

## TONDERAI MASHAYA



“The human family is my source of inspiration”

(b) 1977, Nyanga, Zimbabwe

After he left school, Tonderai Mashaya served his apprenticeship with Gideon Nyanhongo, a Second Generation artist from the Nyanga region who had established an international reputation. It was under his tutelage that he learned how to render the human form, and emotion, with such eloquence.

Tonderai chose not to join his brothers' studio. Instead he was invited to become the artist-in-residence at the Chapungu Sculpture Park in Harare in 1996, 1997 and 2000. As a result of this exposure he has exhibited his sculptures in group shows at the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens in Cape Town, and at Kew Gardens in London.

His sculptures have been bought by collectors and galleries in the Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, Germany, South Africa and Singapore.

Today he works from his house in Harare, where he stays together with his cousin Lisborn Mashaya.

Lemon Opal and Springstone are Tonderai Mashaya's stones of choice. The former because of its exceptional colour and hardness, the latter because of its density and lustre.

One of the main characteristics of Tonderai's sculptures are their fully 3-dimensional character, the flowing lines, long fingers, Modigliani-like features and sense of proportion and balance