

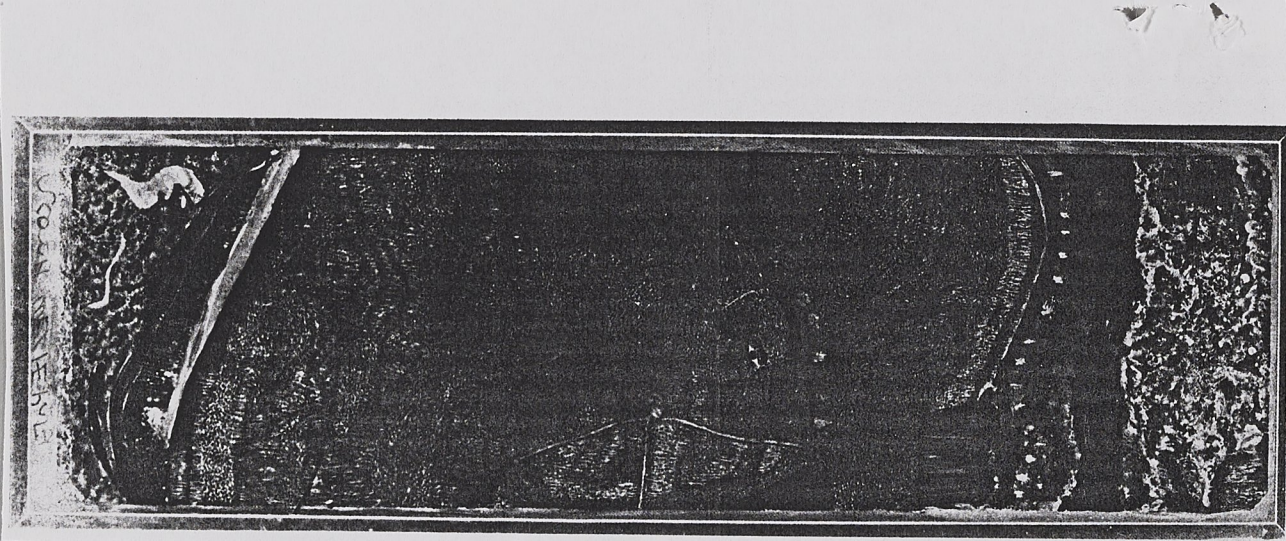
MRX 0001-0001-001

75. MATHEBULA, REXON (Scotch) (b.1926)

▼ The warrior

Acrylic on glass, 62,2 x 19 cm (sight)

Inscribed across lower section: Scotch mAtLEbuLA  
Centre for Social Research and Documentation,  
University of Zululand



## **MATHEBULA, Raxon (called Scotch).**

(b.15.10.1926 Sophiatown, Johannesburg)

Mathebula left Sophiatown when he was seven years old and went to live with an aunt in the Letaba area of the Northern Transvaal until he was fifteen or sixteen years old. He spent the next nine years in the Duiwelskloof area engaged as a domestic worker and the following five years on a farm in Hoedspruit translating from Afrikaans into Sotho and Shangaan. He moved to Glencoe in Natal and worked as a driver and then in a coal mine for six months. In 1957 he moved to Empangeni in Natal where he worked initially on a sugar estate and then as a domestic worker. Between 1963 and 1969 he worked for the railways in Empangeni, the last formal job he held. Mathebula started making art in 1964 when he found a tin of red paint and a lump of tar which he used to make images on pieces of glass he had also found. He sold these first artworks for 75c each. He continued to work on glass and sold the works locally. In 1973 he moved to KwaDlangezwa in Zululand and in 1978 he met Jo Thorpe of the African Art Centre in Durban who encouraged him. Mathebula has had no schooling or formal art training, but supports himself through the sale of his artwork. Mathebula's work was recognised by Mrs Nene who encouraged him to exhibit his work in the Students Union at the UZ.

### **Exhibitions:**

1973: KwaDlangezwa, Zululand.

1976: Newark, Zululand.

1984: UZ (African Art Festival — group).

1987: Johannesburg Art Foundation (solo).

### **Awards:**

1984: UZ African Art Festival (award).

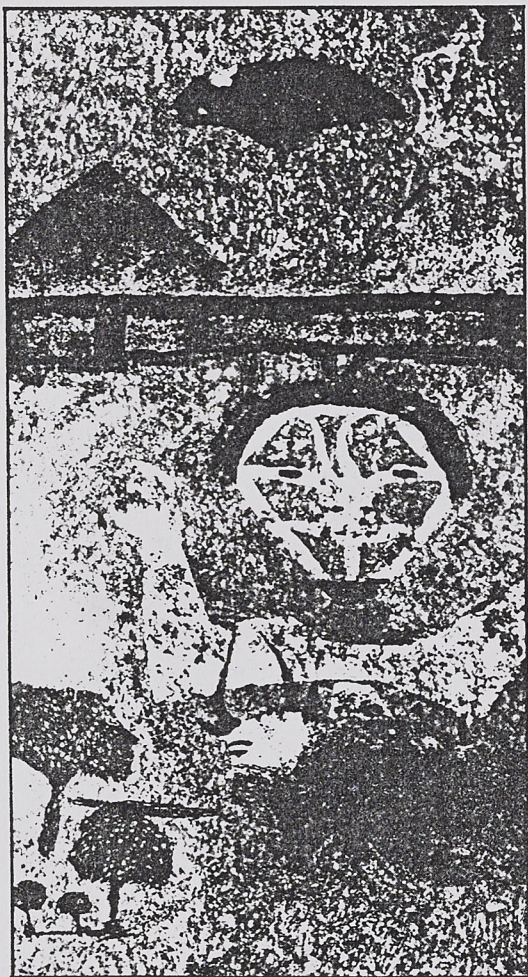
### **Collections:**

KC; Shell, Cape Town; UZ.

### **References:**

8, 245, 1047, 1245.

*Matibe, Rebecca (1936  
Venda)*



Scotch Matebula  
"Hunting Man"