

# Primitive Art & Antiquities

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EXHIBITION OF TITO ZUNGU

ON THE

19TH SEPTEMBER 1987 AT 12.00 NOON

TITO ZUNGU aged about 41. He does not know the date of his birth. Born and lived in the Mapumulo district of Zululand. He has had no formal or art education.

His early expression was in the simple decoration of envelopes. These he sold for a few cents to people sending letters home.

He came to work in Durban in the late sixties, first as a gardener and then as a cook.

With his discovery of ball point pens, his work became more decorative and intricate and was obviously influenced as far as subject matter was concerned by his new city environment - aeroplanes, ships and high rise buildings and he continued to do decorated envelopes which he sold on the market place.

In 1970 he was directed to the Race Relations African Art Centre and amongst others who recognised his unique talents was Ronald Lewcock, then of the Department of Architecture, University of Natal, Durban.

His first public showing was at the 1971 Art : South Africa : Today Exhibition when he was given an award. His work was again accepted for the 1973 and 1975 Exhibitions.

In more recent years he has framed all his drawings, the framing and mounting becoming an integral part of the picture.

He was awarded a prize by the American magazine African Arts, in 1972 and was commissioned by this magazine to do a cover drawing for their 10th birthday edition and the year of the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976. Unfortunately due to postal delay, this only appeared on the back cover of the next edition.

In 1981, he was awarded a prize at the Durban Art Festival Exhibition - "Things People Make", the award being given by the Director of the American Crafts Museum, Paul Smith.

His first one-man Exhibition was in October 1982 which was sponsored by Totem-Meneghelli Gallery and the South African Institute of Race Relations at the Witwatersrand University Art Galleries.

He is a man of great integrity and his sense of time and punctuality matches the meticulousness of his drawings.