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It is not every day we witness a momentous occasion especially one that is very close to our hearts. Last week, my boss Nduka Obaigbena turned 60 and even up till now, a week later, I am still reeling from the success of his birthday bash. Not only did I enjoy myself thoroughly, without being biased, I can safely say everyone that attended left with a lingering memory of the said event.

That Nduka is a maverick is without any iota of doubt. That he is a genius is unquestionable. That he is forward thinking is stating the obvious. That he is a first amongst equals has been proven many times over.

But all that aside, what is most endearing about Obaigbena is how he connects with people from all walks of life, both high and mighty down to the ordinary man on the street. At every event he hosts, rather than sit smugly and watch everyone else run around, he refuses to rest for one minute because he is too busy ‘sitting his guests’ and going around every table, from the front to the very back to ensure everyone is ok.

Obaigbena is still involved in every single part of his media empire. He is tireless, dogged and his tenacity is second to none! I admire his depth. His foresight. His courage and his warmth.

Over two decades of working with him, he still ‘surprises me but doesn’t surprise me’! I pray Nduka has many more years and milestones during his time on earth and leaves a legacy to be remembered for a long time to come. A name well earned is worth more than all the gold.

The theme of the event was Ever Green and the whole venue was stunningly decorated in the most fascinating manner with plants. Nduka Obaigbena has carved a name in the sands of time. Congratulations once again to this enigma.
MOTHER OF THE DAY, MARGARET OBAIGBENA WITH EKA & LEILA OBAIGBENA

ANG. CAN MUSHTAQU GASORE, MRS. ANNA ODUNFOlU AND JENNY FOLEMI LEAD PRAYERS FOR NDUKA OBAIGBENA AT 60

STILEY & DESIGN

THISDAY Style
Vol. 22, No 8844 Sunday, July 21, 2019

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FirstBank, in partnership with Eventful Limited, hosted Fashion Souk 3.0 at the Harbour Point, Wilmot Point Rd, Victoria Island, Lagos on Sunday, 7 July 2019 to showcase, support and promote the diverse creative talents of Nigerian entrepreneurs in the fashion industry.

The third edition of the Fashion Souk - a niche fair for entrepreneurs and enthusiasts of the fashion industry, was a one day event which had over 4,000 fashion lovers in attendance, from bargain hunters to summer wardrobe shoppers.

SMEs in the fashion industry proudly displayed their ready to wear items to a welcoming audience. The Souk attracted 140 famous and start-up fashion brands alike such as Mobos, Aaboux, Emisara, Gbenga ArtSmith, Ayanski, Needlepoint, Keexs and Senators wears. There was something for everyone at the Fashion Souk 3.0. At FirstBank, we remain committed to enabling our customers’ businesses by creating the right environment for them to grow and demonstrate their talents. If you missed it, we have you covered with the highlights from the day!

1). Yewande Zaccheaus; the convener Fashion Souk, Her Excellency Mrs Dolapo Osinbajo, wife of the Vice President of Nigeria and Ibukun Awosika; Chairman, Board of Directors, FirstBank 2). Winners of the business grant: @royalruthcrochet, @tandt_shirts and @glamsconcepts 3). Sights from the runway 4). When the catwalk becomes too routine and you have to “gbe se” 5). Mrs Ibru; Managing Director, Guardian Newspaper, Her Excellency, Mrs Bamidele Abiodun, First Lady of Ogun State, Yewande Zaccheaus and Folake Ani-Mumuney; Group Head, Marketing & Corporate Communications, FirstBank 6). Remi Lasaki, Teni Zaccheaus, Ayo Subair and Ola Ayodeji 7). Ibukun Awosika, Chairman, Board of Directors, FirstBank engaging the bank’s retail team at the Souk 8). Yewande Zaccheaus @royalruthcrochet 3rd Prize winner of the Business pitch and Folake Ani-Mumuney; Group Head, Marketing & Corporate Communications, FirstBank 9). Dj Butterr and Uti Nwachukwu serving up good vibes

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WOVEN INTO THE FABRIC OF SOCIETY
In truth, Nduka Obiaibona is always ready to initiate intelligent conversations about issues affecting Nigeria, so naturally, a 30 minute panel discussion on the state of the nation and future of Nigeria, moderated by Henry Nzekwu. The panelists were former Governor of Lagos State and Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Babatunde Fashola, Hadiza Bala-Usman, Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority, Professor George Obizor, former Ambassador of Nigeria to the USA and former Northern Region Premier, Alhaji Ahmadu Bello's grandson, Alhaji Hassan Danbaba, who all spoke candidly about the issues on ground and what must be done to improve the economy, security and more. Obizor, reiterated the importance for the renegotiation of Nigeria's unity and co-existence among its people while, Danbaba, was of the opinion that the solution to Nigeria's problems is dialogue. Fashola, stated that the country lacked quality human capital in public service and emphasized the importance of Nigeria recruiting the best brains from the private sector into the public service. Bala-Usman, concurred with Fashola that the public service should be saturated with the best quality of graduates in all parastatals.
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TONI BRAXTON WOWS LAGOS!

TIWA SAVAGE AND WIZKID...

Ain’t nothing like a Lagos party without some Nigerian vibes included! Tiwa Savage and Wizkid gave the ultimate performance to end what already was a perfect evening with medley of Nigeria vibes that kept guests on their feet for the rest of the night. It truly was the most wonderful evening that will certainly not be forgotten in a hurry!
TONY BRAXTON SERENADES THE BIRTHDAY BOY, NDUKA OBAIGBENA AND GUESTS!

No sooner was the panel discussion over, American R&B songstress Toni Braxton graced the stage in an hour long of music and dance. She entertained guests with back-to-back hit tracks from her 90’s album till date belting out songs like ‘Breath Again’, ‘Another Sad Love Song’, ‘He Wasn’t Man Enough For Me’ and more. Her performance took guests down memory lane as they sang along with her all through it. Excited by the level of knowledge of her songs from her audience, Toni pulled different women on stage to sing along with her and also came off stage to serenade the VIP guests who grinned with glee to her melodious voice and touch as she sang sweetly in their ears. They were tickled pink! She ended her performance seated on the birthday boy’s laps singing happy birthday to him.
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