

# STEPHANE HAMON



## • CRAFT/PROFESSION

Stéphane HAMON is a sculptor in wood who creates works to order or for exhibitions. He is also passionate about music, particularly percussion, and designs and makes African-inspired musical instruments using local materials.

Stéphane uses all kinds of wood in his work but, based on experience, he prefers fine quality woods and is a fan of hard woods such as tamanu, kohu and gaïac. “Working with woods like these really brings out their grain and colours”, he explains.

Stéphane is keen to pass on and share his skills with others and organises training days in his workshop in the Koumac countryside. He holds shows of his traditionally inspired sculptures at least once a year to give a wider audience an opportunity to see his work.

## • BACKGROUND

Drawing and graphic art was a family tradition and Stéphane began creating cartoons when he was very young. A native of Brittany, he arrived in New Caledonia in 1996 and worked

as a diving instructor. In 2003, he followed a one year course at the Bourail vocational training centre (ETFFPA).

He learned the secrets of traditional Kanak wood sculpture working with Wedjimié Trolu. “I’ve always loved wood but it was only as an adult that I got a chance to work with it”.

## • INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Stéphane loves fashioning and shaping his wood to express his own inspiration or reflect other people’s insights. Representational art and perspective have always been a passion with him. His artistic vision is enriched by his daily life, the people he meets and, of course, the natural world.

“My sculptures are born in my head and capture a mood, a fleeting fancy. They reveal a small part of myself”, explains Stéphane.

