

“African Art and Craft Market” operated in 1979 a large gallery showroom in the city centre of Johannesburg, showing sculptures and paintings by well-known artists from South Africa.

African Art and Craft Market

1ST FLOOR COLOSSEUM BUILDING
140 COMMISSIONER STREET JOHANNESBURG
TELEPHONE 21-1565

OUR SHOWROOM NOW OPEN

with an exhibition of paintings and sculptures by well known African and European artists, together with a large selection of indigenous crafts, mineral specimens, semi-precious stone and ivory jewellery, ornaments and carvings.

WE WOULD WELCOME A VISIT FROM YOU



The business was seemingly owned by Mr Leon de Wet. He approached Gallery 21 for the supply of art works to be exported by him for his own account to Los Angeles CA.

In October, 1979, Gallery 21, Fox Street, Johannesburg, sold to “African Art and Craft Market” at dealers’ prices 4 airbrush (6 items) drawings by Norman Catherine, 4 batiks by Louis Steyn, and **6 sculptures by Lucas Sithole**. In addition, 9 bronzes by Michael Fleischer were sold and a number of sculptures were sold directly by Zoltan Borberek.

Mr Leon de Wet issued postdated cash cheques drawn by MLM Shoes t/as African Art and Craft Market, signed in their own right by L. de Wet and another person. Unfortunately, this business went into provisional liquidation and Gallery 21 was left holding 3 unpaid cash cheques for a total of R7629. The art works had already been sent by Mr de Wet to the USA before being full paid for.

The works could not be traced any longer, except that the first recipient were Richland Industries Inc., 9000 Sunset Blvd., Suite 915, Los Angeles CA 90069, (incorporated in 1978) who sent the works of Zoltan Borberek and Lucas SITHOLE in April, 1980 to The Swedlow Group’s showroom in Garden Grove CA 92645, to be returned to Richland Industries Inc. on 28th May, 1980. Richland Industries Inc. was subsequently struck off the California corporation register.

After that all trace of all the art works involved was lost, which is a pity as not all works were photographed at the time.

The sculptures by Lucas SITHOLE are recorded under LS7906. LS7911, LS7928, LS7929, LS7930, LS7931 – see www.sithole.com