

# Lucas SITHOLE

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## CURIOS, works of a DOUBTFUL NATURE or FAKES

**Buyers beware** - the following list includes items attributed to Lucas SITHOLE – ALL are either CURIOS, or of a DOUBTFUL NATURE or they are FAKES!

This document is provided by the copyright holders to all works by Lucas T. SITHOLE in terms of a signed agreement entered into with the artist's Estate: The Haenggi Foundation Inc., Postfach 1539, CH-4001 BASEL/Switzerland.

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Refer to:

<http://www.sithole.com/Transition.htm>

[http://www.sithole.com/Sithole\\_Mini\\_Master\\_Registry.htm](http://www.sithole.com/Sithole_Mini_Master_Registry.htm)

<http://www.sithole.com/>

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## CURIOS

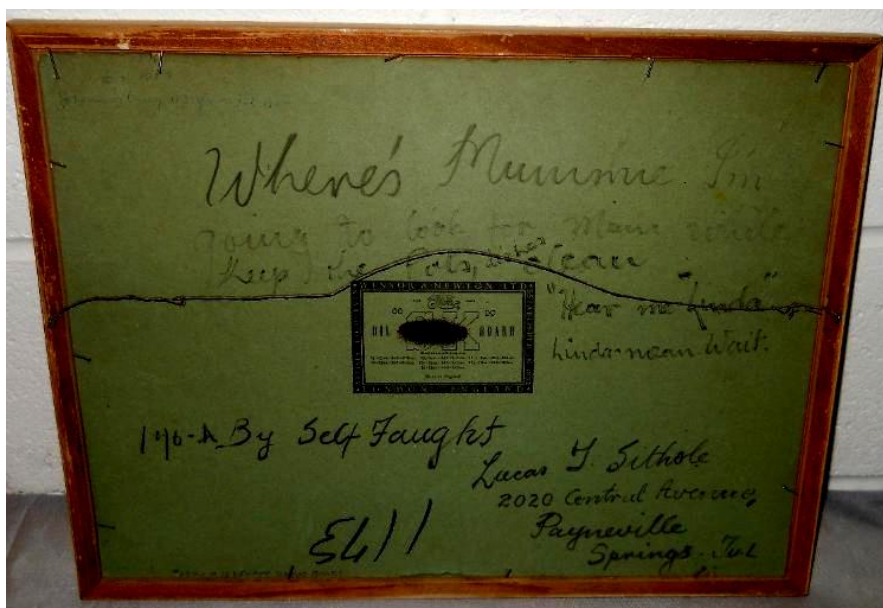
### Scarves for the tourist trade



Collection MTN Foundation, Sandton – acquired as a work by Lucas SITHOLE – oil on silk scarf – 80x73.5 cm

The title reading as “Impilo Yase Maktinga South Africa” appears to be in the same hand-writing of an elderly person as in the next image below! **The item is NOT SIGNED!**

## Early curio paintings

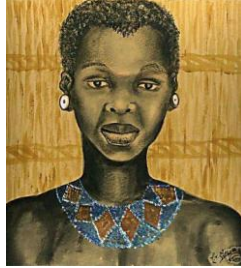


*"Where's Mummie. I'm going to look for Mum while keep the pots, dishes clean." "Hear me Linda"  
Linda mean wait.*

**Signed correctly by Lucas SITHOLE during his pre-KwaThema period (pre-1951)**

This work was auctioned by Jim Racine Auctions, North East, Maryland, USA on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2012, its provenance being from the Estate of Clarence M Mitchell III., Baltimore, the former Maryland delegate and State Senator having visited South Africa in the past. It is not known where and when he acquired this work.

### Early curio paintings (continued)



Private collection in the USA - offered on Ebay October 2006 – watercolour or gouache – 25x24 cm – signed and dated 1958



**Note: the signature does not appear to be from the artist's own hand**- rather drawn by another person – compare with writing on first image!

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Private collection in SA – watercolour/gouache – 50x36 cm – signed and dated 1960



**Note: the signature does not appear to be from the artist's own hand**- rather drawn by another person – compare with writing on first and second image!

*It is not known from whom the first owners acquired these items.*

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## FAKES

*or wrongly attributed*



*First offered on auction at CAHi, Pretoria- 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 - **not** by Lucas SITHOLE!*

*Copyright holders objected!*

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*The aforementioned item was again offered for auction by Sotheby's / Welz Johannesburg on 18th November, 2009 – Lot 378 and is unfortunately illustrated in their catalogue on p.81 as a work by Lucas Tandokwazi Sithole and on their website! Copyright holders objected! According to email of 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 from Imre Lamprecht of Welz/Sotheby's *the work was withdrawn from the auction and would not be offered by them!**







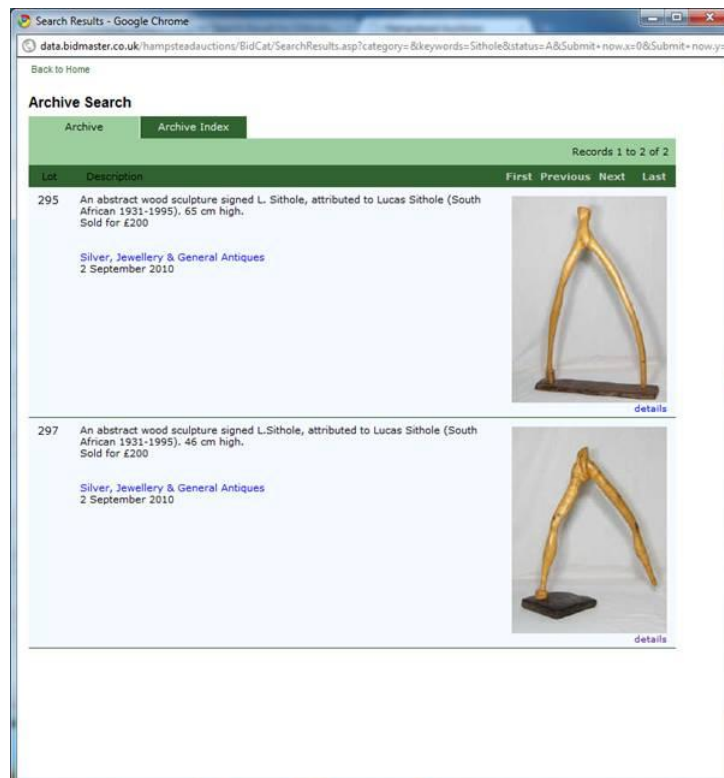
***Lucas T. Sithole never dated his sculptures, never inscribed titles to them, never signed sculptures this way! This is a FAKE!***

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**The following works were first offered in Cape Town in 2009, again in the U.K. in 2010 and in Johannesburg in 2011 – they are FAKES!**

	
<p><i>Lot 163 withdrawn by Ashbey's, Cape Town – 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009 - not by Lucas SITHOLE!</i></p>	<p><i>Lot 164 withdrawn by Ashbey's, Cape Town – 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009 - not by Lucas SITHOLE!</i></p>
<p><b><i>Copyright holders objected!</i></b></p>	

They were then **sold** auction on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2010 through Hampstead Auctions, London NW3, as Lot 295 and 297; copyright holders only became aware of this in February, 2011:



The new owner offered these pieces to a Johannesburg Auction House in 2011 who, after contacting our office, notified the new owner that these were fakes.

**THESE TWO ITEMS ARE FAKES AND NOT BY LUCAS T. SITHOLE!**

*The following work “River God” was offered by BidorBuy on behalf of a private owner:*



*“River God” in limestone 38cm H – supposedly acquired from the artist in Swaziland in the 70s. Though signed, this work – since broken – was not a genuine sculpture by Lucas SITHOLE, for various reasons explained to seller.*

***It was a fake!***

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### ***ANOTHER WRONGLY ATTRIBUTED WORK***



*First offered by Sotheby’s Houston in November 2001 as part of the Rex B Grey Collection, as a work by Lucas Sithole, then again on the website of Art of Antiquities Sands of Time in February, 2005 as “African wooden drum by Sithole with ornate relief of African figures and cowhide top; skin top still with hair – 45 cm H. Purchased in Zambia, 1969 ... Rex Grey collection”.*

*After our complaint, all references to “Sithole” were omitted by the auction house.*

## Wrongly attributed



*NOT by Lucas SITHOLE, but sold door-to-door on behalf of his employer – see note from owner:*

*My son, Chris E., forwarded your e-mail to me concerning the painting on velvet done by Lucas Sithole. Its history is this: In 1964 I was a missionary for the Mormon Church and was serving in Springs South Africa. I was living in a flat and one day (1<sup>st</sup> September, 1964) a person knocked on my door and wanted to sell some of his paintings. He said that his name was Lucas Sithole. I looked at the 3 paintings he had for sale and liked all of them. Although I did not really have any extra money, he said that he would be willing to trade for them so I gave him my camera and overcoat for three paintings. I also took a picture of him which I still have among my pictures of South Africa.*

*The 3 paintings I got are: (1) the lion painting which you saw on the internet, (2) an African warrior beating a drum and (3) a pastoral scene of a kraal. The paintings are on blue velvet, oil and signed by Lucas. They are approximately 45x60 cm. My son in Purcellville, Virginia, has the pastoral scene, my sister in Bozeman, Montana, has the warrior painting, but I have lost track of the lion painting.*

**Note:** *the owner mistook the scribbled “signature” as being of Lucas Sithole!*

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## A very doubtful work taken off the auctioneer's web in 2012



This charcoal drawing on brown paper "Mother & child", signed in pencil, meas. 57x5x34 cm, was offered for auction by Bernardi's Pretoria for their November, 2012, auction, as Lot 603, for ZAR 6000-10'000.

At the request of copyright holders, this item was taken off the web and returned by the auctioneers to owner, for the following reasons:

This item is a bad copy of the original painting of a "Black Madonna" recorded as LS6208 - <http://www.sithole.com/SITHOLE-LS6208.htm>

The full provenance to the satisfaction of copyright holder was not provided by seller – this item has never been seen or recorded before. The Madonna now looks like a man, some of the fingers which the artist never drew this way are pointed, the charcoal is on brown paper never used by Lucas SITHOLE (SAPPI Tugela PM3), the figure's left shoulder has no counterpart. The signature in pencil appears to be copied – Lucas SITHOLE would have signed in charcoal when he completed the item.

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## **NOT BY LUCAS SITHOLE**

In 2014 we were asked to authenticate the following sculpture acquired by current owner's family from the Daljosaphat Art Foundation in Paarl in 1993 or 1994, unsigned but originally with a label supposedly stating the work to be by Lucas Sithole.



**Verdict:** This work is unsigned, probably produced by a student of the Daljosaphat Art Foundation's sculpture classes, similar to other works in this document on pp. 5+6! **IT IS NOT BY LUCAS SITHOLE!**

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*Last updated and uploaded by the copyright holders on 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 (F06)*

*These pages will be updated from time to time!*