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Bill Weaver

American, b. 1952

I find the imagery available in non-objective art limitless and sometimes overwhelming, so early on, I made the decision to set parameters within which to work. I decided to look for sophisticated aesthetics in simple forms and concepts. The early sculptures were all made using the same basic shape, the first shape my hands made patting around a wad of clay. It was roughly a pear shape and I made a number of pieces with it: bubblegum machines, refrigerators, bible scenes and ecological statements. There was non-objective work as well, but most of the pieces had some frame of reference to real objects. Nevertheless, I decided to call it non-objective folk art, because of the simple, naïve imagery, and sought to further define it and operate within its parameters.

Eventually the forms evolved to a simple geometry. I also broadened the scope of materials used from ceramic to cast resin, carved wood, forged and fabricated metals, and cast metals. However, forged and fabricated bronze captured my attention most. Working directly with sheet metal to create three-dimensional forms brings a raw honesty to the sculpture, and bronze that is well worked adds a rich unique quality.

The work has also evolved conceptually. I still explore non-objective folk art but use it as direction rather than definition. And instead of relying on a frame of reference I now rely on depth of character in a piece to provide conceptual value.

I look to communicate sophisticated aesthetics with a simple visual language that is honest and well worked.

BILL WEAVER

BORN: 1952, Des Moines, Iowa

Currently resides in Santa Fe County, New Mexico

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

1977 Bachelor of Arts, Metropolitan State College, Denver CO

1974-78 Apprenticeship, Edgar Britton, bronze sculptor, Littleton CO

1970-72 Apprenticeship, Ole' Jorgenson, wood sculptor, Des Moines IA

MEDIA & PUBLIC ENDORSEMENT

ACQUISITION: "Ball in the Window", by the city of Carlsbad NM 2019

FEATURE ARTICLE, Santa Fean magazine, Art issue 2015

FINALIST for City of Albuquerque, NM, Public Art Program, Cherry Hills Library 2012

SOLO EXHIBITION: Littleton Historical Museum, Littleton CO (an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution) 2011

FEATURE ARTICLE, Sculptural Pursuit magazine, Spring issue 2007

ACQUISITION: "Edge & Point", by the Littleton Historical Museum, Littleton CO, 1% for the Arts 2005

COMMISSION: "Stars Over Mountains with Pine Trees and People", a 6.5' x 9' bronze wall relief for the Littleton, Colorado Historical Museum (an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution) for the lobby of a new museum facility, dedicated 1/29/05

INVITED ARTIST for the 3rd annual Crossroads Contemporary Gallery Celebration Benefiting Kitchen Angels, Santa Fe, NM 2006

SELECTED ARTIST for the Acclaimed Artists' Series by the Art in Public Places Program of New Mexico 2002, 2006, 2010

ACQUISITION: "Amish Bronze II" by New Mexico 1% for the Arts, 6' bronze wall relief for the Bernalillo

County Courthouse, Albuquerque NM 2001

ACKNOWLEDGED in "The Erotic Art of Edgar Britton" by Jane Hilberry, published by "Documents of Colorado Art" Ocean View Books; forward by William Weaver 2001

FEATURED ARTIST in "Colores" PBS-TV series on contemporary New Mexico artists 1990

GRANT RECIPIENT: Allied Arts Group, Denver CO 1980

2001 to the present

GROUP and SOLO EXHIBITIONS: CODA Gallery, Palm Desert CA; GF Contemporary, Santa Fe NM; Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX; Hulse Warman Gallery, Taos, NM; A Gallery, Santa Fe, NM; Ventana Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM; Sisko Gallery, Seattle, WA; Crossroads Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM; Sculpture Ranch, Santa Fe NM; Shidoni Gallery, Tesuque NM; Nick Cindric Fine

Arts, Boca Raton FL; DeGraaf Fine Art, Saugatuck MI and West Palm Beach FL; Crucible Gallery, Norman OK; Scottsdale Artport Gallery, Scottsdale AZ;

1991-2000

"MAGNIFICO!", monumental outdoor works, Museum of New Mexico, Albuquerque NM

"FOOD SHRINE SHOW", represented by Shidoni Gallery, Santa Fe NM

"OLD MEDIA, NEW WAYS ", Shidoni Contemporary Gallery, Tesuque NM

"MINIATURES / 95", The Albuquerque Museum of Art, Albuquerque NM

"SUMMER OUTDOOR SCULPTURE SHOW", Shidoni Gallery, Tesuque NM

"THE FINE ART OF CRAFT AND SCULPTURE", Cline-LewAllen Gallery, Santa Fe NM

"MINIATURES/ 97", The Albuquerque Museum of Art, Albuquerque NM

"SOFA CHICAGO", represented by Zimmer Fine Arts, Navy Pier, Chicago IL

"MINIATURES/ 99", The Albuquerque Museum of Art, Albuquerque NM

COMMISSIONS: "Box Fall", 5' bronze fountain, Dallas TX; "Pas De Trois", 7' bronze sculpture, Sheboygan WI; "Melli-Fluous", 8' bronze fountain, Pasadena CA; "Chock Maul II", 20" bronze maquette, Scottsdale AZ

GROUP AND SOLO EXHIBITIONS: Shidoni Gallery, Tesuque NM; Nick Cindric Fine Arts, Boca Raton FL; Crucible Gallery, Norman OK; The Woodlot Gallery, Sheboygan WI; Cynthia Woody Gallery, Scottsdale AZ; Cindric Meyer Gallery, Boca Raton FL; William Zimmer Fine Arts, Mendocino CA;

1970-1990

COMMISSIONS: Samsonite Luggage Company, an original bronze sculpture edition, each year through 1990, Denver CO; University of Colorado, original bronze sculpture edition, Boulder, CO; Teton Exploration and Drilling Co, 7' bronze floor relief, Cheyenne WY; Colorado School of Mines, 4' bronze wall relief, Golden CO; "Ball in a Quilt", 6' bronze fountain, Beverly Hills CA

GROUP AND SOLO EXHIBITIONS: Edgar Britton Gallery, Littleton CO; Eva Cohen Gallery, Chicago IL; Randi's Art Gallery, Cherry Creek, Denver CO; Denver Dry Gallery, Denver CO; The Woodlot Gallery, Sheboygan WI; Andrea Ross Gallery, Santa Monica CA; Summer Outdoor Sculpture Shows, Shidoni Gallery, Tesuque NM

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE: Bachelor of Arts, Metropolitan State College, Denver CO 1977;
Four year apprenticeship, Edgar Britton, bronze sculptor, Littleton CO 1974;
Two year apprenticeship, Ole' Jorgenson, wood sculptor, Des Moines IA 1970