

## Basil Barrington Watson, Artist/Sculptor

Art: "The harmonious expression of one's vision of life."

This personal description of his lifelong passion is what defines the work of Jamaican artist, Basil Barrington Watson. For more than 45 years, he has been translating life's most important attributes - positive emotions and attitudes, the spirit of freedom and spontaneity, strength, beauty, energy and vigor - into finely crafted works of art.

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, the son of internationally renowned painter Barrington Watson, it was a natural progression for Watson to study at the Jamaica School of Art. He then went on to establish a successful career as Jamaica's leading sculptor. The most notable of his achievements on the island include having monumental works on the campuses of the 3 primary universities, as well as signature works at the 2 major Stadia. In 2016, the Government of Jamaica awarded Basil the **Order of Distinction (Commander)** in recognition of his contributions in the field of Art.

Emigrating to the United States in 2002, Watson established his home and studio in Lawrenceville, GA. Having continued the steep climb to international recognition, he has completed major works in China, Guatemala, the UK, and in various States within the US.

Over his 45-year career, Basil has completed several major commissions for various governments and organizations all over the world. These include:

To The World II, 2023. Commissioned by the City of Miramar, FL. Honoring the Great Sprinter and philanthropist, Usain Bolt, it was installed at the Ansin Sports Complex in Miramar Florida in July 2023.

The National Windrush Monument, 2022. Unveiled by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales in celebration and recognition of the Windrush Generation and their contributions to British culture and society

*Hope Moving Forward*, 2021. Commissioned by the City of Atlanta in tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.

To the World – Usain Bolt, 2017. Commissioned by the Government of Jamaica in honor of the Fastest Man Alive, Usain Bolt, OJ, CD

Miss Lou – The Hon. Louise Bennett-Coverley, 2018. Commissioned by the Government of Jamaica in honor of Miss Lou, OM, OJ, MBE

Rings of Life, 2012. Unveiled by His Royal Highness The Duke of Sussex in honor of the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

*Balance*, 2006. 15ft sculpture commissioned in commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Doctors Cave Beach

*Earth to Heaven*, 2004. Life-sized sculpture installed in the Changchun Sculpture Park following the 7<sup>th</sup> International Sculpture Symposium in Changchun China