THE ROTUNDA GALLERY

The Rotunda Gallery

A display of Trinidad and Tobago's cultural and political heritage

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Artists & Collectors

The Rotunda Gallery is inviting submissions for our exhibition titled **"Art in Motion: The Cultural Influence of Dance".** The exhibition will be held from **Monday 14th April - Friday 9th May 2025.**

Inspirational Tags

Trinidad and Tobago; Art in Motion; Dance Culture; Performing Arts; Dance Expression; Cultural Expression; Traditional Dance; Limbo; Bongo; Kalinda; Tobago Jig; Tobago Ole Time Wedding; Brushback; Bele; Calypso Dance; East Indian Folk Dance; East Indian Classical Dance; Odissi; Kathak.

The Vision

Dance has been an intrinsic part of human expression for millennia, marking life's pivotal moments—birth, celebration, mourning, war, and peace. Ancient civilizations, from Egypt to India and Greece, used dance for ritual, storytelling, and communal unity. Over time, it evolved into diverse forms, from sacred temple dances to theatrical performances and social traditions.

Since 1982, the Dance Committee of International Theatre Institute (ITI) founded International Dance Day to be celebrated every year on the 29th April, the birthday of

Jean-Georges Noverre (1727-1810), creator of modern ballet. The intention of the International Dance Day message is to celebrate dance, revel in the universality of this art form, across all political, cultural and ethnic barriers, and bring people together with a common language - dance. The theme, "***Art in Motion: The Cultural Influence of Dance***", aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, including *Quality Education, Decent Work, and Sustainable Cities & Communities*—recognizing dance's role in education, economic opportunity, and cultural preservation.

Trinidad and Tobago's dance heritage reflects its diverse ancestry. African, Indian, Spanish, English, and French influences shaped a dynamic tradition, seen in Bele, Odissi, Limbo, and Bongo, alongside the rhythmic vibrancy of Calypso and Soca. These movements embody resilience, storytelling, and celebration, making dance an essential part of our national identity.

The Rotunda Gallery invites artists to submit works capturing the essence of movement—whether portraying the human form in motion or celebrating the dance traditions of Trinidad and Tobago. Let us highlight the energy, elegance, and cultural depth of dance through art.

Important Notes

- All visual art genres are acceptable (painting, photography, drawing, sculpture, prints, fabric art, collage, installation art, digital art).
- Submissions for this call are open to citizens/residents of Trinidad and Tobago.
- There is no submission fee, but artists and collectors will be responsible for framing, transport, and insurance of their artwork.
- No nudity, sexual content, violence, hatred, or propaganda allowed.
- The final decision on whether your artwork will be exhibited is at the sole discretion of the Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee.
- Artists and Collectors may be invited to exhibit by the Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee or solicited through a Call to Artists.

- The Office of the Parliament will, at the Artist's request, make contact information available to persons interested in purchasing the artwork. All sales and related negotiations are the sole responsibility of the Artist.

Important Dates

Activity	Date
Call for Submissions	**Friday 7th March, 2025**
Email Submission deadline of artwork and other supporting documents to rotundagallery@ttparliament.org	**Sunday 6th April, 2025**
Selection Notification via email	**Tuesday 8th April, 2025**

Submission Guidelines and Requirements

- Proof of Trinidad and Tobago citizenship/residence (National ID/DP/ Passport).
- Contact information (name, phone number, email address).
- A brief Artist Statement (not exceeding 300 words).
- An explanation of each piece submitted (not exceeding 150 words per piece).
- Images should be at least 300 dpi.
- Artists can submit a **MAXIMUM** of three (3) pieces of work.
- Documents must be submitted electronically to rotundagallery@ttparliament.org in **MS Word** format and images of work must be in **JPEG** format. See title examples below on how to name files:
    - John Doe_National ID
    - John Doe_ Art in Motion _2025_24x44inches
    - John Doe_Artist Statement_2025
- Collectors must submit proof of ownership of the artwork being submitted.
- All artwork submitted must be authentic, original and done by the artist submitting the work.
- **You are required to submit the title, medium, year, size, and price of artwork.**

The Selection Process

The Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee will judge the selection process for **"Art in Motion: The Cultural Influence of Dance"** Exhibition.

Frequently Asked Questions for Exhibitions at the Rotunda Gallery

1. **WHO CAN SUBMIT WORKS?** Any citizen/resident of Trinidad and Tobago.

2. **WHAT CAN I SUBMIT**? Artists and collectors can submit up to three (3) pieces of work in any medium of visual arts, which includes painting, photography, drawing, prints, fabric art, collage, installation art, digital art or other. **No nudity, sexual content, violence, hatred, or propaganda**. Unsuitable works will not be accepted.

3. **I CANNOT COMPLETE ARTWORK BY THE DEADLINE, ARE THERE ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES?** Yes, the Rotunda Gallery exists as an exhibition space to display Trinidad and Tobago's cultural and political heritage. Follow the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago and Rotunda Gallery on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for future Call for Submissions.

4. **HOW MANY WORKS CAN I SUBMIT**? Artists may submit up to **THREE (3) pieces** of artwork unless specific permission has been granted to submit a collection.

5. **WHAT IS THE SIZE LIMITATION?** The maximum size is 60 inches in height and 72 inches in width.

6. **WILL THE ARTWORK BE INSURED?** It is the responsibility of the artist or the collector to arrange all insurance. While every effort will be made to ensure that artworks submitted are handled carefully and well protected, all artworks should be insured door to door by the participating artist or collector.

7. **HOW WILL I KNOW WHETHER MY WORK HAS BEEN SELECTED?** You will receive an email informing you of the status of your submission.

8. **DO I HAVE TO FRAME MY ARTWORK?** For the initial electronic submission, the artwork can be unframed. Once you receive the email advising of the selection of your piece(s), you may proceed to the framing phase to prepare your work for submission day. All selected works must be professionally/tastefully mounted and ready for hanging or installation in the Rotunda Gallery.

9. **WHAT CAN I EXPECT ON FINAL SUBMISSION DAY?** Artists are required to bring in their work(s), ready to hang or display. The labels and submission form will be provided in the notification email. All documents should be completed in advance and submitted with artwork.

10. **WHAT ARE THE GALLERY HOURS**? The gallery is open from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. to facilitate walk-ins or scheduled appointments. The exhibition will be shown online @rotundagallerytt on Facebook and @rotundagallery on Instagram and Tik Tok. To book an appointment, call 624-7275 ext. 2314/2365 or 701-6133.

11. **I CANNOT COLLECT MY ARTWORK IN THE WINDOW PROVIDED CAN I AUTHORISE SOMEONE TO COLLECT ON MY BEHALF?** Yes. We **DO NOT** have a facility to store unclaimed works. Please arrange to collect your works within the window provided. If you are designating someone to collect your artwork you must send us an email with the person's name, and they must provide photo ID on arrival.