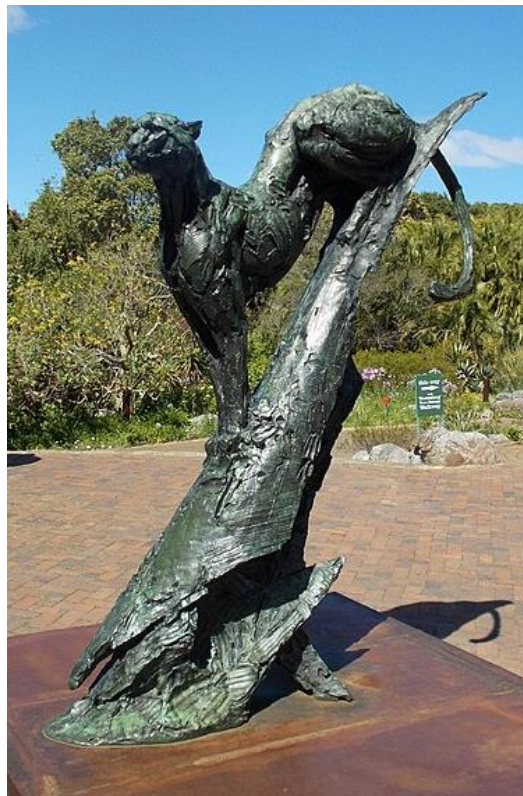


DYLAN LEWIS (South African, b.1964)

Dylan Lewis, born on December 25, 1964, in Johannesburg, South Africa, into an artistic family, is a renowned sculptor whose passion for the natural world has shaped his creative journey.

He studied art at Cape Technikon in 1982 and worked at the Rondevlei Nature Reserve in Cape Town. Here he immersed himself in the wilderness and studied its wildlife up close. These experiences profoundly influenced his artistic vision, instilling in him a deep fascination for the beauty and power of nature. During these years, he also worked in taxidermy at the reserve, a skill which would greatly benefit his sculpting later. Curiously, Lewis started his career as a painter, studying painting at the Ruth Prowse School of Art under Ryno Swart in 1989.



Dylan Lewis, *Surveying Cheetah II*, bronze, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, Cape Town, South Africa

Lewis's sculptural style is characterised by a remarkable ability to capture the essence and movement of his subjects with authenticity. His big cat sculptures are amongst his most popular. These include various depictions of leopards and cheetahs resting, stalking, grooming, chasing prey or simply walking. These depictions surpass the category of contemporary Animalia sculpture, embodying a much more wild and dynamic essence in his iconic feline sculptures.

BOWMAN SCULPTURE

Dylan Lewis continues to push the boundaries of his craft. In 2009, he started creating his sculpture garden, which today houses over 60 of his sculptures spread over 7 hectares. In recent years, he has also started to explore the human figure more than his popular cat theme, creating various hybrid human figures in large, interactive compositions.

Throughout his career, Lewis has received widespread acclaim for his work, both locally and internationally. His sculptures are in private collections, galleries, and public spaces worldwide. He is one of the few contemporary artists to boast multiple solo exhibitions at the renowned auction house, Christie's.