

KENNETH IZE

PRESS RELEASE

KENNETH IZE PRESENTS JOY

A COLLECTION BORN OF A MOMENT MARKED BY FRAGMENTATION,
INTROSPECTION, AND A WORLD ON ITS KNEES.

JOY begins with a simple but urgent question: What have we done wrong? Rather than offering easy answers, the collection reframes joy as a complex emotion felt inwardly and expressed outwardly through design.

At the heart of the collection is collaboration. Through countless exchanges with James Tennessee Braindt, Rodney Patterson, KK Obi, Giovanni Mareschi, Ceecee, Affa Osman, Michael Musa, Jd Ankomah, Reference Studios, friends, and family alike, I absorbed their dialogues and wove them into textiles. The clothes become a language woven from experience, movement, and meaning.

Like aso oke, velvet, wool, lining, and denim intertwined, the collection carries stories of travel, exchange, and human connection shaped by my journeys. Materials traditionally associated with warmth, protection, and interiority are used to blur the boundary between inside and outside. The result is a tactile expression of emotion, where garments feel lived-in, vulnerable, and alive. What is usually hidden is brought to the surface, reflecting inner beauty, vulnerability, and emotional tension.

At its heart, JOY is about togetherness. It does not offer a refuge from reality. It is an offering of clothing as emotion, performance, and meaning.