in any way go extinct? Well, truth remains that candles are in high demand by various people—from religious houses, to homes, and even event decorators. Furthermore, scented candles are used in houses, hotels and spas and you can become really successful when you go into making candles of different shapes and designs.

### Pottery

All over the world, there are various things that are made by potters. It is no doubt the reason why people are still in the trade. If you have a penchant for this art, then you can as well go learn the skill of pottery. When you do



## Small Business

ideas....

this, then you can begin to make very creative wares that people can buy.

You may also consider planning exhibitions where all your work of arts can be displayed. This means that you have got to have impeccable products before thinking to hold an exhibition for your showcase.

### Picture Frame Creation Business

Picture frames can be found in homes, offices, boutiques, everywhere, you name it. As such, it is one

crafts business that can sure put food on your table. If you are cool with making picture frames, then you can begin to make frames for the following purposes; Wedding pictures, birthday party pictures, graduation pictures and, a whole lot more.

Please it is important to note that you will need to get really skilled in this because of the fact that there is stiff competition in this trade. As such; one of the ways to break even here is to

bring excellence to the table.

### Painting

If you have ever parted away with a huge amount of money for the services a painter rendered to you, then you will agree that they make good money. If you think that you want to give the painting business a try, then you can consider starting a painting business. If on the other hand you already have this as a hobby, then you can also turn that hobby to money by painting houses.

One you have fine-tuned your painting skills, then you can begin to tell people about what you do. As you first start out, care must be taken so that you do not over price your services, since you are a newbie.

### Arts Auctions

If you have got the money, then in starting an arts auction business, you will first need to purchase wall paintings yourself. Thereafter, you can organize auctions for art lovers to come and bid and buy creative work of arts. All that would be required of you, would be the business skills that you will need in haggling prices with your clients. Other than that, you do not need any crafts skills here.

You will need to identify suppliers that would be willing to give you this works of arts at a not too expensive mode. This is

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

# HOW SOCIAL MEDIA CAN MOVE YOUR BUSINESS FORWARD PT2

By **forbes.com**

**TWITTER** also offers similar effects on businesses using the platform. According to Twitter, the top reason people come to Twitter is to "discover something new and interesting." The platform is also five times more likely to offer new videos to users than any other source. The intent of users to find something new, coupled with the platform's design to offer new discoveries, allows for higher brand recall and awareness.

### Effects Of Social Media On Brand Loyalty

A 2017 survey of 5,700 marketers revealed that 69% are developing loyal fans for their brands via social media marketing. In the same vein, 66% of users between

the ages of 18 and 24 years old are more loyal to the brands they follow on social media, while 60% of 25- to 34-year-olds favor the businesses they follow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

A recent survey completed by my company in Chicago confirmed the relationship between small businesses' use of social media and building loyalty among their community of followers: 60% of respondents stated that they followed the businesses they regularly buy services from on Facebook. Additionally, 54% of them said that they believed businesses that engaged with clients and followers on Facebook were more focused on providing better service than



ence of social media. A Nielsen study commissioned by Twitter revealed that one in four new vehicle purchasers in the U.S. used Twitter to help them make their decision to purchase.

In a survey of more than 600 senior marketers, 39% said they saw a medium return on investment (ROI) from organic social media posts, while 20% said they received the highest ROI from this form of marketing channel. In addition, 36% said paid social media ads brought in medium ROI, while 17% said the channel provided high ROI.

With all these facts, data and statistics, it would be impossible to deny the influence social media has on the consumer. Whether it be through simple brand awareness or brand loyalty that equates to sales, social media has a big impact.

If you haven't given much thought to your social media marketing strategy, now is the best time.

## 50 CREATIVE ART & CRAFT BUSINESS IDEAS.....FROM PAGE 14

o that you can make good profit when you sell them- since profit making is a good motivator when in business.

There are the 50 arts and crafts business ideas that you can start any time any day. However, like I mentioned in all the business types, before

you launch out with any of the trades mentioned here, you will need to a very large extent to analyze the business through exhaustive research. You will also need to sample the views of those who are already successful and are making it pretty big in the industry.

those that did not.

### Effects Of Social Media On Sales

We Are Social's Digital in 2018 Global Overview reported that 17% of the world's population makes online purchases and pays their bills online. Strong economies like the UK (78%), South Korea

(74%), Germany (74%), Sweden (70%) and the U.S. (69%) have the highest e-commerce penetration, or percentage of the population that has purchased online.

Interestingly, because the highest percentage of users — ages 18 to 34 years old — has the most buying power, they're likely to make a purchase with the influ-

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# HATS OFF TO SENSI AKEEM LEWIS

**THE DEPARTMENT** of Sports would like to recognize the efforts of Mr Akeem Lewis.

Akeem has been practicing his sport for 8 years and has a fight record stands at 15-2. He holds a purple belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and teaches at the St.

Maarten Brazilian Jiu Jitsu gym along with Melissa Bardfield.

He currently looking forward to participating in a professional MMA fight in Curacao on October 6th 2018 the in the middle class weight (83kg).

Akeem uses his expertise in mixed

martial arts to encourage all of his students to be confident and to channel their energies in a positive way.

#sportsmatter  
Melissa Bardfield  
SXM BJJ

**Ministry ECYS FB**



Akeem Lewis (Left) - Photo SXM BJJ FB Page

## By Country Side Network

### TYPES OF RACES

There are two types of pigeon racing - club races and one loft races. Club races involve a pigeon owner keeping a loft.

The member's birds are released at one location and all fly back to their individual homes. Calculations are done to

determine a winner since the lofts are at different distances from the release point. One loft races involve all the birds being raised from a single location. The racing pigeons are raised in the loft from the age of six weeks and train together. They are released at the same time and race back to their home. After the race,

the owners of the individual pigeons can sell the birds, breed them at another loft or take them home.

The biggest and most prestigious one loft race in the world is the South African Million Dollar Pigeon Race (SAMDP). This race pays out \$1.7 million in prizes and the United States has won two years in a row

# THE SPORT OF RACING PIGEONS PT.3

and five times total. Frank McLaughlin of McLaughlin Lofts started raising pigeons around seven years old and started racing in the Greater Boston Concourse at age 12 in 1974. At 56 years old he has won every possible local and national award. About four years ago the American Racing Pigeon Union gave him a Legend of the Sport Award.

Each spring into the summer he exports over 1,000 United States pigeons to South Africa for the SAMDP.

"I exported the race winner the last two years," said McLaughlin. "The winning pigeon from 2017 won \$335,000 for the USA fancier."

"The pigeons shipped to South Africa go as young pigeons and they are settled and trained in South Africa. As long as they are maybe under six months old they can be rehomed to a new location. The Million Dollar Race lets the birds out under giant nets for maybe a month before they are free to fly into the sky."

### It's Just a Theory

When choosing racing stock, there are a lot of theories. These are theories in the colloquial sense - not scientific theories. These include eye theory, wing theory, palate, windpipe, tongue slit, throat vein,

vents, foot scales, squared underwing feathers and the list goes on. "All that you need to know about eye sign is to breed opposite eye colors together," said McLaughlin. As this will help them navigate with the bright sun.

"All that you need to know about eye sign is to breed opposite eye colors together," said McLaughlin. As this will help them navigate with the bright sun.

The single best prediction for quality racing pigeons is to choose birds that came from a long line of champions that possess great feathers, buoyancy, and flexibility.

Good luck at the races!

**WEEKDAY SCHEDULE**

- THE SUPPA DUPPA MORNING SHOW**  
W/ SUPPA | WEEKDAYS 7AM - 10AM
- THE AM/PM WORKLOAD SHOW**  
W/ GEE MONEY | WEEKDAYS 10AM - 2PM
- THE POWER HOUR**  
W/ THE CUT CREATOR DJ OUTKAST | WEEKDAYS 2PM - 3PM
- SAGAN'S PLAYGROUND**  
W/ SAGAN | WEEKDAYS 3PM - 6PM

**SPECIALITY SHOWS**

- DIRTY DUTCH MUSIC**  
W/ CHUCKIE | FRIDAYS 10PM - 11PM
- DI-NAMIX TOP 40 COUNTDOWN**  
W/ JOE WARRICK | SATURDAYS 3PM - 6PM
- DJ POWER MIX SHOW**  
W/ DJ POWER | SATURDAYS 9PM - 10PM
- A STATE OF TRANCE**  
W/ ARMIN VAN BUUREN | SATURDAYS 11PM - MIDNIGHT
- WADE-O RADIO SHOW**  
W/ DJ WADE-O | SUNDAYS 12PM - 2PM
- FEEL RADIO**  
W/ KP LONDON | SUNDAYS 3PM - 4PM

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