



A poster for the film 'A Caribbean Dream'.

## 'A Caribbean Dream' accepted by international film festivals

**"A CARIBBEAN Dream" will surprise everyone, as this film unites Shakespeare's language, modern English and a large taste of Barbadian, into the mix.**

It is filmed entirely in Barbados, mostly at Fustic House; an excellent location to blend mystery, magic and romance, across the Caribbean landscape.

### Shakespeare improved within the Caribbean?

A Caribbean Dream is the perfect re-imagining of William Shakespeare's romantic comedy, "A Midsummer's Night Dream". Unlike many previous authoritarian or ultra-modernistic adaptations, this version brings the characters to life for all age ranges and is perhaps how Shakespeare should now best be admired. A Caribbean Dream will grasp the full attention of all film enthusiasts.

The intermingling of UK and Barbadian actors and crew, brings the island's history, folklore and culture into the comedy

and chaos of Shakespeare's play.

The film's actors include Aden Gillett, Susannah Harker, Sam Gillett, Sonia Williams, Adrian Green, Jherad Alleyne and Marina Bye.

As with many of Shakespeare's works, there is no clear lead actor. An exceptional mention must go, however, to Keisha Pope as Helena. She glides from scene to scene and understands how to tug at the audience's emotions. This Barbadian actress has proved her skills in Katori Hall's UK/Barbadian rendering of *The Mountaintop*; a play set the night before Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination. She stands out consistently during the film as she is loved by one, but loves another, fabricated through magic spells.

Patrick Michael Foster steals the limelight with his rendition of Puck. While requested to perform magic, he alters the spells for his own delight, only returning with the correct spell after his fun

has been completed. Foster is not the tallest actor when you meet him, but he commands a massive presence across the big screen, every time he makes an appearance. As soon as you see him, you can't wait to hear his next spell or carefully created mischievousness.

### Review premiere, world premiere and official film selections

The review premiere was held in the newly developed Walled Garden Theatre at the Barbados Museum, as part of the Barbados Independent Film Festival of 2017. The world premiere of *A Caribbean Dream* is being held at the Limegrove Cinema, Holetown, on February 28, 2017 and will be on general release from March 1. Audience numbers will be high, especially after the news that *A Caribbean Dream* is listed as an official selection for the London Independent Film Awards, 2017 and is an official selection for this year's Charlotte Black Film Festival.

### Should you go and witness history in the making?

*A Caribbean Dream* is perfect for all ages, magnificent for all Shakespeare literary lovers and for those who have wanted to tread their toes in the Shakespeare world, but not get lost. At just 82 minutes, another 15 may have been preferred, but tight editing of every scene, will ensure a new association of interest for Shakespeare's work.

Although the Barbados film industry has grown significantly during the past decade, low budgets have forced many producers and directors to accept poor quality lighting, sound, editing and often avoiding colour grading and colour correction. To achieve a high-quality production, the producers decided to encourage a substantially sized budget to ensure the finished product meets superior Hollywood standards. *A Caribbean Dream* sets the highest benchmark for the Barbados film industry; a target for others to equal and surpass.

## Young, ambitious: Against the odds in Black Rock

By Krystal Penny Bowen

### Troy's story

In urban communities in the St. Michael area, often the public are informed of the negative events within the society, such as crime among youth, school bullying, drug abuse and teenage sex. As a result, those who seek to do their best by working hard and supporting their community are left unrecognised and unappreciated. Nevertheless, some people see the good in their youth and this is evident in the St. Stephen's Hill area. One young Black Rock resident who rather than spend his days "on the block" has been working diligently to provide for his family and his community through entrepreneurship.

Twenty-seven-year-old Troy Williams, despite his diminutive stature, has given back in a tremendous way by showing his

school, St. Stephen's Primary how much he appreciated the tutelage he received when he attended the school some two decades ago. In February, Troy showed his love for his alma mater by donating a skip to aid them with garbage storage, and free collection through his company. He also cleared the bush and shrubs which surrounded the school.

Born in the area once known as Chapel's Hill, Troy attended the St. Stephen's Nursery and St. Stephen's Primary School.

His father, who passed away when Troy was eleven years old, owned a trucking company and influenced the path that he would take. At an age when most boys would be transitioning into adolescence, this teenager was operating heavy machinery. The former Coleridge and Parry and Ellerslie student boasted that in his

latter teen years, he was driving bobcats, other heavy duty vehicles and racing Datsuns in the gullies.

During an interview at St. Stephen's Primary School with *The Barbados Advocate*, Troy talked about the challenges he faced growing up particularly when it came to academics.

"I was not academically inclined, my scholastic skills were very weak, but I was able to get through school. Funny enough, in the Common Entrance my Maths results were high, but English, I wasn't well in English – but Maths was always high," said Troy.

The busy entrepreneur said he tried but knew school was "not fitted" to him, as he was always active [in the family business] and he knew that he wanted to be an entrepreneur.

Hardworking and dedi-



Troy Williams of Williams Tools and Equipment Rental Inc. throws garbage into to school's skip as the Principal and children watch on. His company will be collecting garbage from the school on a regular basis.

cated, Troy has been working in the field of trucking and construction all of his life and his family has supported him through his many ups and downs. With three brothers and one sister; the young entrepreneur spoke warmly of his sister, Dr. Latoya Williams who has often provided support holistically as he takes on various ventures. As to his current passion for entrepreneurship, he credits an American

writer for his inspiration.

"Some years ago I received a copy of the book "Rich Dad, Poor Dad" by Robert Kiyosaki – it is a book that speaks about the importance of financial independence and building wealth through starting and owning businesses. Basically the book speaks about what the rich people teach their children about money and investing, something that many poor and middle class parents do not...

often times because they do not know or have the resources. That book inspired me to start my own business," said Troy.

Today this son of Black Rock is a proud businessman, Managing director of Williams Tools and Equipment Rentals and Williams Liquid and Solid Waste Management Inc. and he is currently part of the national waste haulers programme where he collects garbage for the entire parish of St. Lucy.