

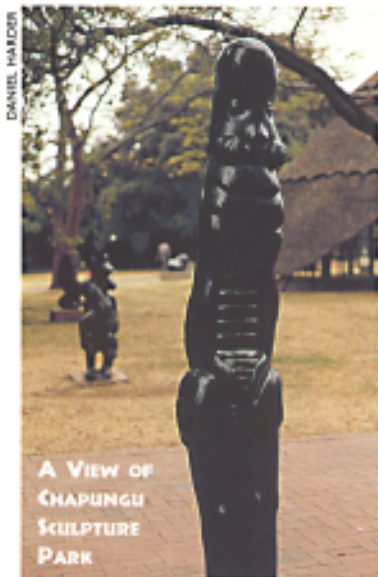
CHAPUNGU



2002

ZIMBABWE

Formerly known as Southern Rhodesia, Zimbabwe is located in south central Africa, home of the famed Victoria Falls. The region was colonized by the British in 1923 and became an independent republic in 1970. The native African people achieved independence in 1980 and named their nation Zimbabwe, which means "House of Stone." There is continuing civil unrest and the country has been hit especially hard by the AIDS epidemic, which has reduced the average life expectancy from 65 to 39 years.



A SPIRITUAL TRADITION

The Shona people have lived in Zimbabwe and surrounding countries of southern Africa for thousands of years. With over 80 percent of the population, they are the largest ethnic tribal group in Zimbabwe. Most of the Chapungu sculptors are of Shona origin. The Shona share a rich culture that includes farming, hunting, and village life of close-knit extended families.

The Shona have been described as a quiet, reflective, and deeply spiritual people. Their great God, "Mwari," can only be approached through ancestral spirits. The spirits are ever present and are consulted on all important occasions. Chapungu, the Shona word for the Bateleur eagle, is the spirit messenger for the Shona and intercedes with their ancestral spirits.

CHAPUNGU SCULPTURE PARK

Stone sculpture first began to emerge as an art form in Zimbabwe about 40 years ago, with the encouragement of the director of Rhodesia's National Art Gallery. Today, second and third generation sculptors are extending their heritage of profound artistic expression in the most challenging of the visual arts — carving stone by hand.

Chapungu Sculpture Park has its origins in The Gallery Shona, one of only two private galleries that supported the arts during the final years of Zimbabwe's struggle for independence. The sculpture park was established in Zimbabwe's capital, Harare, in 1985, to acquire and safeguard these extraordinary works of art, helping to preserve the sculptural heritage of Zimbabwe.



The Bira

The Elders are gathered for this special ceremony to pay tribute to our ancestral spirits. We must always respect our spirits.

January 2002

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Protecting the Eggs

We humans should protect and nurture our environment in the same way as a bird protects her eggs.

FEBRUARY 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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Rural Mother

Enough wood for a few days.
Baby is quiet and warms me.
Now I must prepare the evening
meal.

MARCH 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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31						



Baboon and Young
Common throughout our land,
the baboon builds no home,
plants no crops, wears no
clothes. He is completely
adapted to his environment.

**APRIL
2002**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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The Birth

A rural birth, which contrasts the trauma of the child and the pain of the mother with the calm and experience of Ambuya, the grandmother, who acts as midwife.

MAY 2002

SUN MON TUES WED THUR FRI SAT

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30 31





Dancing Woman
I danced in my mother's
womb, and as a baby on
her back. Music and dance
is our joy.

**JUNE
2002**

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The Last Warrior
A reflection on the futility of
war and conflict.

JULY
2002

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Listening to the Baby Kick

I am so proud and so full of hope for my first child. I love to feel her kick, she calms me and my concerns for the birth disappear.

AUGUST 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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Bringing the Sad News
A mother has lost a young son in the war.
Her older brother brings the news.

SEPTEMBER 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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Keeping the History

Imbued with great knowledge, she relates the important events of our people through many centuries. She keeps us proud of our culture and our history.

OCTOBER 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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Traveling Family

A refugee family has walked a great distance to reach the relative safety of a neighboring land.

NOVEMBER 2002

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Leap Frog

A childhood game played by both boys and girls after all the family duties were finished.

DECEMBER 2002

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				