

Me Brenda de Beer by haar stalletjie met kreatiewe decoupage-werk.



Mnr Gert van Zvl stal bruikbare sekuriteitstoestelle uit.

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ober

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Arts



Brenmari de Beer bewonder haar ma se uitstalling van decoupage-werk.



Me Suzette Nell beman haar ma se tuisgebakstalletije.

## **Author with** a message to the wor

Yolande Nel

lou Setumu seems to be accustomed to expressing himself boldly. He does so

with ease, using his hands in the process. In an equally comfortable way he draws on the written word to get the message across. Setumu, a published author of several works, was the centre of attraction when his poetry title, Mma-Afrika, was launched in Polokwane last Saturday afternoon.

In an interview beforehand, he explained that the work is a mixture of 42 traditional praise poems with western influences, lyrics and abstracts. Through his work Setumu, who holds the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Limpopo Heritage Resources Authority (Lihra), delves deep into culture and tradition.

The praise poem - generally passed on from generation to generation - on the back cover of the book is reflective of inheritance. It is a personal praise poem dear to him. It is short, but carries a powerful message; the tale of an elderly woman who tells



Author Tlou Setumu has a message for the world.

someone not to be concerned over her as she would "see what I will eat". He remarked that the aspect of self-reliance inspires him. Somewhere, somehow – even if we share things we have accumulated - we have to work hard on our own and bring something to the table communally."

Having extensively studied history, the author has a keen interest in people's pasts. He reckoned it is interesting to know where people come from, in order to make a per-son accommodative towards others and not judging them on face value

Down these lines he pointed out a study based on the second of ten volumes on history and heritage, highlighting the wars of resistance in Limpopo and the roles of hosi Ngungunhane, kgosis Malebogo, Sekhukhune, Makgoba, Mokopane and Mankopane, kgosigadi Modjadji, khosi Makhado, Bakone ba gaMatlala and Commandant Piet Joubert. It forms the basis of a documentary expected to be released in near future. Fo purposes of the documentary which would bring to an end a project dating back to October last year, Setumu was granted funds by the National Heritage Council. He remarked that he does not have to prepare himself to write, but does so when troubled. There must be something in me which forces me to write. I'll take up my pen when I wake up at night." To him writing is much about balancing things.

Personal time is spent reading. Then he isolates himself and mostly reads about the lives of others. He has very little time for fiction, but is rather attracted to biographies. He mentioned that he is very inspired by people who rise from humble beginnings "and end up very big". The late Bob Marley and Ray Phiri are singled out as individuals with a special place in his heart.

He grew up as the first-born of a single, sickly and impoverished mother and considers himself fortunate for being in the position he finds himself in. Setumu's life comes alive in His Story Is History, an autobiography due for publishing

"If possible, I just wish to tell the world and those feeling they are less fortunate that they can overcome that. They must not feel trapped. I am living testimony of that." It is a message that brought to an end an interview with an individual with a wealth to share – with the people of his province and the rest of the world.

## nost public exhibition

Paintings, charcoal or pastel artworks must be mounted and not framed and all works must have been created in the past two years as originals that have not been exhibited before.

"The aim is to promote local talent. That is why there are no entry fees involved," said the curator of the museum, Mr Amos Letsoalo. Entries, with completed forms attached,

are to be delivered at Library Gardens on or before Saturday, 18 October during normal working hours

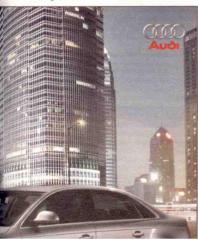


Photo: Yolande Nel