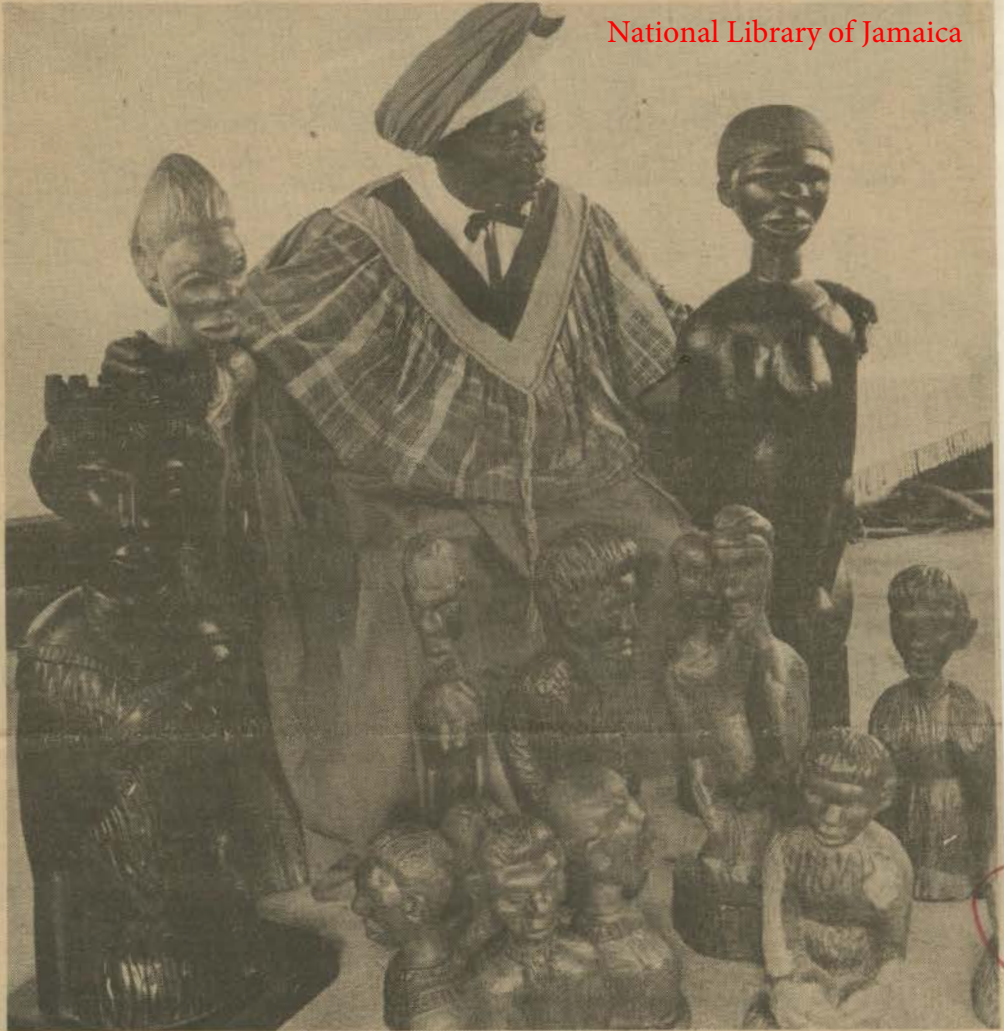


National Library of Jamaica



Kapo, the painter and pocomania priest presides over a collection of his carvings. The painter no longer has to sell his paintings or carvings since the American singer Roberta Flack established a Foundation on his behalf.

Kapo: Roberta 'is killing me softly'

Kapo, the painter and pocomania priest, says Roberta Flack is "killing him softly". The soul singer has set up a foundation for the colourful painter whose real name is Mallica Reynolds, according to a Tourist Board source.

Kapo said that after a visit to his home, studio, and church, the singer discovered that they both had similar birth signs — February 10 and she promised to help. Since then, Miss Flack has made handsome cash contributions to the painter,

and on one of her many visits to Kapo, she handed him the keys of a brand new air-conditioned Volkswagen bus.

"It's truly the age of Aquarius" said the effervescent painter, reflecting on his good fortune and a similarity of birth signs. "Roberta has taken up something that I never believed anybody in Jamaica, the United States or the world would do, because she is sponsoring me through.

"I have no need now to be afraid of what I do in my work.

I have time to concentrate because my problem of overheads is over."

Miss Flack has refused to purchase or accept as a gift any of Kapo's paintings, but she has sung "Killing Me Softly" and "I told Jesus" in Kapo's tiny church at Ghandi Road in Kingston.

The singer is also having a film made on the life and work of Kapo, and is planning an exhibition of his work at 12 universities in the United States, where the foundation is established.