



By Roving Reporter

ARTIST FEATURE R.ROBIN KUTINU

"The pursuit of the ultimate expression, to invoke emotion, and to capture the moment of perfection and immortalise it are the key points to what drives and inspires me" R.Robin Kutinyu



ve been surrounded by art my entire life. My father was an acclaimed sculptor who specialised in wildlife and painted in oils in Zimbabwe. I first started at the age of five doing rhinos and finishing my father's pieces. I honed my skills and sold my own first collection of birds and turtles at the tender age of ten. Since then, I have been completely absorbed by animals, the human figure and sculpture, the movement and anatomy of animals and human form.

I try to capture the essence of my subject for example an animal, by immortalizing a certain moment, a look and feel of what is happening. My work is about the soul of my subject, not just the outer form worked to perfection. I have made my way from understanding my material and the possibilities it gives me to shaping the intangible of an idea, an image, a concept.

There are different ways for me to get inspired. The sculpture might develop from an idea that forms in my mind. Textures create an image. Or I might travel thousands of miles to find an unexplored quarry where I wander around and listen to the stone calling out to me to be worked. Quite often I see in the freshness of nature the complete sculpture in a rock formation.

Working in the silence of the desert is like a retreat, where often sculptures start taking shape, getting their first overall expression.

Moving stones that weigh several tonnes is a refreshing exercise to me. The tension between raw material and finished piece keeps me excited all along the process of creation.

I consider it a challenge to catch the movement of the human form in its endless variations. Studying the masters like Donatello, Bernini and Rodin taught me a lot about the different forms the human body can be presented in. To choose the right expression and media for an idea is the task that sets my work apart.

I use many types of media; alabaster and zebra stone from America, wonderstone from South Africa, semi-precious stone from Zimbabwe, jasper from South Africa, Italy, Namibia and Madagascar. Wood, wax, and even ice sculptures, granite, marble, picture stone, sand stone, metal and cement.

My favourite stones are granite, for its multiple texture finishing qualities, marble for its classic association with sculptures, bowenite, potoro leonardo, jasper, sodalite, picture stone for its dazzling colours, spring stone and wonder stone for the contrasting texture between polished and unpolished.

I have regular private collectors in USA, Germany, England, Australia, Switzerland and a small but growing number in South Africa, one of the highlights being two life size tigers commissioned by the mother of an international sports figure.







A collection went to the National Zoo & Aquarium in Weston Creek Australia, and I have held personal exhibitions at the Safari Club International in Reno, Afridesia Gallery, Red Bank, New Jersey, and an art promotional exhibition held by the Spanish ambassador at his Cape Town residence.

I have exhibited in the following galleries;

Australia:

Mystical Arts East Burwood, Vic

USA:

Afridesia Gallery Red Bank New Jersey Spirits in Stone Glen Ellen California Jerol Gallery Boca Raton Florida Safari Club International Reno

Bermuda:

Crisson & Hind Fine Art Gallery

Belgium:

Dielaman Gallery Liz Piti

South Africa:

Art Creations Africa
Gallery Africa
Hout Bay Gallery
Klawervlei Stud's auction
CTICC Cape Yearling Sale

The Monty Roberts tour at Mistico Equestrian Centre

Kenya:

Soul of Africa

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