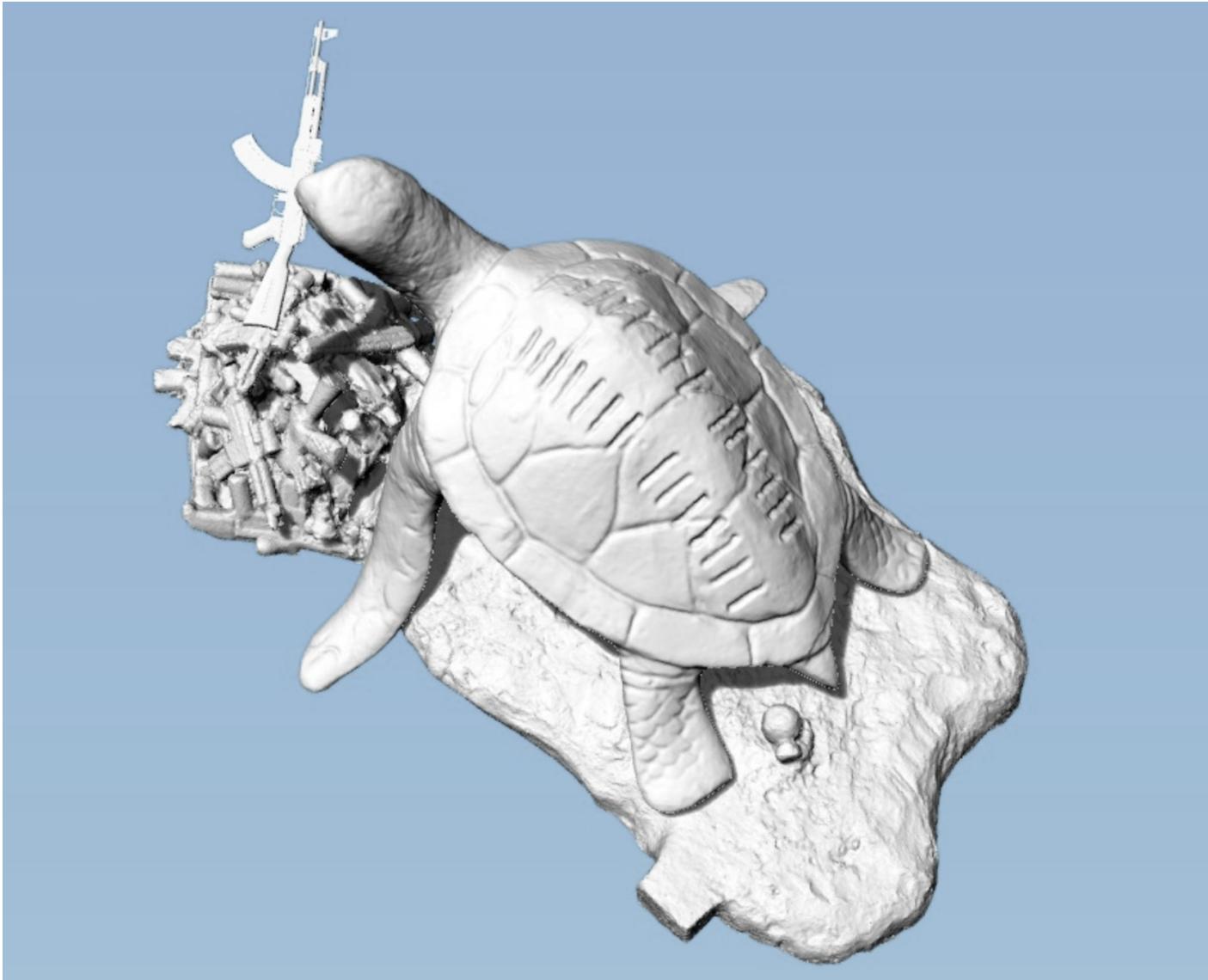


“Take your guns and your knives and your pangas and throw them into the sea”

Nelson Mandela



GUN FREE REEF SCULPTURE

A public bronze sculpture to actualise the powerful words of Nelson Mandela, spoken at a rally in the then war-torn Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa, shortly after his release in 1990 ... to inspire people to stop harming each other and the planet.



*By creative marine conservationist **Lynton Francois Burger***



Finished bronze maquette - Cololo Beach, Mexico

GUN FREE REEF SCULPTURE has a broad and deep anti-violence message - not only is it a call to end our violence against each other - but also a call to end our violence against Planet Earth.

For this reason Lynton has chosen the turtle - the long-suffering, “peaceful messenger” of the sea - as the central figure of the sculpture.

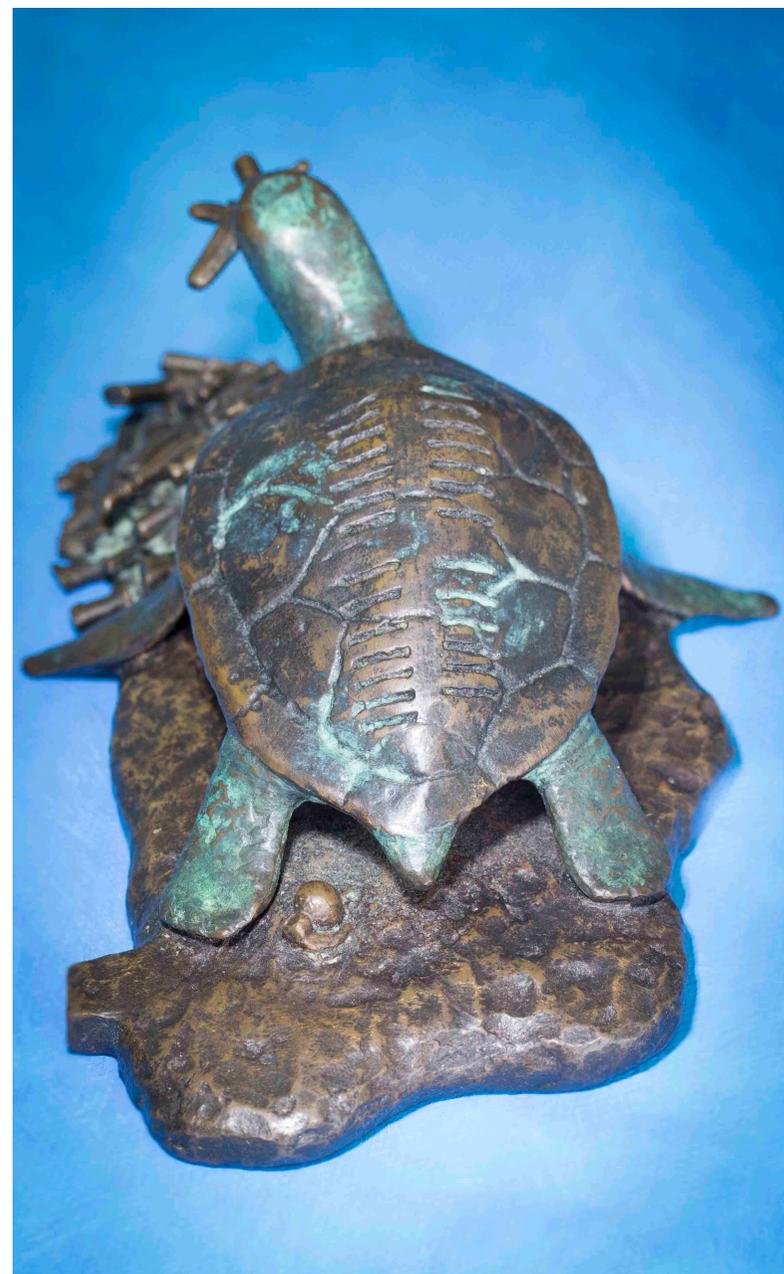
She holds an AK 47 over a pile of guns, knives and pangas that she has discarded into the sea. She is resting on a representation of Robben Island.

The turtle shell is in the likeness of a Zulu war shield with its characteristic structural strips near the centre - there are 27 - one for each year that *Nelson Mandela* was incarcerated.

This shield/shell speaks not only of the human struggle for freedom (symbol of *Umkhonto we Sizwe* etc.) but also of the need for ecological protection.

The act of discarding man-made objects into the sea also hints at our propensity to pollute and abuse our oceans. However, if there is one thing we should be throwing into the sea it should be weapons.

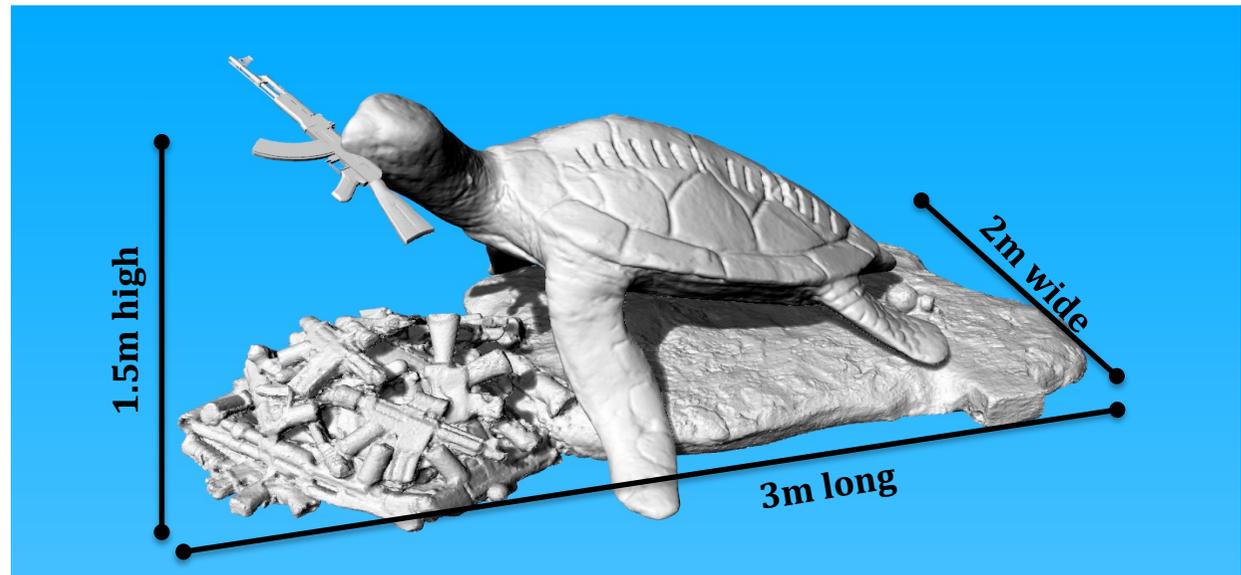
The prison (depicted as a bomb/grenade to the right of the back left flipper in the pics) - is symbolic of the explosive potential of the great leaders incarcerated there - as well as the ecological time bomb that is ticking.



Technical Specifications

The final sculpture will be scaled according to the dimensions of real weapons.

The 3-D scan of the *maquette*, scaled to fit the dimensions of an AK 47 in the turtle's mouth, reveals the approx. dimensions of the full-size sculpture.

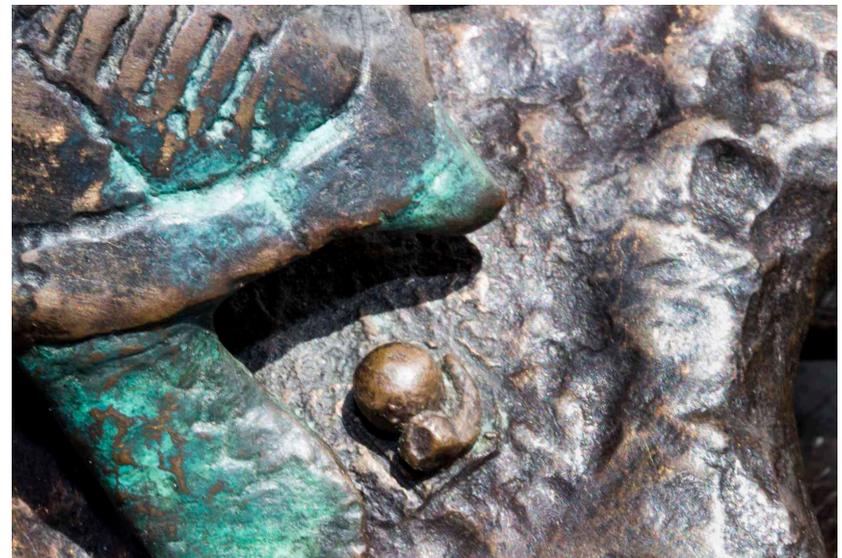


Materials and Finishing

The one-off life-sized bronze will be high quality silica bronze with "traditional" textured finishes and patinas (similar to that used with the *maquette* – see pic to the right).

Four limited edition sculptures will be finished in high quality sprayed epoxy-coat resin – smoothed and polished (colours to be determined).

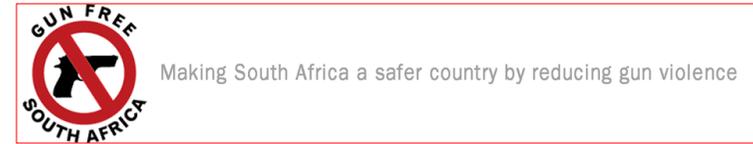
For the bronze - the pile of weapons will comprise real guns, knives and pangas, some broken, cast in bronze. These will, ideally, come from confiscated and decommissioned weapons that would ordinarily be melted down as scrap. These will be welded into a mass such that their identity is maintained whilst signifying discarded weapons. *Gun Free South Africa* (see endorsement below) has indicated their willingness to engage the South African Police Services on this aspect of the project if the project is commissioned in South Africa.



Bringing the Sculpture to Life

Support Partners:

Gun Free South Africa has endorsed the project (see accompanying letter). Other support partners (relevant non-violence, political and marine conservation activist groups) in other countries are being sought to endorse the project as it comes to life. Lynton is very keen for the sculpture to contribute to overlapping initiatives and become part of broader non-violence and marine conservation discourse globally.



Technical Partners and Quality Assurance:

To ensure the highest casting and finishing standards, established South African sculptor Otto Du Plessis and his associate Warren Knight at **Bronze Age Foundry: Sculpture Casting Services** (sculpturecasting.co.za), based in Cape Town, have been consulted and have agreed to assist with technical production and oversight of the bronze casting – if it is commissioned in South Africa. They are highly experienced with producing public bronze sculptures (e.g. they produced the large Madiba sculpture that now stands at the Union Buildings near Pretoria).

A ‘true-to-maquette’ full-size blank will be made using high-density polyurethane foam employing a 3-D scanner and CNC router technology. Lynton will then finish these off, working with the team at Sculpture Casting Services. If commissioned in South Africa this will happen at Sculpture Casting Services’ new studio near the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town. Lynton will also bring in public art experts and work with the commissioning body to ensure that the sculpture meets the highest technical and artistic finish standards for public art display

Where should the bronze sculpture live?

Lynton is hoping to establish, through a process of engagement and dialogue, the ideal home for the life-size bronze – as well as the four replicas. It is his dream that the bronze sculpture be placed in an appropriate harbour or seaside public space where as many people as possible can be inspired by its message. Cape Town’s Waterfront precinct would be the ideal home for the bronze sculpture.

What will it cost to make them?

Lynton has invested considerable time and personal finances to get the project to this stage.

The current estimated production cost (excluding delivery and on-site installation) of the five sculptures is as follows:

- Four limited edition resin coat finish life-sized sculptures – USD 30 000 each;
- One-off life-sized bronze – USD 150 000.

Timing for Bronze:

Once funding has been secured, a six-month lead-time to produce the bronze sculpture will be required.

The inspiration for *GUN FREE REEF SCULPTURE* and brief *ARTIST BIO*



Lynton Francois Burger was born in KwaZulu-Natal and grew up in Cape Town, South Africa. Lynton has an MSc in Marine Biology and an MBA from the UCT Graduate School of Business. Lynton is a Non-Executive Director and shareholder of Mauritius-based Sustainable Capital.

In 1997, whilst working as a sustainable development consultant at the University of Cape Town, Lynton was seconded to the Robben Island Museum's interim management committee as the island's first Environmental Manager. In this role, Lynton had the great privilege of meeting Nelson Mandela.

One evening, returning home from the island to the mainland on the ferry, day-dreaming as he stared out over the sea towards Table Mountain, Madiba's words *"Take your guns and your knives and your pangas and throw them into the sea"* from his speech to warring Zulus in 1990 came to him, and in one of those moments of creative clarity the idea for the sculpture was born!

In December 2013, Madiba passed away. Like many millions around the world Lynton was profoundly touched and found himself re-inspired to do something about the sculpture idea that was still alive in his head.

So, in early 2014 Lynton travelled to Mexico and completed a 4-week live-in residency at Art21 Studio outside Guadalajara. Working closely with master bronze caster Edward Quiroz Mattson, and his father and foundry-owner Francisco Quiroz, Lynton completed the design of the sculpture and produced the small bronze maquette of *GUN FREE REEF SCULPTURE*.

As an artist, Lynton is better known as a marine photo-artist and marine expedition photographer (see lyntonburger.com). Lynton's photographic work has won international awards, been published online (including in National Geographic) and in magazines, and has been exhibited in fine art galleries and exhibitions in South Africa, Malaysia, Europe, Mauritius and Australia. Lynton was a contributing photographer to the feature documentary *Chasing Coral* – now available on Netflix.

In 2012, Lynton was inducted into the international Ocean Artists Society (oceanartistsociety.org).

Lynton is a Trustee of the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape Town.

"Lynton seeks to evoke strong positive emotions through his marine-focused art in the belief that this contributes to a deeper collective connection with the sea ... and that this connection in turn influences and drives more effective political action to protect this vital and threatened part of the planet. In doing this, Lynton is drawn to the abstract, the myth, and the figurative."



FOR A SAFE AND SECURE NATION

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GFSA supports the Gun Free Reef Sculpture

Gun Free South Africa's vision is a safe society without the fear of gun violence or the threat of any type of violence for all who live in our country. When GFSA started in late 1994 with the call to all South Africans to hand in their weapons in a national firearms amnesty, as a demonstration of our collective effort and commitment to building a new, democratic and peaceful country, Nelson Mandela came out in support of the campaign with these words: "our hard-won political freedom will mean nothing unless we have freedom from violence, freedom from fear..."

We are still a long way from realising these ideals. However, a creative initiative such as the *Gun Reef Sculpture* can play a significant role in helping visually portray what is needed to help us move towards the vision of a safe and secure country. GFSA particularly likes the reference to all weapons, not just guns, as this reflects the daily reality of many people's lives in South Africa. We also like the coupling of the concept of peace with the long term sustainability of the planet and our environment, and the use of the turtle as symbolic of that struggle is appropriate and very powerful. Further, we admire the way in which the artist has acknowledged South Africa's diversity by weaving in various aspects of our recent history and the struggle for freedom in this country.

GFSA therefore wholly supports the creation of the Sculpture. It will be an important contribution to the landscape of cultural symbols and artistic expressions in this country. We would encourage you to support this initiative in whatever way you can in order to help bring it to fruition.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "ala".

Alan Storey
Chairperson: GFSA

NPO 014-085

PATRONS: Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Rev. Dr. Peter Storey and Ms Pregs Govender



If you would like to be a part of the Gun Free Reef Sculpture Project, please contact Lynton.

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