Narratives of Vincy Mas Shows

The Dimanche Gras Show includes the crowning of the National Calypso Monarch, King and Queen of Carnival (featuring large and elaborate individual Masqueraders and Costumes from the Mas bands). The Ragga Soca, Junior Calypso, and Junior Pan Fest victors also perform at this event.

Evening Street Party is also referred to as the Parade of the T-shirt Bands. As the name suggest revelers are adorned in t-shirts from their favorite band and parade through the streets of Kingstown with excited merriment.

Fantastic Friday is a competition which showcases the semi-finalists for the Calypso Monarch.

Fire Fete is a high energy party which features popular Soca artiste from around the region. Patrons are encouraged to reflect the mood of the event, which takes place at carnival city, by wearing red attire.

J’Ouvert is a contraction of the French term Jour Overt meaning early morning/dawn break. Participants usually take one of the following options… either creating a satirical costume which is paraded at will or purchase an all inclusive ticket with a large j’ouvert band. The ticket includes a fete which runs from midnight to early dawn after which the band takes to the streets of Kingstown thus enabling the revelers to parade their masterpiece. This event culminates at mid morning with lots of water action.

Junior Carnival (Mas), Junior Calypso (Primary and Secondary Schools) Junior Soca Monarch and Junior Pan Fest are events which ensure that children are included in the largest annual festival.

Mardi Gras is the parade of the various mass bands and signals the culmination of Vinci Mas. Masquerade Bands compete for the ‘Band of the Year’ title in a marvelous spirit of keen rivalry. Once adorned in the costumes at their assembly point, masqueraders journey through the streets of Kingstown to display their energy on the Stage at Carnival city. After this Judging session they parade the length of back street where they are judged a final time. It is during the parade along the streets that revelers are encouraged to unshackle their inhibition and fuse their bodies with the rhythm of the Soca songs.

Miss Carnival is one of the region’s premier’s Beauty Pageant which includes contestants from as far away as the Bahamas and Venezuela. Similar to the Miss SVG, contestants compete in four main categories and the venue is at Carnival city.

Miss SVG is the most anticipated local beauty pageant. The contestants hail from villages throughout the destination and compete at Carnival city (Victoria Park) in four main categories: swimwear; talent; evening wear and interview. The winner of this pageant is granted a four years University scholarship and the opportunity to represents the destination at the Miss Carnival show.
**Panorama** is eagerly anticipated by many music aficionados as steel pan is deeply rooted in the Caribbean people psyche. The event comprises of steel bands attempting to outdo each other in a musical crescendo. Small sections of the various mas bands also parade on stage to compete for ‘section of the band.’

**Ragga Soca** is soca fused with Reggae on a slower rhythm. This is event is a crowd pleasing competition which follows a similar format to the Soca monarch competition.

Over the last decade **Soca Monarch Competition** has attracted the largest of crowds to Carnival city, Victoria Park. Soca artistes are pitted against one another as they use Stage craft and other antics fused with up tempo Soca melodies to whip the crowd into frenzy while they try for the top prize.