

Lucas SITHOLE - *his social commitment and political concern*

When Lucas SITHOLE was building his 2nd house at Spekboom near Pongola, he provided over a long period work for many local people, depending on how his finances were.



Lucas' new house under construction - Pongola 1981



Twelve years later, in August, 1993, there still remained lots to be done for Lucas SITHOLE to complete his house near Pongola - lots of money, too, to pay the material and his labourers!



Lucas SITHOLE's studio at Spekboom – supported by carved beams - 1993



Lucas SITHOLE and his new house with outbuildings, not quite completed yet – 1993

Lucas SITHOLE sadly did not live long enough to fully enjoy his projected dream house.

See also http://www.sithole.com/PDFs/SITHOLE_Pongola_1993.pdf

During this time, he also supported financially and actively a school in his neighbourhood.

Over the years, he also contributed occasionally to charities.

Political concern

According to the application form to the "Operation Crossroads Africa" Programme of the US Embassy, Pretoria, for which Lucas SITHOLE had been nominated for participation in 1978, he had been a member of Inkatha in Kwa-Thema since 1977.

He was however not actively involved, nor could he be, but as a **leading sculptor he expressed his concerns in a few of his works.**

The earliest one that comes to mind is LS7005 / LS7101



LS7101

"The Wounded Buffalo" may represent mine workers feeling the burden of their heavy work underground.

Other sculptures to be considered are:






LS7701

"Proud and Angry"

Interpretation - as quoted in Strauss & Co.'s auction cat. p. 167, 11th June, 2012

"He was known as a gentle, sensitive and empathetic person whose concerns over the sufferings of others were fearlessly addressed in his work. Nevertheless, alternative forms of expression had to be found at a time when opposition to the political order was severely punishable. "Proud and Angry" presents two faces, encapsulating some of the socio-political tensions that were rife at the time, the solidarity experienced amongst likeminded people and defiance in the face of systemic violence."

Likewise to be considered are:

		
LS9102 "The Victor / the Vanquished"		LS9105 "Catch it, Bova" ("Vat hom, Bova")

Whereby the original meaning of "it/hom" was not a ball!