

## ECKEL NYAMHONDORO



“An artist has to have a signature, something in his work which defines him”

(b) 4.08.1972, Guruve, Zimbabwe

Eckel Nyamhondoro comes from a very large family. His father had 4 wives, 14 sons and 14 daughters. As a result, says Eckel, there wasn't enough money to send all of the children to school. In 1992 Eckel dropped out of high school to join his cousin, sculptor Enos Chengo who encouraged him to take up carving full-time.

After 4 years of an apprenticeship, he moved to the Tengenenge Art Colony where he started working as an independent sculptor. He spent 2 years working at the Edronce Rukodzi studios, honing his skills as a contemporary artist. Today he mentors younger sculptors and has held numerous successful stone sculpting workshops in Germany.

He has also participated in a number of group exhibitions, at the Museum of Modern Art in San Diego (1997), the African Millenium Foundation travelling exhibition (2006), and the Kristin Diehl competition organised by the German Embassy in Zimbabwe (2006).

Eckel draws on his culture and on the links between man and nature for inspiration. He infuses his sculptures of birds and mammals with a spirit of 3-dimensional realism.

A hallmark of Eckel's work is his detailed chisel-work which he usually applies to his sculptures of human figures.