

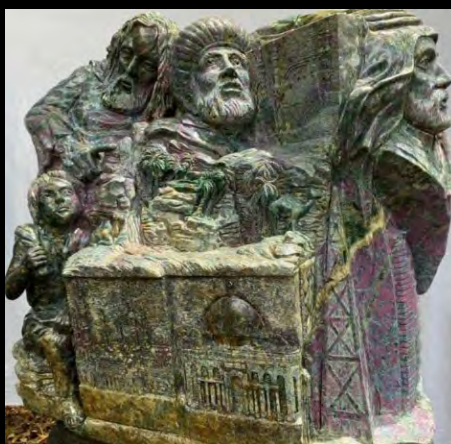


Featured Artist of the Month

Master Sculptor - [Florinaldo Souza dos Santos, "Galego"](#)

"Ishmael, the Origin of the Arab People"

Corundum Precious Gem Sculpture – Ruby – Emerald – Zoisite - weighing 1,400 lbs



Example of Galego's Work - **ZAMARAD**
17,420-carat Emerald Equine Sculpture



The [Carnaíba Mountain Range](#) in Brazil where the original stone was mined not only has stunning landscapes, but also serves as a rich source of sculpting materials. The Ishmael, crafted from Corundum, {4-years}, a combination of ruby, sapphire and zoisite, creating a distinctive mottled surface of **purples, reds, & greens** as depicted in the image of the beads above. Corundum, renowned for its hardness, scoring 9 on the Mohs scale, allows for intricate detailing and a perfectly polished finish. Guided by ownership's visionary inspiration, the artisan beautifully portrays the defining story of Ishmael, and the origin of the Arab & Muslim peoples captured in this one-of-a-kind masterwork.



Executive Briefing

"Ishmael, the Origin of the Arab People"

Background

The Sculpture known as "ISMAEL, the Origin of the Arab People" is a unique, one-of-a-kind treasure that took over four years to complete. This masterwork tells a story of the history of the Arabian people, their culture and was created by renowned Stone Sculptor "Galego" (Florinaldo Souza Dos Santos) from the region of northern Bahia Brazil.

ISHMAEL was crafted from rock known as Corundum (Ruby/Sapphire variety), being one of the hardest minerals, classified as a "9" on the Mohs scale. A sculpture carved out of Corundum is exceptionally uncommon and requires specialized diamond tipped tools, specialized equipment and considerable technical and artistic skill. This work of art integrates the natural rock material with masterful sculptural form to reveal a variety of colors, texture and variations, placing the Sculpture within a specialized category of mineral art, a field that occupies an intersection between a natural history specimen and a sculpture masterpiece.

ISHMAEL is a unique work of art that will represent a cornerstone to a select few private collectors, or as a central fixture in a museum, bank, hotel or institute. The availability of large, structurally sound corundum-bearing rock suitable for sculptural carving is limited, these factors contribute significantly to the rarity and collectability of such works. When woven to the story that is told by the ISHMAEL, represents a significant statement of pride and heritage.

There are two (2) GIA Certified appraisals for this treasure, with the first dated July 2024, being that of a detailed *Quality Analysis and Appraisal Report* that references a value of \$2.85 billion, with the second appraisal dated March 2026, being that of a *Gemological and Artistic Report* that references a valuation of \$2.10 billion. Both Appraisals are available on request, as are video and photographs. The ISHMAEL Sculpture is in private storage in the State of Florida and available for private showings to qualified buyers.

Representation

The narrative represented in the sculpture begins with Ishmael, who is regarded as an ancestral patriarch of the Arab people. Over centuries the Arabian Peninsula developed complex tribal societies and spiritual traditions and the foundations of the Kaaba in the city of Mecca. The Sculpture tells a story around a 360-degree panorama that begins with images of considerable historical and religious importance. **ISHMAEL** is regarded as a prophet, the son of Abraham, whose story occupies a central position in Islamic historical consciousness and is linked to the sacred geography of the Arabian Peninsula.

By choosing **ISHMAEL** as the starting point for the Sculptural narrative, the artwork establishes a framework grounded in origin, ancestry and historical continuity, providing a gateway through which the viewer is invited to consider the broader evolution of Arab cultural history.

The representation tells a story that unfolds across centuries of social, intellectual and artistic development throughout the Middle East and the wider Islamic world and sets an image to current history with a landmark of significance as seen with an elevation image of the Burj Al Arab 7-star Hotel in Dubai.



"Ishmael, the Origin of the Arab People"

Corundum Mineral & Precious Gem Sculpture - Islamic Significance

History written in Stone:

This stunning art and precious gem masterpiece weighing nearly 1,400 lbs. is crafted from "Corundum", which includes embedded ruby, emerald, sapphire, and zoisite. The Sculpture depicts the profound narrative of Ishmael, a pivotal figure in the origin of the Arab people. Titled "Ishmael, the Origin of the Arab People" the art piece portrays the moment when Abraham blesses his son Ishmael and his mother Hagar, guiding them on their journey. Ishmael's journey, which led to the founding of the great Arab Nation.

One side of the Sculpture depicts the core geography of the Islamic faith:

- Three holiest Mosques; Mecca, (Masjid al-Haram), Medina, (Al-Masjid an-Nabawi), and Al-Aqsa in Jerusalem.
- The mountains of Medina where Muhammad received Revelations from Archangel Gabriel referencing the site that led to the Sacred Book, the Quran.
- An oasis representing the survival and growth of the Arab people in the desert and prominent political and religious Muslim leader.

The opposite side and frontal areas feature:

- A column with the figure of Abraham, symbolizing the foundation of faith in Muslim cultures.
- A map illustrating the expansion of Islam from Hijaz and Mecca to Damascus, North Africa, and the Umayyad Caliphate in Spain, (Cordoba).
- Historic ruins of the Persepolis Palace, reflecting the conquests of Cyrus and Darius depicted on their castle walls and later Islamic integration of Persian Lands.
- The historic moment when English King Richard the Lionheart laid down his weapons before Saladin, a revered Muslim hero, leading to an agreement ensuring free passage for Christian pilgrims to Jerusalem. Symbolizing a legacy of diplomacy and strength, honored by Muslims to this day.
- Modern economic prosperity by the Burj Al Arab hotel in Dubai and depictions of the oil and pearl trades.

The frontal part of the sculpture depicts the trade legacy of the Arab peoples, initially centered on dates and spices imported from China and India, including silk, mustard, black pepper, salt, and tapestries. The cultivation of mollusks for pearls, traded in Istanbul, Genoa, and Venice, eventually reached into broader European markets.

In 1940, the advent of petroleum trade revolutionized the Arab economies, leading to vast fortunes that fueled investments in tourism, civil engineering, and major events. Symbolizing this modern prosperity is the depiction of the 7-star Burj Al Arab hotel. Finally, the artwork portrays a sheikh being blessed by Abraham, symbolizing the future leadership of the great Arab nations.

Iconographic Analysis and Market Positioning:

"Ishmael, the Origin of the Arab People" is not merely an aesthetic object, but a complex narrative monument designed to resonate with specific cultural and religious significance. Abraham, {the Father of Faith} addresses the shared patriarch of Islam, Christianity and Judaism, but the specific imagery and carvings is profoundly focused on Islamic history and the Arab world at large.

One side of the sculpture depicts the core geography of Islamic faith:

This iconography confirms the sculpture was originally commissioned or designed specifically for the Middle Eastern market, likely for a Sovereign Wealth Fund, a Royal Family connection, or major financial institution in the UAE or Saudi Arabia. The inclusion of modern Dubai architecture alongside ancient religious sites bridges historical legitimacy with contemporary wealth, creating a "Story of Nations" that transcends simple gem valuation.



"Ishmael, the Origin of the Arab People"
by Florinaldo Souza dos Santos, ("Galego")
Mineral & Precious Gem Sculpture -
Ruby, Emerald, Sapphire, Zoisite
wieghing 600 Kilos



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