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*'Jean Doyle's work is renowned all over the world and her veneration of the fuller female figure has become a trademark of her work as well as a tool for social commentary'*

ZANELE MBEKI

## Jean Doyle A PORTRAIT

BY GRACE POWELL

Jean Doyle, A Portrait is a glorious tribute to one of South Africa's quietest artists. This part-biography, part critique explores how Jean has formed, shaped, forged and polished her career. Frequently told through her private sculpture notes, it goes beneath the layers of bronze and clay to the inspirational heart of her work, tracing her artistic journey. It celebrates the freshness, simplicity, intelligence, unmistakable sense of humour and, strikingly, the modest humility with which Jean Doyle has emerged as one of the greatest story-telling South African artists of our time.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Grace Powell and Jean Doyle are childhood friends. Having braved the rigours of maths, Latin and muddy hockey matches through school, it was a reunion many years later on a beach in St James, which gave birth to the idea of this book. Grace, who read her Masters in Art History at Concordia University, is docent at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, where she has twice been President of the Guides' Association. This dedication to her close friend has been written with Grace's ebullience and enthusiasm, but it is also meticulously researched, informed and insightful.

### SALES POINTS

- The first-ever anthology of Jean Doyle's life and work, this is a rich and vivid exploration of this eminent South African artist's achievements
- Deeply personal, it reveals never-before-seen sculpture notes
- Informative, educational and inspiring
- A visual feast of Doyle's works, including useful thumbnail references in a practical, chronological appendix

