Feminist Africa is a continental gender studies journal produced by a community of feminist scholars. It provides a platform for intellectual and activist research, dialogue and strategy. Feminist Africa attends to the complex and diverse dynamics of creativity and resistance that have emerged in postcolonial Africa, and the manner in which these are shaped by the shifting global geopolitical configurations of power.

It is currently based at the African Gender Institute in Cape Town.

A full text version of this journal is available on the Feminist Africa website: http://www.feministafrica.org

Cover Artwork
Title: Feeding the Chickens
Artist: Taylor Nkomo

Taylor was born in 1953 in Bulawayo. He was encouraged to pursue art as a career by the former Mzilikazi Art Craft centre superintendent, after he had visited the centre during the school holidays. He studied there for six months and then continued at the Bulawayo School for Art for another 3 years.

In 1973 Taylor joined the National Gallery of Zimbabwe (Harare) as a graphic artist. He sculpts, paints, and does textile and graphic art. At the National Gallery, he was exposed to some powerful works of the first generation artists, namely Joseph Ndandarika, Nicholas Mukomberanwa and Sylvester Mubayi. Working from sketches, he developed his own style of sculpting and has become a highly respected sculptor, winning numerous awards.

In 1996 he was invited by the University of California’s arts department to demonstrate the art of stone carving in conjunction with an exhibition of textiles. Nkomo’s sculptures are a reflection of his graphics, the combination of sharp lines and constructing textures, to give rise to some well-balanced sculptures. He works with a wide range of ideas and is not confined by any one subject or theme. Nkomo draws a lot on natural forms and hence produces quality sculptures with a strong Zimbabwean character.

Now a resident at Chapungu, Taylor has the opportunity to produce larger, more thoughtful works and the results have been spectacular. This could be seen in “Dreaming of her own Child”, which was on exhibition at the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens in Cape Town during 2001 and in his “Winnowing Woman”, recently showcased there as well.

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