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BornTroway: Talent still resides in Ajegunle

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The thinking in some circles is that the toga of the dregs of society, which Ajegunle, a Lagos suburb, has inadvertently adorned over the years would have been shed with the discovery of talents like Daddy Showkey , African China, among many others.

But that has not been the case, those who live there, particularly in the slums, have been referred to as

'BornTroway', a slang that indicates that they are rejected. All that may be changing as musician Ade Bantu (Creative Director / Music) with people like Petra Kron (Creative Director), Ropo Ewenla (Theatre), AJ Dagga Tolar (Spoken Word / Local Coordinator Ajegunle), Segun Adefila (Dance) and Ilaria Chessa (Producer), took a workshop for youth charting a new course to the area.

Held at Millennium Senior Secondary School, Tolu Complex, Ajegunle, the first phase of the workshop, started on May 16 with training and culminated on May 20 with the presentation of what the 41 children had learnt during the week. From the music, dance, drama and poetry, all the original works of the participants, it was easy to see that they had worked very hard and learnt a great deal. An excited Ade Bantu said at the performance on May 20 gave kudos to the collaboration between BornTroWay and the forthcoming Ghetto Red Hot film project, and that the 41 trainees would have the opportunity to play an appearance role in the music-based feature film.

Not only that, he stated that the second phase of the programme would see the project "travel across geopolitical zones, ethnic and religious groups, including in cities such as Port Harcourt, Jos, Kaduna and Maiduguri. In each of these cities 20-25 young people living in marginal areas are to be auditioned, selected and trained". The children, who all got certificates for participating, were evidently very excited.