

David Langmead – *Out of the Rat Race and into the Great Karoo*

"I have spent most of my artistic career pursuing the beauty of nature. If I capture that beauty on canvas, then I feel my talent has been put to good use."



Seat of Power 44 1/2" x 63"

Artist David Langmead was born in Bulawayo in 1965 and raised in rural Zimbabwe where the bushveld was his backyard. From studying to actually painting the birds and animals that lived there was a natural progression for him because, says Langmead, "The iconic animals that inhabit the wild are revered by most Zimbabweans."

Langmead was schooled in Umtali and completed a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts at the University of Natal in 1990. He started his career as a book illustrator for Longman in Zimbabwe, and later for Shuter and Shooter Publishers in South Africa.

In the mid-1990s, he also spent three years teaching art at a high school level before devoting himself full-time to art in 1998, with the support of his South African wife, Bronwyn.

Langmead works mostly in oil, usually on five to six pieces simultaneously.

After stretching and priming the canvases, he completes all the drawings. He then makes a detailed colored sketch of each piece, which gives him the opportunity to evaluate the composition and contrast of the work. Once all the pieces are at the color-sketch phase, he works each one individually until completion.



Kudu Haven 24" x 35 3/4"

When asked what can wildlife art do for conservation in Africa, Langmead notes that Wildlife based tourism in South Africa currently generates more money annually than mining. "If our wildlife heritage can pay for itself, the money for conservation and development will protect all species into the future." Langmead, who today lives in Nieu Bethesda, a charming former South African frontier outpost in the Great Karoo, says that wildlife art is just one facet of the tourism industry. "Wildlife art celebrates and promotes the beauty of our continent. It encourages tourists to buy into positive images, and it brings much needed capital into Africa."

Everything that Langmead paints is based upon what he's actually seen with his own eyes. He then distills it into its essential aesthetics in order to translate it onto canvas.

"He paints real Africa. He lives it. He breathes it in. It is his home. And you, as the viewer, feel it," says gallery owner Ross Parker.

Todd Wilkinson writes about Langmead: "As adept as he is portraying big game species filling a frame, his preference is to paint landscapes in softer light, with plenty of shadow, evoking the mystery of large quadrupeds."

From 1998 to 2003, Langmead participated in numerous exhibitions around South Africa. In addition, his work has been included in shows in England, Ireland and the United States. In 2003, he joined Ross Parker of *Call Of Africa's Native Visions Galleries* in Fort Lauderdale and Naples, Florida.

Today, David Langmead has a successful international art career that includes a number of high-profile exhibitions. His work is equally appreciated and collected by hunters and non-hunters alike.

Exhibitions:

Art in the Park, Pietermaritzburg, 6 group exhibitions, 1996-2002.

Cape Gallery, Cape Town, 2001 and 2003.

Bamboo Centre, Johannesburg, 3 group exhibitions, 2000-2002.

Kirstenbosch Annual Exhibition, Cape Town, 1998.

Art in the Avenue, Cape Town, 1999.

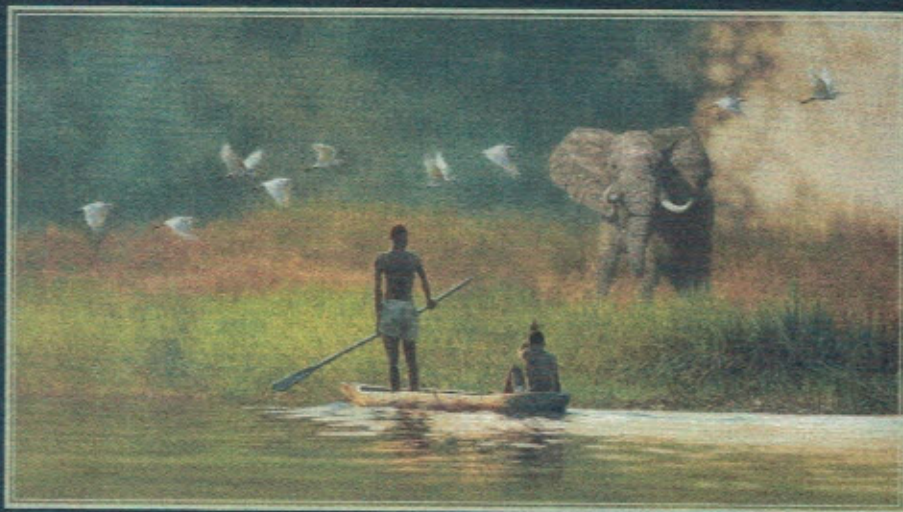
Ibis Gallery, Nieu Bethesda, 1999.

Africa to Everglades Jane Goodall Show, Fort Lauderdale and Naples FL, 2005.

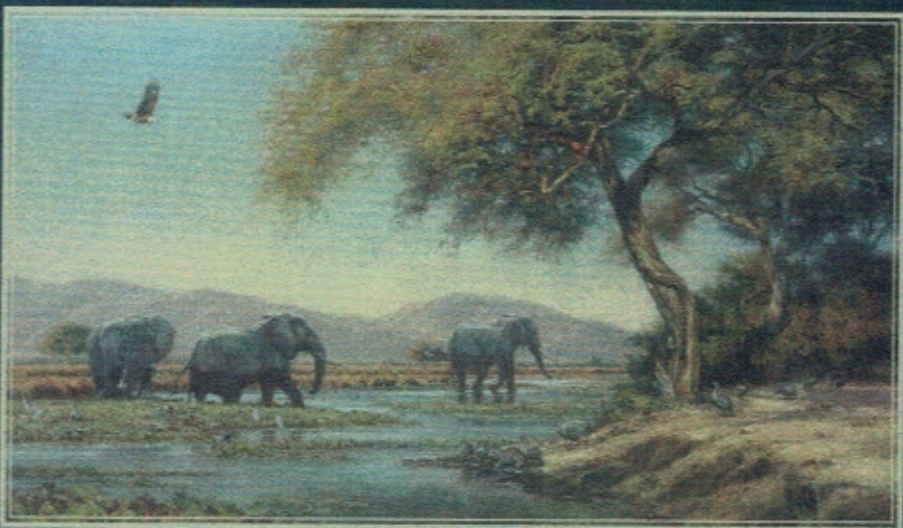
Wounded Warrior Exhibition, Fort Lauderdale and Naples, 2007.

Safari Club International Convention, Reno and Vegas, 2003-2013.

Birds in Art, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Wausau WI, 2003, 2007, 2009.



Delta Traffic 19" x 35"



River of Eden 18" x 32"



Mountain Zebra Mood 12 1/2" x 24"

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Call of Africa Galleries, Florida, Website: www.CallOfAfrica.com