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by rat ok EI PRT gar

BY FAY CGOLDIEâ\200\231
THRY live in an elegant
apartment 15 minutes easy.

walk from tlie Âcentre oi the:
town
are successful, i comeâ\200\230,

Swedish
â\200\234They

fortably off, well liked by;
their neighbours, : and their:
three children are assured
of an_excellent education...

Yel

MbathaÂ@yearn
tive â\200\234South Africa
blaze of the summer sun on

Â© their heads. The fact that
their â\200\230apartment is centrally
heated â\200\23418a comfort but no
compensation
lack of the natural warmth,
win which they grew up. SE
i 4This cold,â\200\235 - Azaria says,
. â\200\234is the worst- hardship. .we
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ul for the appe
â\200\230we have been:

tis certainly
fromâ\200\231; the Â© life this
Zulu man knew a fe
ago. when! recuper
tuberculosisâ\200\231 in +
Mission. hospitalâ\200\231
Foie A missionary, Mr
ricki Gowenuis, also (in hig early
twenties, came i: outâ\200\231: from
Sweden to promote OCCUPR-
tional - therapy: in African
hospitals... Heâ\200\231 taught: â\200\230Azaria
Mbatha the basic. techniques
of â\200\230working with linocuts,]
and recognised his pupil'sâ\200\231 twa i linocuts: to â\200\234the 1065:
unusual artistic. - potential

almost - immediately. ...: ey
~The: two youngâ\200\231 men: b
came friends, ang the

yatiha

e world;

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given

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N lel, ewho'= W
Mr Peder. qualified and ski
â\200\230His: progress â\200\230was so im-

3%
Wpifori hi
â\200\230Mbathi tq
Â«he: Evapgelical â\200\230Lutheran
Church Art and: CraftiCens
tre. at Rorkeâ\200\231s, Drift in Natal.
â\200\234wrecently opened, if and
he.

â\200\234 helpedâ\200\235 â\200\230Azaria

wa { .
Muriel, x wl }
lled weaver,

ressive that, in the. nextâ\200\231
few-years his work achieved,
â\200\230considerably - recognition in:
outh Africa and overseas. -.

twas first seen by the
â\200\230public â\200\230when he : submitted

African = Nati
and hangs in Gape; Town. ©
Bo iGinee they the National

' L'Gallery has bought some of
his other works, and prints
1 of: his, linocuts are eagerly

sought after by private collection

man: leclors from ail.
regain his health:

: over. the.
world. © Some; of: his work.
has recently been bought by
the, Pretoria Art Museum, :!

po

¥ Tn 1966 he was awarded a,
scholarship to enable him, to:
study at The State School?

tr

© holm, and there he, Muriel, collection
Zand their baby made their:

Adrien: LUT EAL collection
Nothing, + Azaria Mbatha
declares, will / ever wean
: him away from his own
country. That must always
come first with: him and his
family, And he stresses that
his art has not been touched
by European influences in
which he has come in collection
tact while living: in Sweden:
i As, he says. {All my. ims}
igation - still dwells min
South (
+1 have any European hack-

ground sin Wy work." :

to plough back into his
native culture some of the
"things he had learned. after

first. home outside South.

Africa, I don't think |,

Because he was anxious |

spending. the years 1965 und
1967 studying In Stockhatm.]

vo nl SCHOLARSHIP = 0500

of Arts and Crafts in Stock-:
Modern. Art in New York

+ for jts permanent collection,

mt 3 psd = 41]

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Azar]
: {urneg < fo South Africa

A: While. working

and his family re-*

here: helapd Muriel taught

I'at the Rorke's Drift Mission
| School for

the next wo
years. n.d

NEW YORK,

Twos of his prints were
acquired :by the Museum of

and were then the only examples of graphic work by an African which the Museum: possessed,

Most. of this artist's works are: interpretations of passages in the Old and New Testaments, and apart from

-| their artistic merit, a number

of theologians have taken: a very great interest in their symbolism.

1
a while at the |
Rorke's) Drift Mission, Azaria
Mbatha executed several large murals in striking colours, which are on display there and command much attention. He also began

were woven by his wife, when
today they work for a living

|
designing. tapestries in

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partnership in this way.

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