



CIVIC CENTER SCULPTURE SHOW

FEATURED ARTISTS

Don Anderson

Shirley Erickson

Robert Fermanis

Marion-Lea Jamieson

Thor Myhre

Sarah Ohman

Mark Stevenson

Presented by **allied
arts** &



CIVIC CENTER SCULPTURE SHOW

The Bellingham Arts Commission and Allied Arts of Whatcom County have joined forces to present the Civic Center Sculpture Show, opening July 7, 2006 and running through August 2007. Consisting of nine new sculptures, the exhibition is installed throughout the grounds around the Bellingham Public Library, across Lottie Street to City Hall. This well-used public space reaches large numbers of both local citizens and visitors, offering the chance to interact with art firsthand.

All sculptures on display are available for sale with 25% of the retail price going to the City of Bellingham for the continued support of arts and sculpture in Bellingham. For more information about purchasing a sculpture, contact Tara Sundin at 676-6880 or tsundin@cob.org.

JURORS

A jury of three arts professionals selected the sculpture in the exhibition.

Sarah Clark-Langager is Director of Western Gallery and Curator of Western Washington University's famed Outdoor Sculpture Collection. She has been involved with public art juries and commissions on both coasts since the 1970s. **Russell Beardsley** is co-founder and co-owner of Ironton Studios and Gallery in Denver, CO, a working environment for artists. In addition to being a sculptor himself, Beardsley has over ten years of experience with public art fabrication and installation. **Denise Snyder** is a sculptor who has enjoyed commissions for her work nationwide. The mediums that she is most recognized for are natural materials such as wood and raffia; she also works in metal and kiln cast glass. She is an active member of the Bellingham Arts Commission.

6. Thor Myhre, Bellingham, Washington

Seven is a part of a series of tall sculptures that frame the sky with a group of circles. It is inspiring to watch the moon and clouds pass through. The negative space within the sculpture invites the viewer to make their own interpretation of what they see in the sculpture. The circle can represent so many different things. It's like an artist's palette, hopefully encouraging the creative side of someone willing to stop and ponder.

7. & 8. Sarah Ohman, Port Townsend, Washington

7. *Dreaming Chicken*

Upon reading about a resourceful rooster in a Russian folk tale, I was enchanted with a small detail in one of the illustrations that exaggerated the backward tuck of the sleeping rooster's head.

8. *A Place in the Heart*

This is a dream image of a figure returning to or descending from a burning building. I interpret the dream as expressing memories and relationships that are hard to leave behind.

9. Mark Stevenson, Port Townsend, Washington

Hollow Man

Lacking internal identity, self esteem, his own mind, Hollow Man has become bound from outside. He is the unquestioning nationalist, the racist, the blind follower of intolerant and rigid religion. He tries to fill his void with simplistic answers given by strong and often hypocritical leaders who use him.

4. Robert Fermanis, Bainbridge Island, Washington

Sea Anomaly

I have always been absorbed with movement and sculpture that moves without motors or artificial mechanisms. *Sea Anomaly* is my attempt to emulate the subtle movement of sea grasses in the ocean current or pampas grass as it blows and sways in the wind. The Japanese fishing floats that top the thin aluminum rods are the "Anomaly" in the title and the element that catches the movement of the wind.

5. Marion-Lea Jamieson, Vancouver, Canada

Continuum

For the past three years, I have been using concrete as a medium. It lends itself to small interior pieces or monumental public art economically and with a high level of control over the process. It is durable yet infinitely flexible material requiring minimal maintenance is complementary to the built environment and allows interaction with viewers.

Continuum is one of a series of concrete works that combines hard edges and soft curves and plays with the boundaries between harmony and discord. The series explores relationships between inner space and outer experiences. It has also been a vehicle for experimenting with using pigmented concrete in sculptures so that they are abstract paintings in three dimensions. The use of pigment and surface textures were inspired by viewing the remains of ancient Mayan columns in the Mexican Yucatan Peninsula.

1. & 2. Don Anderson, Everson, Washington

1. *Fractal 2; Goddess II*, 2. *Hero*

Welding for me is an attraction to some deeper, primal urgings from the energy of the universe, which I believe is burning internally and externally. Through welding, I attempt to tap into that energy. My twenty-five years as a Professional Pipe-welder, Welding Technology Instructor (1999-Present), and Certified Welding Inspector, has created within me respect and guttural desire for a symbiosis with fire and molten metal, and has honed my abilities as a craftsman in my dance with these Earthly elements. My work has inspired creative thought and nurtured my personal enrichment.

The form and content of my sculpture is a direct result of interactive experiences and observations, consciously and unconsciously made, as a part and partner in the process of nature. Of particular interest to me are the ebb and flow of natural currents, both physical and metaphorical that occur in, around, and through our lives. Wind, Water, Light, Clouds, Trees, the Spiral, and other Fractals born of Chaos are current areas of discovery in my work.

"Hero" in Greek Mythology was a priestess of Aphrodite whose allure and beauty led her lover to swim a river each night to be with her.

3. Shirley Erickson, Bellingham, Washington

Peaced Together (sic) was inspired by making a comparison between industrial waste and the issues of peace in the world. All of the scrap pieces are so different, yet when they are put together they form a cohesive unit. When we look at the differences in the people of the world they seem vast, but if we could work together we could change the world.

