

INSPIRATION

Boundless African creativity

BAMAKO

Artists in their workshops

INTERIORS

Cozy and elegant

CUISINE

At chef Loïc Dablé's table

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Jambani Kaftani

Lalesso

Cloth doll with

Da Viva wax fabric

Dollikadolls

PINK & BLUE

ву Tapiwa Matsinde ILLUSTRATION Dominique Mwankumi

Like the enchanting vision of flamingoes during the sunrise on Lake Nakuru in Kenya, while their reflections on the blue water provide a serene background to this romantic scenery.



Turquoise Saadia Shoulder Berber Bag

ABURY



Triangle Warrior Bracelet, Cornflower blue

Sidai Designs



Princess Slipper, Blue

Monaa



Blue & Coral Swirl Plateau Basket

Indego Africa



Medium candle, Johari la Africa Collection

YSWARA



Palm Heart Umbrella

Clinton Freidman

Ibeyi

DOUBLE PLAY

21-YEAR-OLD FRANCO-CUBAN SISTERS Lisa-Kaindé and Naomi Diaz make up the musical duo Ibeyi, named after the twin gods of Santeria. Since the release of their self-titled debut album last year, the Diaz sisters have taken the world by storm. With Beyoncé recognizing their talent, they opened last May's Chanel fashion show in the streets of Havana, Cuba.

Fusing touches of pop, electro and hip-hop, their music is inspired by elements of Yoruba culture — common among many Cubans who descended from West African slaves — passed down to them by their father, Anga Diaz, a percussionist with the Buena Vista Social Club. The result is a melancholic, organic and intimate roots sound, featuring Lisa-Kaindé on piano and Naomi on Cuban percussion. This opus, with echoes of Orishas — Santeria gods — and the fleeting shadows of their late father and sister, is an experience bordering on mystical.



Sahra Halgan

ICON OF FREEDOM

NICKNAMED "THE VOICE OF SOMALILAND," Sahra Halgan was born into a family of traditional singers. As dictated by tradition, these singers are all male, yet at just 13, Halgan defied customs and joined them in performing the repertoire of her ancestors. Today, she travels the globe, singing forthrightly about the hopes of an entire people. Although Somaliland has been a stable democratic nation since gaining its independence in 1991, it has never been recognized by the international community. Since serving as a nurse at an early age alongside Somaliland independence fighters during the war, Halgan has become the ambassador for a generation that longs for freedom.

Having lived in exile in France for the past 20 years, Halgan now performs with French musicians Aymeric Krol and Maël Salètes. Their album "Faransiskyo Somaliland" evokes her recent return to her home country, a journey documented in the film "Sahra Halgan Returns to Somaliland," produced by Cris Ubermann and Aymeric Krol.



Rokia Traoré

OR THE LAMENT OF THE EXILED THE DAUGHTER OF A DIPLOMAT, 42-year-old Franco-Malian singer Rokia Traoré spent her childhood following her father from one assignment to the next. Despite her globetrotting temperament, in 2009 she decided to settle down in her native country of Mali with her son. But in 2012 conflict erupted, forcing her back into exile.

On "Né So" (meaning "at home" in Bambara), Traoré addresses this event and the plight of the millions of refugees throughout the world who are forced to leave their homes just to survive. Last March, a month after the release of "Né So", she was named Goodwill Ambassador of the UN High Commission for Refugees in West Africa, a cause she has served for



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