sculpturesite gallery

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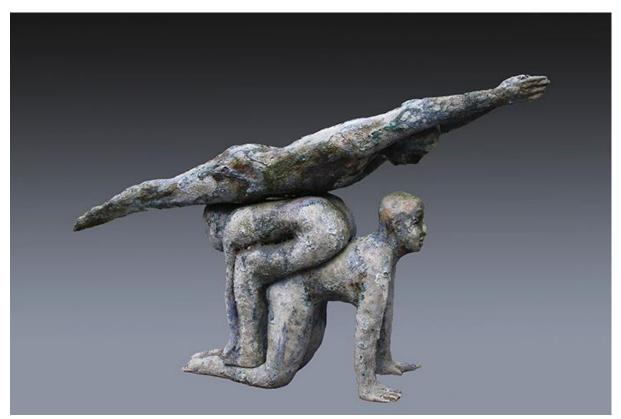
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High-resolution images available upon request.



Sculpturesite Gallery Presents on Sculpturesite.com: MARK CHATTERLEY - A Visual Diary

September 15th –October 31ST, 2019

We are delighted to present our sixth Solo exhibition of figurative sculptures by Mark Chatterley, whom we have represented for over 25 years. Included in this exclusive online show are 14 works, twelve in ceramic and two in bronze. The show can be viewed on-line at: https://www.sculpturesite.com/Exhibit_Detail.cfm?ShowsID=153

Ceramic sculptor Mark Chatterley has long been recognized as a trail blazer in a field where innovation happens every day. His work has been included in many museum and gallery shows throughout the USA and in Asia and he is considered a talented instructor by his students, some who have been taking his classes repeatedly over the years.

Chatterley built his own kiln that allows him to fire not only entire life-size figures, but also intricately intertwined groupings of several to many figures. Chatterley's mastery of many types of glazes rests in his constant experimentation, pushing the boundaries of the materials and what the manufactures expect them to do. Chatterley is best known for his "lava glazes", with craters and runs that he controls to a certain extent: "I am playing with the bubble size with different chemicals – bone ash and silicon carbide, to name a few", said Chatterley in a recent interview, "But it is not an exact science.

Atmosphere in the kiln, weather outside, how thick I apply the glaze, all affect the results. It is always exciting for me to open the kiln after the glaze fire to see what is in there."

In this exclusive on-line exhibition, we see that Chatterley has been playing with different forms and glazes. In *Net of Memories*, Chatterley covers the standing figure from the hips up with wheels of variable diameters. Wheels are a leitmotif that has been surfacing occasionally in Chatterley's works, but here they are no longer a separate accessory to the human, they become part of the figure. *Lady in the Clouds* contrasts his signature lava glaze in pale cloudy gray with glossier, smoother blue surfaces for the face and other parts of the figure that emerge from the clouds. *The gathering* is overall sleeker, with a bronze-like, rich brown finish and the front figure's face shows arresting detail.

Untitled (Two Heads), a single figure at the bottom that melds into conjoined twins above the waist, is an uncharacteristically glossy brown with bright blue accents. Couple in White, also conjoined, has two sets of legs. In Swimmer with Crows, Chatterley playfully places nine crows (also a recurring theme) in flight, or dancing upon an oblivious swimmer.

Chatterley continues to amaze with his large groupings of figures, which are fired as one piece in his walk-in kiln. *Line Dance*, *Human Column*, *Journey* are three examples that reflect on humans' experiences and relationships. Chatterley explains: "I have an interest in past cultures and how my work will be viewed 100 years from now. I am also interested in world religions, past and present, and how artwork conveys these belief systems. I am currently thinking of art as instinct and how it affects our everyday lives and how it was used for survival and passed down through the generations."

Two bronze works round out the exhibition: a single female figure caught in a back stretch, *Tall Woman* and *Surprise Kiss*, a tightly entangled couple.

About **Sculpturesite Gallery**:

Sculpturesite Gallery began in Berkeley as A New Leaf Gallery 29 years ago, and it soon became Northern California's premier sculpture gallery. After 15 years in Berkeley, five years of a second location in San Francisco, a decade at Cornerstone Sonoma, and finally three years at Jack London Village in Glen Ellen, the brainchild of husband and wife team Brigitte Micmacker and John Denning is now focusing on its extensive website, www.sculpturesite.com, in addition to maintaining an active program at its outdoor exhibition: the sculptureWALK at Jack London Village.

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