

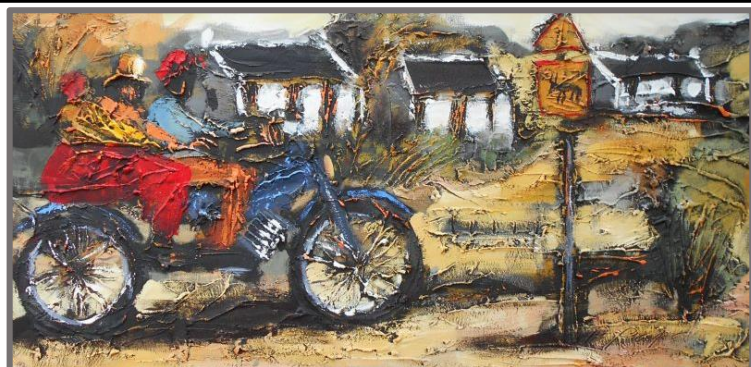


# Patrick Rapai

*'I believe that the art world is like a big jigsaw puzzle – its all about fitting the pieces together of those who have something with those who want something'*



**Patrick Rapai  
(1976 - )**



Patrick Rapai was born at Silveira Missionary Hospital in Masvingo, Zimbabwe in 1976. He went to school in Harare, where he began his career as an artist. In 2004, he married Dora Chabwanda, a chemical engineer. They have two daughters. In 2008, they relocated to Johannesburg, South Africa, where Patrick currently lives and works as a full-time Artist.

Patrick paints from his Johannesburg studio, transforming an almost unimaginable breadth of materials into works of compelling art. His painting technique is inspired by the textures of nature, i.e. tree bark, ground, road surfaces, grass, plastered walls, etc..

His subject matter is derived from the African landscape and her dwellings and he is stimulated by her rustic colour profile

It takes the whole day to complete the drying of the textures. Following is the application of background paint, usually dark colours that will later show as shadows. Finally, the application of intended colours is done with a roller brush that allows only embossed areas to be touched by the roller movement.

Patrick has a fine arts diploma, and a graphic design diploma and has worked in an artist workshop in Botswana.

His aim is to reach out using painting technique and captivating scenes.

He paints on canvas, and creates the paste from mixed wood glue, wood varnish, tile grout and cement. He works on three paintings at a time, after a proportional sketch is done with engraving and scratching of wet paste. He applies the textures in sequence with a palette knife. He prefers to call his painting technique 'dimensional'.

**Patrick is a Zimbabwean artist born in 1976. He has a textured and colourful style which has proven to be very popular.**

<http://amazwi.com/portfolio-items/patrick-rapai/>



As if sending a truth bomb across the ages, painter Patrick Rapai invites us to travel with him via his art to his homeland of Zimbabwe, where we can experience his distinct vision of urban life

<http://www.rapidgrowthmedia.com/gsync/TravelSaug.aspx>



Rapai's collection of urban paintings are what any city dweller will recognize as truth. They remind us that places can be at once chaotic and diverse, with a wonderfully rich harmony of colour that we breathe in freely when there.



I had the privilege of meeting the artist at Alice's Art Gallery in November 2016.