

My Journey through African Heritage

Alan Donovan

Alan Donovan was a cofounder of African Heritage, the continent's first pan-African gallery in Nairobi that became a pioneering craft retail and wholesale operation. He later constructed The African Heritage House, inspired by the mud architecture he discovered whilst travelling across the continent, and was the driving force behind numerous music, dance, costume and food festivals and exhibitions that travelled the world for over three decades. Through his work, he discovered and revealed to the world Africa's rich cultural legacy and beauty. In all, he has made an unprecedented contribution to the promotion of arts and culture in Africa and throughout the world.

This work reflects all this and more. It is a panoramic documentary and history of so much that has been achieved; it is the author's own story of forty years in Africa, in which, in his own words, he "searched for the continent's beauty and creativity, passing through the glorious sunrises and magnificent sunsets that encompass the splendor and calamity of each new day...and found an ageless and vibrant inner beauty".

The narrative is chronological, presenting the developments of African Heritage from its beginnings, many facets and global influence to its final days and failures resulting in part from the devastating impact of recent global events, terrorism and the war on culture and tourism in Kenya

