

KEN NEWMAN SCULPTURES

Issue 31
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NSS AAA SAA AA

THE LAST WHISTLE UPDATE

We weren't kidding when we said **Go Big or Go Home**, in September we headed to Michigan to compete for \$500,000 at ArtPrize8, an international art competition in Grand Rapids, Michigan. What an experience, we placed in the Top 100 out of 1453 artworks and in the top 25 in Sculpture.

In October, The Last Whistle #1/5 was purchased by foundation in Saginaw MI and was delivered to the Saginaw Art Museum. The foundation put out a Request For Proposal to local non-profits, which have been received and they are in the process of reviewing. The non-profit locations in the city are amazing and we look forward to their final decision for placing The Last Whistle.

Our theme at ArtPrize was "Shared Memories Keep History and Culture Alive". Through the sharing of memories one can appreciate the complexities of these individuals, elevating them above the mere common almost invisible working class. The response to The Last Whistle was far greater and more emotional than we had anticipated or even imagined. From the simple nod of the head and a thumbs up, to tears while sharing memories, it was overwhelming when people extended their hand and thanked us, with nothing more said.

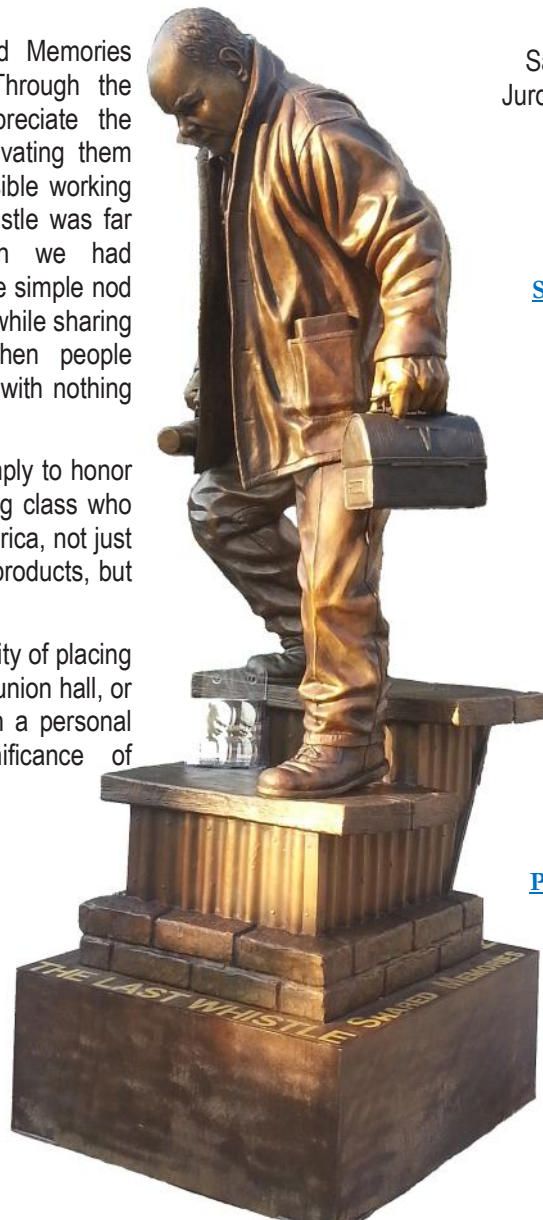
The legacy for [The Last Whistle](#) is simply to honor and elevate recognition for the working class who are responsible for the building of America, not just the homes, high-rises, highways and products, but the fabric of our society.

We would love to discuss the opportunity of placing The Last Whistle, in your community, union hall, or corporation, especially individuals with a personal connection to the historical significance of generations of skilled labor in society.

Request a package with complete details on the sculpture, or give us a call we can discuss your interest in purchasing the sculpture and offer fundraising or crowdfunding suggestions to help basing, site and installation costs.

"Each time I see it,
it still stirs emotions in me."

SJ-Saginaw MI



2017 ART SHOWS/FESTIVALS

ART—BEYOND THE JOURNEY LOGGER TO SCULPTOR

KEN NEWMAN—One-Man Show

March 10-12, 2017

Ft Bragg Town Hall at 363 N Main Street, CA

84th Hudson Valley Art Association Exhibition

April 30-May 5, 2017

Salmagundi Club, New York City NY
Juror of Sculpture—Sabin Howard FNSS

INDIAN WELLS ARTS FESTIVAL

March 31-April 2, 2017

Indian Wells Tennis Courts CA

SAN DIMAS FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

April 26-28

Civic Center in San Dimas CA

COTTONWOOD ART FESTIVAL

May 5-6

Cottonwood Park in Richardson TX

BARRINGTON ART FESTIVAL

Downtown Barrington IL

May 27-28

KETCHUM ARTS FESTIVAL

July 7-9

Festival Meadow, Sun Valley CA

ART ON THE GREEN

August 4-6

North Idaho College, Coeur d'Alene ID

JACKSON ARTFAIR

August 11-13

Jackson WY

PALO ALTO FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

August 26-27

University Ave, Palo Alto CA

WATERFOWL FESTIVAL

Nov 10-12

Sculpture Pavilion Easton MD

Watch for Updates

[WEBSITE CALENDAR](#)

If you are reading this in print, visit our website and find this PDF Newsletter [ONLINE](#) and enjoy the direct LINKS to each event.

MISCHIEF AND PLUNDER

A winter snowfield and the magpie led me on a journey of discovery. The observation that of a magpie's white plumage disappearing on a snowfield and the confidence to experiment with this concept resulted in Mischief and Plunder, a bronze sculpture.

The composition was greatly aided by the fact that the magpies are of the corvid family possessing an intelligence that makes for wonderful energy and movement. Gregarious, somewhat communal and playful, their three unique gestures become the structure, and the bird's sensitive need to belong is what takes the sculpture to another level.

In describing the magpie postures antics to a friend and art patron, the immediate response was "it's Moe, Larry and Curly!" For me, no more needed to be said, perfectly capturing the concept of Mischief and Plunder. Edition of 11 32Lx23Hx18W 48lbs

Ask about exterior basing, which should be pretty amazing!
This sculpture will be entered in several museum exhibitions this Fall, watch for updates on the website.



KEN NEWMAN SCULPTURES

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The heron comes into our lives to teach us the power of precision. If we waste no energy, we conserve our internal power and save time.

The Heron teaches us the power of Patience, not a passive patience, but an active one, focusing on achievement.



BRONZE EDITIONS-WHY 11 or 22?

We are often asked why bronze editions of 11 or 22? Some sculptors cast 35, 50, 100 or even unlimited editions of their clays. There are no US standards for original art. Some never cast their sculptures until the entire edition are sold in clay, i.e. as precast offerings.

All of Ken's wood sculptures are 1/1 originals and will remain so in the future. Creating works in clay for bronze, in most cases, is easier than sculpting in raw forms of wood, hence the higher cost for wood sculptures. Bronze castings require a mold to be created in addition to each casting cost, so in order to recoup these costs, it's a numbers game.

Our conversation, went something like this? How many do you want to cast? The dialog centered on cost recovery, inventory, exhibitions, gallery and sales shows. We also agreed smaller editions "add value" to our collector base. We talked about editions extensively before settling in 2003 on the initial edition of 22.

We wanted to be consistent and have a reason for choosing how many we would cast. The number was less than 25, which is the maximum number we came to agree upon. The number 22 represents, Ken's birthday February 2 and the sum of his son Grant's birthday 12/10.

Once we started casting, we agreed that 22 was too large for some of the sculptures, so 11, was his father's birthday November 11, and is also the sum of his other son Derek's birthday 7/4. Perfect!

We just cast the first monumental sculpture, the edition number is 5. Not sure how we came up with it... but it works for me. ~ Deb

AMERICAN PI SERIES

The series was inspired by the question I posed to many generations of women, where do you derive your strength from in tough times? Most responded, "my grandmother". The sculpture on the left below, Sunday's Dress captures a lost generation of women many who widowed early, ran businesses, and farms. They were the matriarchs of the family during the depression and war years and became a foundation of strength for future generations. It captures their strength, dignity and of course their caring and sore hands.

The long dress and apron can be found back centuries in history, although it is lost in today's society. I chose to remember the past and its impact on women of the future, the solid oak chair was the chair of choice and a reflection of strength.



To learn about the other sculptures in the American Pi series: A New Perm and A Moment's Rest, click on this link [Narratives](#) Sculptures are available as a series or individually, edition of 22

OPULENCE AND ESSENTIAL

I encourage Ken to play with concepts. Not every sculpture is meant to be cast. Opulence began as a study on a scratch pad in a hotel room several years ago.

Ken intently worked daily on this small 9" clay for a couple weeks, another artist who enjoys conversing with Ken while he is working, told him "That's not how I dry my hair". He initially ignored her, she was insistent and would stop by and say "I can't stand on my toes and dry my hair, it doesn't happen that way".

Ken finally explained "Whitney, that's not what I am sculpting." So he completes the sculpture and she stops by and tells him again, "I just can't do that Ken". He explains that the sculpture is all about the opulence of that 5 star resort towel, and then asked her to show him how she dries her hair, she bent over. Essential was born. So that's how a sculpture evolves. ~ Deb

CALM AFTER THE STORM



The posture is one of my imagination, not that of observation. It is a posture that is possible and probable and shows the beauty of a hummingbird at rest; portraying a glistening jewel.

The extension which supports the hummingbird is meant to represent a geometric abstraction of bird's form. Unlike the jewel representation of the hummingbird, the geometric form represents the power of man and nature. The piercing of metal through metal suggests the tension between power and beauty.

As we travel the country, we have seen the aftermath of Katrina in FL, the tornadoes in Joplin, MO and the storm surges of Sandy in NJ. Each bronze sculpture depicts a different theme representing the power and resilience of Mother Nature. Edition #6/22, Calm After the Storm –Rebirth features a hand cut and hammered copper lily, which represents rebirth and growth after the storm. The hummingbird comes to rest as Mother Nature repairs itself over time. There are six unique Calm After the Storm sculptures left in an edition of 22.



Available in different patinas and bases, edition of 22.

WINDOW TO LOVE



Bronze, Heart Stone on Walnut and Steel

BLUEBIRDS AND A 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Several years ago I was approached by an individual to create a bluebird sculpture, he was collecting 50 bluebirds in all mediums to surprise his wife at their 50th wedding anniversary. I thought about WHY, the 50 bluebirds and what an incredible gesture!

I struggled with the concept of cuteness—redundancy and the contrived concept the love-birds or the bluebirds of happiness. There was no commitment and in the struggle — the deadline was missed. It then became a challenge to make it unique—or in some way expressing myself and experiences. The bug stayed with me, it smoldered in the back of my mind until the spark ignited or was it Debbie's prodding?

What evolved is the use of found heart stones collected across the US, using each of the stone's originality—to create unique sculptures, blending the mixed media visually and tactilely to complement an expression of love. I've completed the first six in the edition of 11.

Simple Love (sold) Pillow Talk (sold) Slippery Slope
Love and Forever (sold) Window to Love (sold) A Slice of Love

Deb says they are perfect gifts for any anniversary, Valentines Day, wedding or just because! Enjoy this [Blog Link](#) sharing the individual stories for the sculptures listed above. Five more to create!

56th SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS TOUR

FEATURING "THE RAT RACE"

THE HIRAM BLAUVELT ART MUSEUM

January 21 - March 12, 2017

www.blauveltartmuseum.com Oradell NJ

STERNBERG MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Fort Hays State University

March 25 - May 12, 2017

[Show Information](#) Hays KS

MUSEUM OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY

June 3 - September 3, 2017

[Show Information](#) Winchester, VA

Watch for Updates on future 2017 Art Exhibitions

SO WHAT'S UP WITH THE WOOD?

Several have asked if Ken is still sculpting in wood? Yes, as time permits. With last years monumental sculpture, The Last Whistle and the ArtPrize competition, it all but put a stop to other projects.

Although the current wood sculpture has sat idle for over a year, Ken has managed to keep himself busy working on a couple figurative concept sculptures in clay for bronze. It is nice to see him work on a couple sculptures at the same time in the same subject, rather than mixing mediums and subjects. Our new skeleton (aka Bones) is getting a work out this year.

Please visit our website to see the wood sculptures that are available for sale. If you have interest or questions, we would love to discuss how we can place one in your home or office. We offer payment plans and leasing options making it easy for purchasing sculptures. We know once they are placed—collectors can't imagine why it took them so long to decide. Not only are they conversation pieces, but most discover something new in the sculpture everyday. Art Enriches Your Life!

~ QUOTE ~

"What makes a river so restful to people is that it doesn't have any doubt - it is sure to get where it is going and it doesn't want to go anywhere else."

~ Hal Boyle



Birds and the V's Aspen, Stone on Copper