

FOR THE LOVE OF ELEPHANTS



BY LYNNE-MARIE EATWELL



INSPIRATION FOR THE LOVE OF ELEPHANTS

'Animals are more ancient, more complex and in many ways more sophisticated than us. They are more perfect because they remain within Nature's fearful symmetry just as Nature intended. They should be respected and revered, but perhaps none more so than the elephant, the world's most emotionally human land mammal.' -Dame Daphne Sheldrick

Through a twist in fate I found myself at the Radisson hotel listening to a talk about Rhino poaching and gun trafficking by Kathi Lynn Austin. The next day Peter Knights, the CEO of WildAID came to my studio to see my work and to tell me about an idea they were working on. They wanted to create a monument for the Tanzanian Government using the stockpiles of ivory, which amounted to the lives of about ten thousand elephants. The crushed ivory would be used as an aggregate in a sculpture. They were thinking of putting the idea forward to artists as a competition and asked me for ideas and names of artist they could approach. Though still in the infancy of the idea I felt so moved by the thought of ten thousand elephants that I decided to pursue the idea further and make a sculpture dedicated to elephants. Over the next few months I delved into researching elephants. I went to the Knysna Elephant Park, who kindly allowed me to stay and gave me full access to their elephants.

Although I have spent a great deal of time with horses and various animals, nothing could have prepared me for the awe of meeting an elephant. It was Keisha in particular who showed me that everything ever said about the sensitivity and intelligence of these creatures was true. Meeting Keisha was not like any animal I had ever known, she was as if meeting a human being, only much nicer and far more openhearted. She reminded me of my time with the Khoisan who greet one with such sincerity and openness that one feels almost uncomfortable and exposed. It was through her that I truly fell in love with elephants.

This sculpture is about the bond of family and interconnectedness. We have so much to learn about these amazing animals and through them so much to learn about ourselves. While we seek the meaning of life and how to live it, may we realize, that we are life itself. . . and in that, we share this precious life with all life on earth, all things bright and beautiful, all the creatures great and small.

Whatever the outcome of our efforts in the long run, what really counts is the fact that we have tried. This is my way of using my talents to make a difference, to show people the beauty that surrounds us and that it is worth making an effort to protect it. It is never too late to change things but we have to change it together.

'What is man without the beasts? For if all the beast were gone, man would die of a great loneliness of the spirit.' -Chief Seattle

I don't want to live in a world without elephants- Lynne-Marie Eatwell





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Limited Edition: /10

Medium: Bronze

Weight: Approximately 46kg

Height: 360mm

Width: 760mm

Depth: 670mm

LYNNE-MARIE EATWELL



Born in Johannesburg in 1982, Lynne-Marie has worked as a full time artist since the age of 17. After completing high school at the National School of Arts in Johannesburg she continued to pursue her career as a painter. Working in oils, one can see the influence of the Impressionists and the great Nineteenth Century artists, particularly that of Sargent and Sorolla. Using bold brushstrokes she works fast and accurately, her expressions of light and movement are a dominant feature in her paintings.

Having an appetite for travel and an interest in traditional cultures Lynne-Marie can often be found painting in remote destinations around the world. Researching and living with traditional people, capturing their portraits and life-style on canvas whilst reminding us that the world is still full of wonder.

In 2010-2011 she studied classical drawing at the Florence Academy of Art in Italy, further strengthening her foundation in figure drawing. It was here that Lynne-Marie developed her fascination for anatomy, which would later be of use in her exploration of sculpture and animal anatomy.

During 2015 she started to explore the process of bronze sculpture, beginning with the study of horses and later equine and human anatomy. In both her paintings and sculptures there is a strong emotional quality depicted showing her sensitivity to her subject. She often captures a quiet or playful moment giving the viewer the sense of being transported into the intimate world of the subject. Sometimes the emphasis is on her ideal relationship between man and animal, transferring emotional human characteristics onto animals and vice versa, in so doing she narrows the gap between the two.

Her work has found a ready home in private collections both locally and internationally and is prominently featured in the collection of the Orient Museum, at the Francolin conservancy just outside of Pretoria.

Exhibitions and Events

- 2004 June Group Show at “The Redleaf Gallery” Tunbridge Wells, Kent, U.K.
- 2007 April Solo Show at “The Orient Boutique Hotel” Francolin Conservancy
- 2009 June Open Studio Exhibition at “Santa Monica Fine Art Studios”
- 2010 July Group Show at “Rebecca Molayem Gallery” West Hollywood
- 2010 -2011 Studied “Intensive Drawing Program” at The Florence Academy Of Art
- 2011 October Traveled to Siem Reap, Cambodia. Collection commissioned by Cobus Du Plessis.
- 2013 March Traveled to Tsumkwe, Namibia to stay with Bushmen Communities /Research
- 2013 May Opening Exhibition of The Eatwell Gallery,
- 2013 September Exhibiting Member of the First Venice Artblock Studio tour, Venice Beach, CA, U.S.A.
- 2013 December Group Show at The Eatwell Gallery
- 2014 February Group Show 'Pastoral Symphony' at Rebecca Molayem Gallery, Beverly Hills, CA, U.S.A.
- 2014 March 2nd Research trip to Tsumkwe, Namibia to stay with Bushmen communities.
- 2014 August Solo Exhibition, “Hunter Gatherer, Faces of the Khoisan” at the Orient Boutique Hotel, Pretoria
- 2014 December Summer Exhibition at The Eatwell Gallery
- 2015 August Winter Exhibition at The Eatwell Gallery
- 2015 Summer Exhibition at The Eatwell Gallery
- 2016 Summer Exhibition at The Eatwell Gallery
- 2017 January Group Show at Moore Gallery, Franschoek
- 2017 April Traveled to the Camargue in the South of France to research Camargue Horses.
- 2018 Group Show, Wild at Imibala Gallery Somerset West
- 2018 October Research trip to North Western Mongolia to study the Golden Eagle Hunters
- 2018 November Research trip to Pushkar, India, to research the Camel Traders of Rajasthan Desert.
- 2019 February Group show at Imibala Gallery, Somerset West.

Representation

Imibala Gallery, Somerset West
Knysna Fine Art, Knysna/Grand Provance Franschoek
The Orient Art Museum, Francolin Conservancy
The Studio Gallery, Simons Town
The Eatwell Gallery, Noordhoek
Legacy Private Art Collection



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