

# Artist Personal Profile

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**Akanisi Radinidravuni Smith**  
Fijian Artist

**"UNIK CRAFT"**

My interest for fashion designing started when I worked for John Batory & Associates PTY Limited in Sydney Australia in 1988. As I got to cut patterns and sew the garments by the company, I began designing my own clothes from the ideas that had developed in my mind.



On my return to Fiji, I was introduced to Ms. Jane Rubine, who was a renowned creative artist. We then got together making contemporary craft using Fiji's own grown local traditional materials. With Ms. Rubine, I also gained a lot of knowledge on local traditional materials and the various methods of using them.

When Ms. Rubine left the country, I then started my own business and continued to supply our products to Jacks Fiji and Tapoos Fiji.

I am also a member of the Fiji Craft Society and have entered many yearly craft competitions as organized by the Fiji Arts Council. Apart from these, I had also shared my craft skills to various schools through conducting workshops and have also participated in National Exhibitions.

With all those knowledge and skills gained from past experience I have been inspired to begin my own business in 1996 to date under the name **"UNIK CRAFT"**.

## Personal Contact:

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resource person



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