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**BIO**

Husband-Father-Grandfather- Brother-Uncle-Nephew-Friend-Artist-Educator-Virgin Islands own, born Edney L. Freeman holds a Master’s Degree(MST) from Rochester Institute of Technology School for American Crafts, majoring in Sculptural Ceramics (1995)-and a BA Liberal Arts Degree from the City college of New York (1977). He has two life-sized bronze sculptures “Mocko Jumbie With Tourist” at the World Sculpture Park (2006) and “Tropical Masquerader With Whip” (2011) at the Technology Park, both in Changchun China. His work has been displayed at El Museo de Las Americas in Puerto Rico-Mattye Reid African Art Center in Greensboro North Carolina-Geneseo State College in Upstate NY and the University of Rochester- and he has participated in many art exhibits on St Thomas, St. Croix and St. John, USVI.

Following the designation of Quelbe Music as the National Music of the USVI in 2003, Mr Freeman created the 2004 “Quelbe Traveling Exhibit and Colloquium” for the Humanities Council featuring events on all three islands. Through another grant with the Waste Management Authority he established the first Recycle program at Charlotte Amalie High School. Over the years Mr. Freeman has produced Carnival Costumes and designs for CAHS and the University of the Virgin Islands. His stage set designs for C.A.H.S.’s Intorductory Night Programs and costumes for Queen contestants are examples of his wide range and body of artwork. In 2008-09 Mr. Freeman was selected as the first male recipient of the USVI Territorial State Teacher of the Year Award. He is also mentioned in 2000 “Who’s Who in America”-

Owner of Signature Arts, he has created an original patented Chess Set featuring uniquely designed Caribbean motifs. His latest works are the “Shield Series” where the African Shield form is used to convey universal messages and the “Slave Tag Series” in which the American brand of enslaved Africans of antebellum South Carolina is captured in clay and sheet copper. Co-founder of the Association of Virgin Islands Visual Art Educators- (AVIVAE), Mr. Freeman has also been affiliated in various capacities with the School of Visual Arts and Careers (SVAC), a St. Thomas USVI after-school art program for gifted and talented students since its inception in 1981. Mr. Freeman’s sculptural and ceramics work can be found in the homes of prominent art collectors in the USVI and other international locations. His passion is to produce and promote art and sculpture in public spaces that tell the story of the USVI and his Afro-American-Caribbean heritage. An unveiling of his trio of bronze sculptures “Mocko Jumbie Jamboree” for Yacht Haven Grande was recently held December 9th 2022- Currently, he is in

ceramic pottery mode producing traditional Caribbean Coal Pots. To learn more visit his website- https://[www.edneyelfreemanosculpture.com](http://www.edneyelfreemanosculpture.com).