

Bridget Randall

EDUCATION

Art Classes, primarily with Sculptor, Anton Momberg
M.Sc. (Botany) Witwaterstrand University
H. Dip. Lib. UNISA

Bridget Randall has had a life-long interest in the arts, but despite having sketched and painted from a young age, it was only when she started to concentrate on sculpture that she found her true niche. This interest was refined when she started taking sculpture classes with Anton Momberg in 1983, which she was able to do while working part time as a biologist with her husband.

Bridget started producing bronzes in 1997 and has concentrated on this medium since then, usually working in plasticine or wax and having the pieces cast professionally. She generally produces pieces less than 50cm high but has produced larger works as well, notably a life-sized horse commissioned by Leo Baxter for his polo estate near Plettenberg Bay. A life-sized sitting warthog was commissioned by the Read Gallery. The edition of six has been sold out. She has produced 52 different bronzes in editions ranging from 1 to 30, a number of the editions have sold out. A series of ten horses were exhibited at the Francois du Toit Fine Art, Knysna in December 2005. As a result of this she received a commission to do four race horses on an 80cm base. Two of her sculptures have been used as junior golf trophies. Other commissions include two life sized otters.

Bridget met her husband Rod at university where they both studied biology. They completed their M.Sc. degrees in private game reserves bordering the Kruger National Park. They then worked for ten years studying seabirds, chiefly African penguins, on islands near Port Elizabeth. When Rod joined the South African National Parks, she began to concentrate more on art. They now live in Sedgefield where she has her studio. They try to get to see animals regularly to photograph, video and sketch them.

EXHIBITIONS

2014

Pause; the annual wildlife exhibition at The Cape Gallery

2011

Annual wild life exhibition at The Cape Gallery

GALLERIES

Galleries where work can be viewed include the Everard Read Galleries in Johannesburg, 21 on Montagu, George, the Cape Gallery, Cape Town, African Art Jewellers, Swakopmund, Namibia, Lookout Gallery, Plettenberg Bay and Knysna Fine Art.

CORPORATE PURCHASES

SAB purchased eight running warthogs in 2001 and Nedcor purchased four warthog piglets and four meerkats in 2002.

Prior to getting the commission for a life-size horse, I concentrated more on wild animals, tending to avoid the big five. 2005 was the year of the horse, and I completed a life size horse as well as a series of ten horse sculptures. Generally I do not aim at total realism, but try to capture the impression one gets on seeing the animal, be it the willing acceptance of a Percheron at work or the alert look of a drinking warthog. The posture and animal selected to sculpt is often based on a pose seen in the field, on video or in the printed media. Then the real work starts, including of selecting pictures, going through our videos, photos and my sketchbooks to get as much detail as possible and in the case of a domestic animal taking measurements of the actual animal. Often one has to modify the pose somewhat to make it sculpturally pleasing. A sculpture should make one want to touch it or walk around it.

