



AWARD-WINNING: Fashion designer Ishmael Tsakatsa

Zim designer Tsakatsa set for Paris Fashion Week

LIFESTYLE WRITER

AWARD-WINNING fashion designer, Ishmael Tsakatsa, the man behind the Zargue'sia label, will showcase in the Flying Solo Show at the Paris Fashion Week at the end of this month.

The Paris Fashion Week is rated as one of the world's most prominent fashion weeks along with New-York, London and Milan.

Tsakatsa, who will stage his show at the internationally-acclaimed fashion week on September 30, is determined to make the most of the opportunity to represent Zimbabwe.

"We are so proud to get the opportunity to fly high the Zimbabwean flag at this event and Africa at large.

"I was scouted by an international fashion agency called Fabusse which is represented by India-based Zimbabwean creative director Victoria Samushonga," said the 29-year-old said.

He added that the selection process was a rigorous one.

"Fabusse first identified me at a workshop

where they had an opportunity to meet many local fashion designers. They started observing my work and followed me through for a year before committing to work with me.

"In 2020 I had the opportunity to feature at Botswana Fashion without Borders. Early this year they then asked me if I was ready to feature on bigger platforms and that is when the opportunity to feature in Paris came about," said 2015 Future Africa Leaders Award winner.

Tsakatsa, a holder of a Physiotherapy degree from the University of Zimbabwe, is the founder and creative director of the acclaimed Zargue'sia label. Born in 1992, Tsakatsa developed a passion for unique fashion and style at an early age.

The 29-year-old fashion designer debuted on the local fashion scene in 2012 when he took part in a young designers' competition organised by the Zimbabwe Fashion Week (ZFW).

A year later he launched the Zargue'sia brand at ZFW where he was nominated for the Emerging Designer of the Year Award.

"I got the first of many awards I have won to date at the Zimbabwe Fashion Awards night in September 2014.

"The Zargue'sia brand is a luxuriant Christian brand that exudes the radiance of God's beauty and love.

"It is an allure of elegance,



Zimbabwean socialite and businesswoman Pokello Nare rocking Tsakatsa's design

opulence and a romanticism of royalty. It is a reflection of the aesthetic inner beauty and grace in a man and woman of affluence and excellence," Tsakatsa said.

BCC's new unit to promote arts in the city

Jeffrey Muvundusi
SOUTHERN EDITOR

THE Bulawayo City Council (BCC) has resolved to create an Arts, Culture and Heritage office as part of the broader initiative to promote the growth of the sector and retain the city's cultural hub status.

"The director of Housing and Community Services reported that the management committee had resolved that the post of arts, culture and heritage officer be created subject to a work study to determine the scope and purpose of the position.

"This will establish if there was no duplication of roles with the existing post of community services officer," the latest council report noted.

"The justification for the request was that the arts and culture industry was growing in leaps and bounds globally, nationally and in Bulawayo in particular."

The report also indicated that the initiative was a complimentary move by the local authority to President Emmerson Mnangagwa's 2019 declaration at Bulawayo Rainbow Hotel that the city was the capital for the arts in the country.

"It shall be noted that

running of the arts and culture in the city required a district officer who would concentrate on the industry and monitor growth of its demands," added the report.

In his contribution, Bulawayo mayor Solomon Mguni hailed the imitative which he described as "a good idea".

"There was a lot that as a city we could tap and learn from such initiatives. There was a need to fill in the gaps where there was deficiencies and support the creation of the post to concentrate on this portfolio and grow it," Mguni said.

The council will develop a calendar for the city's cultural activities that will be guide organisers of festivals and other events.

"This would bring forex to the city. The department was looking for a person who would be able to develop a portal and develop rich information on culture and heritage for the present and future.

"The person would improve the economy of Bulawayo from the cultural perspective," the report said.

Bulawayo is home to popular arts events such as Intwasa Arts Festival, Bulawayo Arts Festival, Ibumba International Festival and the Bulawayo Arts Awards.

Bulawayo mayor Solomon Mguni

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