

GIFT BANDASON

Fine engraving artist & Painter

Abu Dhabi UAE

Email:

bandasongift19@gmail.com

Phone:

0545480731

Instagram:

@tysonbandason

Gift Musimwa Bandason, known artistically as Tyson, is a Zimbabwean engraving, drawing, and painting artist. Raised by a stone-sculptor mother and inspired by his late self-taught father, Gift's creative journey began early and deepened after his grandfather's passing in 2018. His dedication to mastering his craft led him to win 1st place at the Dubai Art Expo in 2021, a defining milestone in his career. Through his work, Gift seeks to bridge time, culture, and people — showcasing a union of talent, resilience, and artistic vision.

2021 Award winning piece

Title: Legacy of Love

Medium: Granite

Size: 55cm × 40cm

Created in 2021 for the Dubai Art Expo, *Legacy of Love* portrays the bond between a father and child — a moment of joy and strength immortalized in stone. The engraving symbolizes heritage, hope, and the enduring power of love passed from one generation to the next. This award-winning piece reflects both emotional depth and technical precision.



Exhibited at ADNEC in September, *Laughter of Leaders* portrays a rare and heartfelt moment between Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan sharing a laugh. The engraving highlights unity, humility, and the warmth of leadership, reminding viewers that true greatness is often found in simple moments of joy.

Medium: Granite

Size: 30cm × 40cm × 3mm



This engraved portrait of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan was exhibited at ADNEC alongside sculptures by Emirati artist Azza Al Qubaisi. The work honors Sheikh Zayed's legacy of wisdom, vision, and compassion — values that continue to shape the UAE. Through precise engraving on granite, the piece captures his enduring presence and the spirit of unity he inspired.

Medium: Granite

Size: 40cm × 33cm x 3mm



Guest Artist invitation

In February 2024, I was invited as a guest artist to Socotra Island, where I created three distinctive engraved portraits of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. Each piece was crafted on *Natura Socatri* stone — a local material I personally discovered, cut, and polished after climbing the island’s mountains.

Unable to access my usual *Natura Black Granite*, I embraced the challenge of working with this new medium. The result was a series that reflects both resilience and respect for nature’s raw beauty. The artworks were later presented as gifts to His Excellency, symbolizing the harmony between art, nature, and leadership.





During his stay, Tyson hosted community workshops, conducting live painting and engraving sessions with locals and children. He mentored a small group of students, teaching them the fundamentals of painting and engraving on wood and stone. The experience became a cultural exchange rooted in creativity, resilience, and the power of art to connect people.



Tyson also guided apprentices in engraving and mastering grinders. Sparks flew and stones transformed as he shared his craft, igniting creativity and inspiring a new generation to shape art with skill and passion.



Paintings

Tyson created several paintings as gifts, each carrying its own unique story and in each its own interpretation.

Title: Shadows of a dying Sun



Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Size: 60cm × 40cm

Title: Mornings Silent Embrace



Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Title: The Chrysalis Confined



Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Title: Radiance Unseen



Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Calligraphy work

Back in Zimbabwe, Tyson honed his calligraphy on tombstones, crafting elegant inscriptions with care and precision. Over time, he expanded his skill to ceramic surfaces, bringing the same artistry and attention to detail to a new medium, blending tradition with innovation in every piece he created.



Recently, Tyson led a painting workshop at ADNEC alongside Azza Al Qubaisi. Together, they invited guests to explore their creativity by painting on pieces of palm, turning simple materials into vibrant expressions of art and sharing an interactive, hands-on experience with the community.



In addition to his featured projects, Tyson has produced a wide array of engraved artworks. From stone and wood to ceramic, each piece showcases his precision, creativity, and dedication to transforming raw materials into intricate, expressive designs.

