

GARDEN OF WOMEN

Doria Havelomana Rafolisoa





"Garden of Women" is inspired by the overarching theme of solidarity and resilience. Growth rarely happens alone. In the "Garden of Women" each flower carries its own colour, strength, and story. When they come together, the landscape truly blooms. Expanding its beauty and emerging side by side. Our presence together as Black women and women of colour becomes a garden of rebirth, where diversity deepens the beauty and every bloom awakens a richer future. Combining the theme of Afro-futurism with the significance of the colour Purple, my graphically edited work symbolizes Women Empowerment. The colour purple has ties to Feminism. Purple depicts dignity, sovereignty, solidarity, resistance, and intersectional empowerment. In the early 1900s during the suffragette movement, it was linked to the concept of "Royal Blood that flows in the veins of every suffragette". Black Women are powerful, yet also the most marginalized.

My work refers to Alice Walker's "The Color Purple", a prize winning novel that solidifies purple as a symbol of Womanism. A term coined by Walker to describe Black Feminism. "Womanist is to feminist as purple is to lavender" - Alice Walker. Womanism refers to a theory rooted in the experiences of Black women and women of colour. The theory focuses on the intersection between gender, race, and class. Emphasizing empowerment of all people, while still spotlighting the unique struggles of Black women.









