

Feminist Africa

Issue 13 • 2009

FEMINIST AFRICA 13 | BODY POLITICS AND CITIZENSHIP

A publication of the
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Body Politics and Citizenship

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: Proud of Myself

Artist: Tariro Karise

Tariro was born on the 6th of April 1961 near Guruve and grew up surrounded by some of the famous first generation artists from Tengenge. Of these artists, Bernard Matemera took great interest in the young Tariro and allowed him to assist in the labour intensive phases of sculpting until Bernard's death in 2002.

In 2003 Tariro moved to Harare to join his elder brother, Luxon, at his studio in Ruwa. Luxon was already a well-established artist of the second generation and had participated in many international exhibitions. It was here that Tariro's work caught the attention of international collectors. The fluidity with which he is able to change style and format to suit the content and composition of his works is outstanding, and this technical ability enhances the broad spectrum of life and ideas that inspire his sculptures. Unlike many artists who develop a specific style and stick with it, Tariro is always experimenting with his style and can portray emotions such as excitement, contentment and expectation in his three-dimensional works. His recent works such as "Sister Dancing" (2005) and "Shielding the child from the Sun" (2005) are good examples of this ability. Mixing his media (using different stones such as Lepiolite and Opal stone alongside Springstone) and combining various surfaces (rough with smooth and combed with stippled) has created an interest in and a vibrancy to his work.

Currently Tariro continues to surprise many artists with his ability and inventiveness, often winning local awards for best new artist and/or technical excellence at many art competitions in Harare.