

FARM LIFE

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Four Sanaa Artist-in-Residence working on commissions Website Refreshed



Artist-in-Residence for the third season, Peter Ray works out of the Kiota Studio

Karatu - The Sanaa artist-in-resident project has matured over the past few years. Four artists are currently in residence working on commissions for the Farm - a unique fine art opportunity that few Tanzanian artists enjoy. The Sanaa web site has been established to provide access to their art and to share the entire Sanaa Gallery Art collection - www.gibbsfarm.net.

Peter Ray, contemporary artist from the Kilimanjaro Region, has begun work on this third commission. The first two were for Wedding House and Beauty House. His current body of work has been installed in the Jakaranda Gallery. Ray is working out of the Kiota Studio. His work is abstract, but based on traditional Maasai culture, music and stories.

Through his art he has discovered his own Maasai identity. Mr Ray's work has been in the Biannual exhibition Dar es Saalam a number times, along with regional shows along the coast.

Aloyce Kilamala and his brother Benard are from Dar es Salaam of Mozambique immigrant parents. Aloyce learned his carving art from his Makonde father and grandfather who were Mapiko mask makers. In the 1950's Dar es Salaam missionaries helped organize a Mapiko performance group and persuaded some to carve religious icons to aid in their evangelical efforts. Soon items popular for tourists were carved to sell long side the performances. He taught his younger brother Bernard who is also in residence. They have each begun large work commissions for the cottages working out of the Bush Baby place.



The Mokande carver brothers, Aloyce and Bernard Kĩlamalu working out of the Bush Baby Place



Liarin Mavasek weaving his art in Namnyak

Liarin Mayasek is from Mondauli, Tanzania - about 2 hours drive from Gibb's Farm. He is a traditional Maasai artist. Physical beauty and decoration is important to Maasai warriors, morani. Anxious to attract girls, hours are spent decorating themselves and each other, plaiting hair or sharing jewelry.

Morani braid their hair into long plaits, often twisting in strands of wool to greater length. Liarin braids red wool into the scull area, replacing traditional ground ocher mixed with fat or water. Limbs, necks or ears are adorn with beaded ornaments made by female suitors.

Liarin and other hair artists add beads and shiny soft metal. Liarin is currently working and living in Namnyak Village on the western side of the farm estate. First sharing his art with the resident morani he has been creating removable art for others to wear, men and women.

Sanaa program description

Website Refreshed

The Gibb's Farm website has been refreshed. As a run up to completely redesigning the site, we thought it necessary to enhance the site with access to more content.

Links to additional information is now available on-line:

- African Living Spa
- Sanaa Art
- The Ecology of Gibb's Farm
- The Cottages of Gibb's Farm
- The Historic Gardens of Gibb's Farm
- Updated photo library
- Updated collateral downloads

Visit the site at www.gibbsfarm.net