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Lyman Whitaker

Lyman has been a practicing sculptor for over 40 years, with a unique knowledge of materials and their application. The past 19 years have primarily been focused on creating Wind Sculptures™, which are all produced by hand. The Wind Sculptures™ are innovative and artistic with a high degree of mechanical integrity; they are well respected for their quality craftsmanship.

Lyman's sculptures have an organic and mystical theme in keeping with his life philosophy. As an artist, he can express his concern for the survival of the planet through a creative medium. Disquieted about the durability of our culture's present systems, in relation to climate changes, Lyman's strongest wish is to have his artwork symbolize a move toward better solutions in relationship to the earth.

By placing the sculptures in settings dependent on natural elements for movement, opportunities are provided for participants to think about their surroundings. Lyman's sculptures are organic and natural like vegetation and are enjoyed best in interactive settings where they are viewed over time.

The receptivity to his work has allowed Lyman to create an inspiring modern studio in Southern Utah with representation at fine art galleries around the country. In addition, public and private installations exist throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia.

Lyman's early work was significantly more representational, with a wonderful mix from traditional bronzes to small mobiles, and also included several public fountains. Believing that there are a variety of ways to accomplish anything, his process has continued to evolve and maintain originality. Currently, Lyman is going back to what he loves best: combining a broad range of materials and techniques to freely create movement and form.

The Process

Each Wind Sculpture, hand-crafted in the studio, reflects master artisan quality. They range in height from 5 to 27-feet tall, and can be installed alone, in small groupings or in a Wind Forest™. The kinetic shapes are bold and distinctive. Based on technical and imaginative innovations, new Wind Sculptures™ are always in development.

The sculptures are fabricated from copper, steel and stainless steel that provide beauty and strength. Each Wind Sculpture™ is secured against theft, and rests on a sealed ball bearing at the top of a vertical rod. They also come with a steel ground mount receptacle for simple installation; concrete bases are available for smaller pieces. Lyman's designs permit the sculpture to be responsive to the currents of the wind, allowing changing forms to emerge in a slight breeze, yet balance in high winds.

The weathered color pallet fits extremely well with a variety of locales; the rust, brown, tan and green are all elements of the applied patina. The copper and stainless steel elements have a glistening effect as they move in the sun and low lighting definitely enhances the appeal at night. The sculptures are intriguing when caught in one's peripheral vision for a second, but not a diversion; up close, the experience is mesmerizing and interactive.