



KNYSNA  
FINE ART

## ELIZABETH BALCOMB

### BORN:

1974

### EDUCATION / CAREER HISTORY:

1994 – Matriculated from Pietermaritzburg Girls High School

1998 – Received Diploma in Nature Conservation from Saasveld Forestry College (now the Nelson Mandela Forestry College)

Worked for ten years in environmental education.

She is currently represented by the Knysna Fine Art Gallery and The Gallery at Grande Provence in Franschhoek, curated by Trent Read. And by Diedericks Faber Fine art collective.

### ABOUT:

Elizabeth Balcomb grew up on the banks of the Umgeni River in the Natal Midlands. Intensely drawn to animals and the natural world, she studied nature Conservation and spent much of her youth communing with wild creatures rather than with human beings.

She worked at various reserves in SA and Zambia, focussing on environmental education but always dreaming of art and being an artist.

A gift of a large lump of beeswax became her first sculpture. 2 years later she was a full-time artist, despite having no formal training at all. She credits the KZN Ceramic Association for its support and technical guidance during her first years as a sculptor. Her love of ceramic as a medium extends into her bronze work as most of her pieces are cast from clay originals rather than from wax or plasticene.

Elizabeth views the artist's path as an existential conundrum, constantly questioning the value of her work in relation to her value as a human being. She lives and sculpts at her studio-home in the mist belt forest of Byrne Valley, KZN, with her partner, son and 4 dogs.

## EXHIBITIONS

2010

- "Jabulisa" (curated by The Natal Arts Trust) Tatham Art Gallery, Pietermaritzburg
- Ceramic Association Regional Exhibition , Artspace, Durban
- Ceramic Association National Exhibition, Franschoek Gallery, Franschoek

2011

- "Memories" , Artisan Gallery, Durban
- Ceramic Association Regional Exhibition, Artspace, Durban
- "Rainbow Nation", Durban Art Gallery, Durban

2012

- "Interrelations" , Artisan Gallery, Durban
- "Faces" , Artspace , Durban
- Knysna Fine Art Gallery
- Ceramic Association Regional Exhibition, Artspace, Durban

2013

- "Velvet" (Curated by Christiaan Diedericks) Klein Karoo National Arts Festival (KKNK) Outdshoorn
- "Intersections", Strydom Gallery, George
- "Homosapien "(Curated by Grace Kotze) KZNSA
- Invited to represent South African sculptors in the 11 International Art and Culture Symposium at the Mosan Art Museum in South Korea with Christiaan Diedericks.
- "Angels" Grande Provence Gallery, Franschoek

2014

- "Exhale" (Curated by Grace Kotze) Artspace Durban
- Studio Gesso, Johannesburg
- Turnbine Art Fair, Johannesburg
- "Flippin Vlambaar" (Curated by Alex Hamilton) Prince Albert