SHILPSUTRA
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राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN
AHMEDABAD

Basket Weaving

Lupane, Zimbabwe

Seats Available 13

OE26G33
Gandhinagar Campus





Basketry in Matabeleland North, Zimbabwe, is a longstanding traditional craft, deeply rooted in the everyday lives, cultural practices and livelihoods of local communities. Traditionally, baskets were handcrafted for functional purposes such as carrying, storing and winnowing agricultural produce. Ndebele coiled baskets are traditional, deep-bodied handwoven vessel forms created primarily by Ndebele women.

The craft uses locally sourced natural materials. Artisans employ weaving and coiling techniques to create baskets featuring intricate geometric patterns, colors and motifs inspired by the surrounding natural landscape. The craft continues to be an important source of livelihood.

The workshop will introduce students to the history, materials and traditional basketry practices of Matabeleland North, Zimbabwe, followed by an exploration of weaving techniques and the processes involved . Through hands-on sessions, students will learn the practical skills and techniques required to construct baskets followed by exploring and developing new products or adapting existing basket forms using locally available materials and contemporary design approaches.





Ms. Hildigard Mufukare & Ms. Selusiwe Mlotshwa

Ms. Hildigard Mufukare is the Director of the Lupane Women's Development Trust (LWDT), based in Matabeleland North, Zimbabwe. With an academic background in Development Studies, she has been instrumental in promoting traditional basketry as a means of socio-economic empowerment for rural women.
Ms. Selusiwe Mlotshwa is a basketry artisan from Zimbabwe, associated with the region's traditional weaving practices.