

spark

magazine

Edition 14

- ⚡ **Bella Shmurda:**
Leading the new pack
of African Creatives
- ⚡ Fantastic women &
where to find them
- ⚡ Influencer spotlight
with Eyram_xx

15 MINS
SCROLL



www.sparkmaglive.com

[@sparkghana](#)

spark

magazine

About a Noticeboard In the middle of nowhere...

Back in secondary school, I was the editor of a club noticeboard placed on a wall behind the school where no activity happened. In today's world, it would be like running a personal blog no one read.

But I loved writing and having that medium to showcase my work meant so much to me. As a responsibility to myself, I tried to update this board every week with anything I found interesting to write about. Around this period, I started a series titled 'Kwame Kaplan'. It was a story about a Ghanaian boy who is kidnapped and sold out during Trans Atlantic Slavery and his adventures from Cape Coast where he is captured to the ship and finally his adventures when he arrives in the new world.

One day, I was taking off an old episode of the story for a new one and someone walked up to me. He had been following the story but hadn't read the episode i was taking off. His request was that I keep it for a while or I give him the sheet so he reads it on his own later.

I was stunned because i always thought no one cared about my writing on the noticeboard.

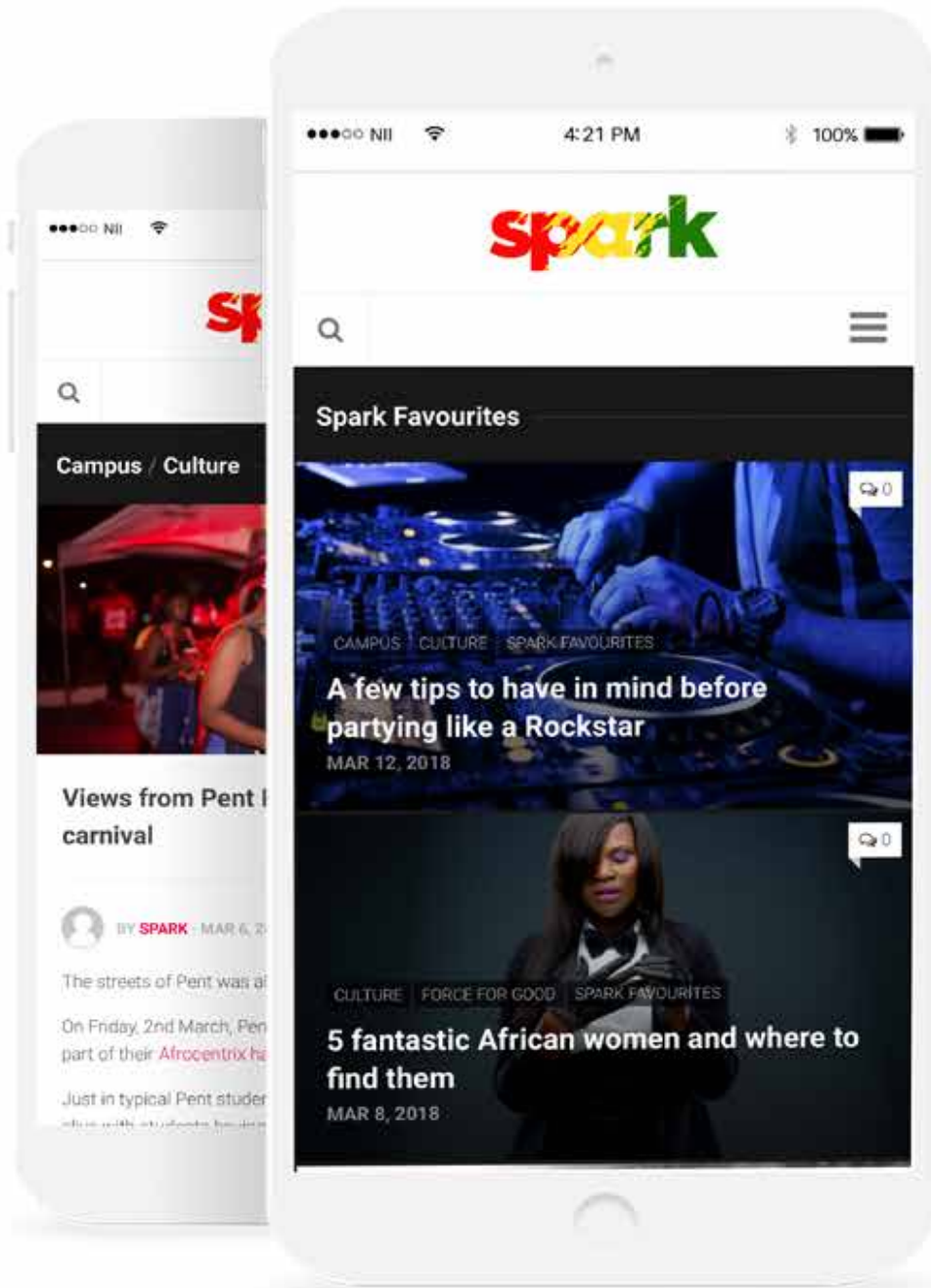
This experience taught me that no matter how small what we do may look, there is always someone this is impacting in a big way.

That's what this edition is about, highting people on the continent who are contributing to big things in their own small way.

Have fun reading their story, and learning about what they do and being inspired and like my friend from school, follow their story.

@Twumtweets on 

Byte sized content curated for you.



Download our newest edition on our website

www.sparkmag.live

   @sparkghana



BELLA SHMURDA



LEADING THE NEW PACK OF AFRICAN CREATIVES

The world took a different turn in 2020. Corona Virus was spreading throughout the globe, countries went into lockdown, flights were restricted and people had no idea if they would live to see the next day. Finally, when the dust settled and December came, one song which managed to raise our spirit and get us dancing was by a 26 year old Nigerian student of Lagos State University; Bella Shmurda.

CashApp was a hit song which changed the culture in so many ways.

The song reminded us of how life used to be before everything changed and still managed to help us to forget about everything we had lost. Most importantly, it ushered a new dawn of African creatives who had survived the psychological impact of a pandemic and were chattering a new wave for the Afrobeats sound and African music. Young, daring, bold, talented and willing to bet against all odds, Bella was leading this new pack and he had the song to prove it.



Abiola Ahmed Akinbiyi born in Ikorodu in 1996. He grew up in Lagos where he developed the passion for music. He recalls his childhood was like every normal kid at the time; school, home, playing table tennis and reading books but with his passion for music calling, he visited the recording studio occasionally. "There is just something exceptional about music for me. For someone, it may be football they are passionate about but for me it's music" he said profoundly. As a child he sung in the church choir like many other African artistes. "I was that small boy always being funny and making people laugh. People still tell me to be a comedian. I believe that if I am funny and making music, I can make you happier and free"



**Tap to read the
full article on
www.sparkmag.live**



10 MOVIES YOU SHOULD WATCH THIS SEASON



01



THE BATMAN

When the Riddler, a sadistic serial killer, begins murdering key political figures in Gotham, Batman is forced to investigate the city's hidden corruption and question his family's involvement. Available in cinemas.

UNCHARTED

The story is a prequel to the games, starring Holland as a younger Drake, showing us details of how he came to meet and befriend Sully. Available in cinemas.

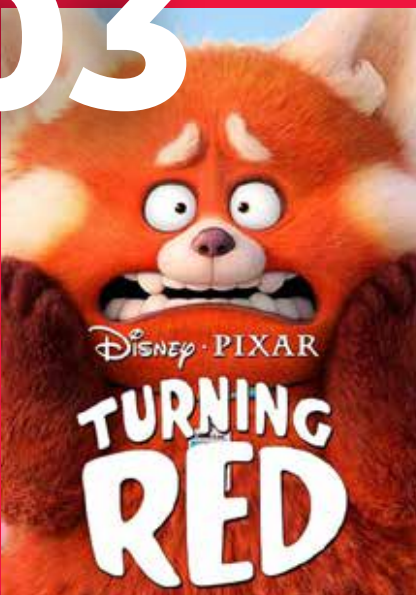
02



TURNING RED

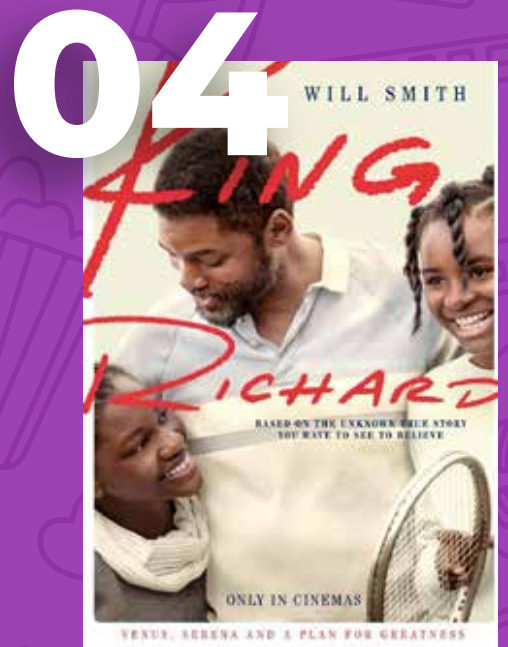
A 13-year-old girl named Mei Lee turns into a giant red panda whenever she gets too excited. Available in cinemas.

03



KING RICHARD

A look at how tennis superstars Venus and Serena Williams became who they are after the coaching from their father Richard Williams. Available on Netflix.



05



THE HAND OF GOD

In 1980s Naples, Italy, an awkward Italian teen struggling to find his place experiences heartbreak and liberation after he's inadvertently saved from a freak accident by football legend Diego Maradona. Available on Netflix.

DRIVE MY CAR

Two years after his wife's death, Yusuke Kafuku receives an offer to direct a play at a theater festival in Hiroshima. There, he meets Misaki, a reserved young woman assigned to be his chauffeur. As they spend time together, Kafuku starts to confront the mystery of his wife that quietly haunts him.



07



HOUSE OF GUCCI

Spanning three decades of love, betrayal, decadence, revenge, and ultimately murder, we see what a name means, what it's worth, and how far a family will go for control.

BELFAST

A young boy and his working class family experience the tumultuous late 1960s. Available in cinemas.

08



READ MORE ON

sparkmag.live





Your favorite songs,
anywhere.



Follow us on:



@BoomplayMusicGH

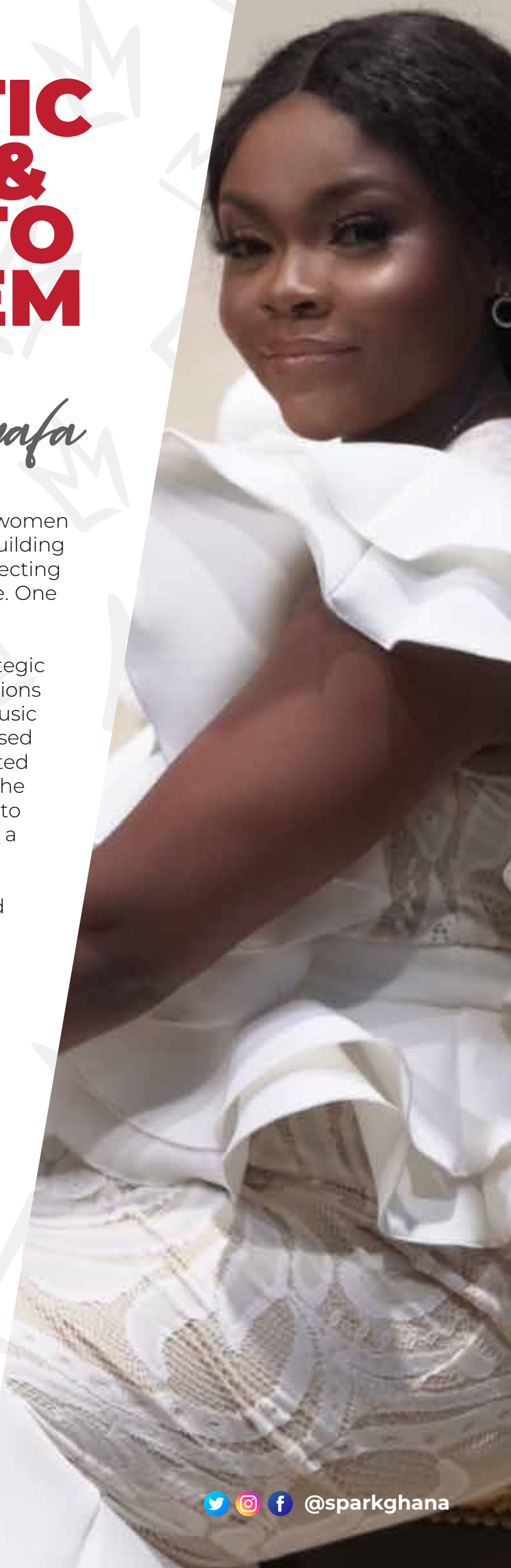
FANTASTIC WOMEN & WHERE TO FIND THEM

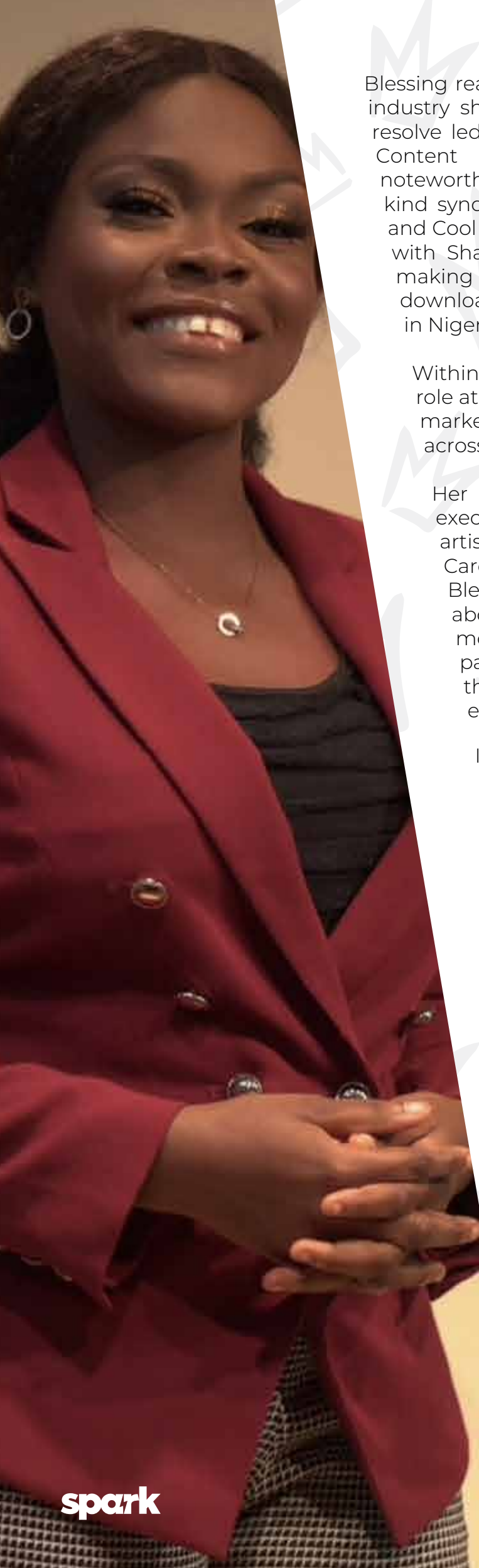
Blessing Manafa

The music industry today is full of women leaders who are setting trends, building solutions in the ecosystem, connecting bridges and blazing trails we love to see. One of such women is Blessing Manafa.

Blessing currently works as a Strategic Marketing, Relations and Communications Expert at Clout Africa, a Leading music marketing and promotion platform based in Lagos, Nigeria. Blessing completed school at Queens College Yaba where she completed her SSCE before moving on to University of Lagos where she earned a BSC in Actuarial Science.

Blessing's Marketing journey started from 'Deliberately Digital' where she led Digital campaigns for mostly SME clients while also sourcing and executing influencer marketing focused partnerships. One of her most notable work has been with Lufthansa airlines and Westfield mall London. She then moved on to Africa Health Holdings; a health investment company domiciled in Lagos, Accra and New York - where she worked on marketing strategies and communication with other partner industries and stakeholders. Having always been a music enthusiast,





Blessing realized it was time to apply her skills to an industry she had always been fascinated with. This resolve led her to serve at Cool FM as the Head of Content Strategy where she among other noteworthy achievements facilitated the first of its kind syndication deal between Apple Music Radio and Cool FM, a cross-regional marketing campaign with Shazam. Blessing has been instrumental in making the Cool FM app, one of the most downloaded music & entertainment focused app in Nigeria.

Within a year, she was promoted to her current role at Clout Africa, where she manages strategic marketing, partnerships and communications across the African entertainment ecosystem.

Her work here has led her to manage and execute partnership campaigns for global artists like Rema, Laycon, Mayorkun, Mariah Carey and more.

Blessing considers the impact of her work above everything else. It's never about just the money but most importantly about leading partnership and campaigns which inspires the next generation of professionals especially in the African space.

In her own words

To do this, I know I have to constantly put in the work and remember that yesterday's success paves the way for tomorrow's.

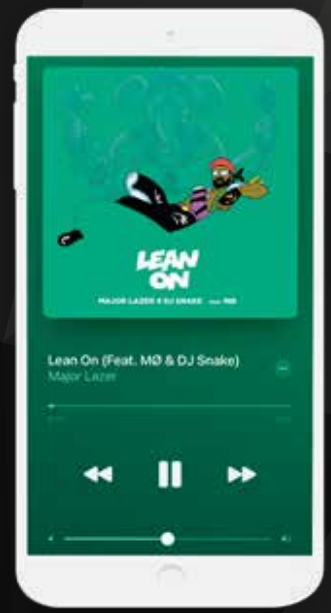
Connect with Blessing on LinkedIn:



Blessing Manada

SPARK TUNES PLAYLIST

Blessing shared with us come of the songs she is listening to currently in her playlist. Check out this playlist on Spark Magazine account on



01



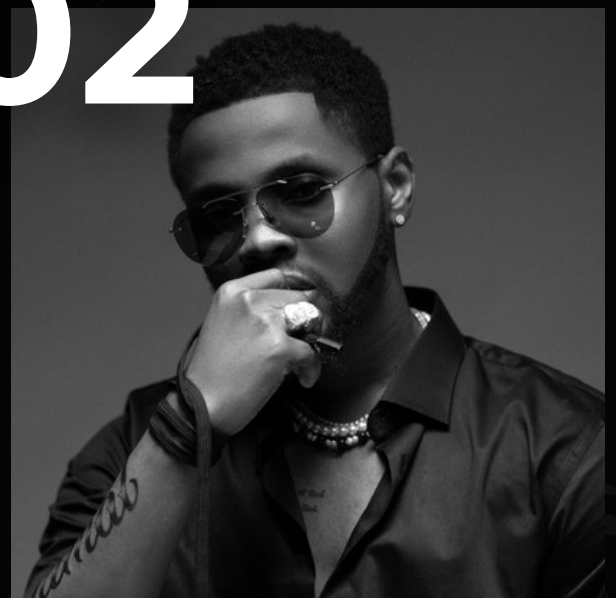
BUJU
ITALY

Buju delivers his songs with so much tact for beautiful melody and rhythm and this song is no different. It's no doubt that the youngster is bagging so many features on the continent. This s beautiful jam you should listen to.

KIZZ DANIEL
EH GOD (BARNABAS)

Kizz Daniel does it again on this one. On this danceable tune, Kizz Daniel provides another electrifying vocal delivery. It's almost perfect but not unusual from this King Afrobeat who keeps on delivering bangers every time. You will definitely have this on repeat.

02



ESSILFIE

ABEN WO HA

The upcoming Ghanaian Afro singer earlier on released an EP titled Tor's Lounge. This upbeat song off the EP features Ceci Yeboah who complements the song perfectly. This is true Ghanaian tune you will be listening to for a long time

03



04



RUGER

SNAPCHAT

Ruger has been on a winning streak lately and Snapchat is definitely one we are in love with. On this tune he is singing about a girl he can't stop thinking about and how he wants to engage with her on Snapchat. It's a very familiar message for this generation and a tune we will be jamming to for a long time.

ARYA STARR

BEGGIE BEGGIE

Sometimes Arya Starr has the tunes to turn up the party. Sometimes she is getting us in our feelings and on Beggie Beggie, she is definitely doing that. Coming off her 19 and Dangerous album, this tune is lovely tune which should definitely be on your playlist.

05



RIA BOSS SOMALI ROSE

A soulful ode reminiscent of classic soul, Somali Rose, is a lover's personal and intimate love letter. It celebrates the softness, sensuality, and poetry a pure love can have on a person. Its melodious rhythm, coupled with Boss' exquisite lyrics, makes it the perfect piece for a serenade.

06



07



AJEBO HUSTLERS LOYALTY

This record will get you singing and jamming all day. The Nigerian based duo delivers beautiful performances about a perfect woman who wants nothing but loyalty.

MAVERICK CITY GOD WILL WORK IT OUT

At all times, having the assurance that God will work it out and all will be well makes every situation calm and peaceful. That's the message Maverick City tells us in this song. Check it out on all streaming platforms now.

08



ELEVATION WORSHIP & MAVERICK CITY

JIREH

"Jireh" is a song performed by American contemporary worship band Elevation Worship and Maverick City Music, which features vocals from Chandler Moore and Naomi Raine.

09



10



JACQUELYN AMANFO

FOLLOW

Upcoming Ghanaian Gospel Artist is praising God on this new song for protecting her. Follow is a testimony with a remarkable performance by Jaquelyn who is slowly getting a lot of attention from the media and gospel community for her talent.

TAP TO STREAM PLAYLIST





INFLUENCER SPOTLIGHT

Eyram Adzo Agbeshie has been growing a community on social media for years. Currently, she has 204k+ followers on IG alone.

Eyram is a content creator and photo model who has worked with brands like Nivea, Darling Hair, Pepsodent, Smirnoff, AirtelTigo and more.

Her interests include travelling the world, creating unique content and trying new things.

FOLLOW EYRAM ON IG

 [eyram_xx](https://www.instagram.com/eyram_xx)

Eyram

BRA AND LESS

E: braandless@gmail.com

P: 0591383046

   @braandless



spark magazine

**Share this good stuff
with your friends and group chats**

Visit our social media pages
@sparkghana on facebook,
Instagram and Twitter and let's vibe.

There is even more awesome
stuff on our website. Tap on

www.sparkmag.live



Email us on
info@sparkmag.live
to contribute or talk to us.

   **[@sparkghana](#)**