

Concept Inspiration *Black Gold*

Tony Williams

One never knows what or where, when inspiration will come or what will inspire you. I was inspired while driving. I stopped at a traffic light. It was raining I looked out the car window and saw a weathered telephone pole covered in nails and staples and it spoke to me. I grabbed my phone and took three pictures before the light changed.

Up from the Muck and Mire, I emerged in all my splendor. My curves and statuesque form standing tall with the beaten marks from my masters whip. The marks from childbirth I was forced to bear, stretch across my body only to revile my inner beauty. Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, Black Gold, I am the dream and the hope of the slave from the sound of laughter to the cry of a hungry child, I am Black Gold...

These marks stretch across my body like a road map. Marks of the pain you inflicted with each lash of the whip, and the birth of each child you took from me. As the tears run down my face. These welts and scars I wear only mark the surface. They cannot hurt my core, my inner beauty the gifts my ancestors gave, my strength, and beauty, my creativity, my intellect, I am Black Gold...

I designed a Indigo Blue Couture Sculptural Pleated and beaded Kozo Paper Gown. Worn with a Grand Boubou Royal Robe Quilted, Dyed Indigo with a Gold lining. To represent the pain, the strength, courage and Royalty that is Black Gold.