

# KEN NEWMAN SCULPTURES

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## THE LAST WHISTLE PURCHASED DURING ARTPRIZE® 2016

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.

Great news: The Last Whistle #1/5 was purchased by a foundation in Saginaw MI and was delivered to the Saginaw Art Museum's foyer until spring, when the final location, pedestal, site-work will be formalized and the sculpture installed.

**With help from our Crowdrise contributors—you know who you are...**

The Last Whistle traveled 1600+ miles and was installed with a fork lift in the Fifth Third Bank Plaza near the corner of Lyon and Monroe in downtown Grand Rapids on September 19th. From September 21-October 9, 400,000 visitors descended upon downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan where anyone can find a voice in the conversation about "What is Art? And why it matters. Art from around the world popped up in over 170 downtown venues—museums, galleries, bars, restaurants, theaters, hotels, public parks, lobbies, buildings, walls, bridges, rivers, laundromats, and auto body shops.

ArtPrize featured 1554 artists representing 44 countries and 40 US states with a total of 1453 unique art entries. During the first round of public voting where over 340,000 votes were cast, Ken's ArtPrize entry **The Last Whistle**, a larger than life bronze figurative sculpture, placed in top 25 in the 3-D category and top 100 overall. Unfortunately we did not move on to the second round, there were 43,000 votes cast for the top 20 (five in each category) 3-D, 2-D, Installation and Time-Based. To view the results of \$500,000 in awards visit [www.artprize.org](http://www.artprize.org)

The response to The Last Whistle was far greater and more emotional than we had anticipated or 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 to shake Ken's to thank him, with nothing more said. The individuals who connected with The Last Whistle crossed all ethnic groups and all income levels. Our motto was "Sharing of memories keeps our history and culture alive (see picture). Through the sharing of memories one can appreciate the complexities of these individuals elevating them above the mere common or generic working class.

The legacy for the Last Whistle is simply to honor and elevate recognition for the working class who is responsible for the building of America, not just the homes and the high-rises - highways and products, but the fabric of our society. We look forward for The Last Whistle to reach its fullest potential when set publically in prominent locations, allowing viewers to share memories with family and friends of their life, or that of ancestors. The Last Whistle is an edition of 5.



## SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS

### 56th SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS TOUR

HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

September 23-January 1, 2017

Featuring: **The Rat Race**

THE HIRAM BLAUVELT ART MUSEUM

January 21 - March 12, 2017

[www.blauveltartmuseum.com](http://www.blauveltartmuseum.com) Oradell NJ

STERNBERG MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Fort Hays State University

March 25 - May 12, 2017

[www.sternberg.fhsu.edu](http://www.sternberg.fhsu.edu) Hays KS

MUSEUM OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY

June 3 - September 3, 2017

[www.themsv.org](http://www.themsv.org) Winchester, VA

### INDIAN WELLS ARTS FESTIVAL

March 31-April 2, 2017

Indian Wells Tennis Courts CA

Watch for Updates on our 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.

## HONOR SKILLED LABOR

If you think your business, union hall, museum, business or community may be interested in finding out how The Last Whistle can represent your company's or communities past, give us a call and we would be happy to meet with you and share the details of this iconic sculpture, which resonates with so many people across America.

We found at ArtPrize that sharing memories keeps history and cultures alive and through this sculpture the stories flowed from the viewers. It's not often a sculpture can evoke the emotions we experienced at ArtPrize.

There are amazing crowdfunding opportunities to cover costs of purchasing the sculpture, or just its basing and siting costs. One thing we know is that people rally around the blue collar workers, almost everyone has a connection somewhere in their past.

We would love to discuss the opportunity to make your sculpture special by incorporating your specific connection to skilled labor in America. There are 4 more sculptures in the bronze edition. Casting time can vary from 4-6 months depending on the foundry's schedule. There is also a 1/2 scale sculpture of The Last Whistle available, it is an edition of 11.



wonderful energy and movement. Gregarious, somewhat communal and playful, their posturing is the structure, but the bird's sensitive need to belong is what takes the sculpture to another level.

In describing the unique Magpie postures and the three bird's antics to a friend and art patron, the immediate response was Moe, Larry and Curly! For me, no more needed to be said, perfectly capturing the concept of Mischievous and Plunder.

Nine left in the edition of 11. Call 208 337-8408 for pricing. 32Lx23Hx18W 48lbs Ask about exterior basing.

## EXPERIENCE AIRBNB

We just wanted to let you know we had our first [airbnb](#) experience while at ArtPrize. We had difficulty finding a home sponsor at ArtPrize, there were three of us for 23 day— one sculptor, a muse and a lab. So we checked out other options and found a basement a 15 minutes from downtown Grand Rapids. The perfect respite after spending 10-12 hours a day outdoors during ArtPrize.

Our hosts were amazing, over the top with information and warm several meals. Great friendships were made with our hosts and their dogs Otis and Bella!

## KEN NEWMAN SCULPTURES

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## ~ QUOTE ~

The Last Whistle represents the iconic blue collar labor force of rural company towns to urban cities in the United States. Symbolizing generations of men who were instrumental in building the wealth and greatness of America. The 9 foot sculpture celebrates the importance of all people; from coal mines to steel mills to industrial manufacturing and logging and so many more, these were the industries and the building blocks of American values.

~ KEN NEWMAN

## MISCHIEF AND PLUNDER

A winter snowfield and Magpie led me on a journey of discovery. The observation that a magpie's white plumage disappeared on that snowfield and the confidence to experiment with this concept resulted in Mischievous and Plunder.

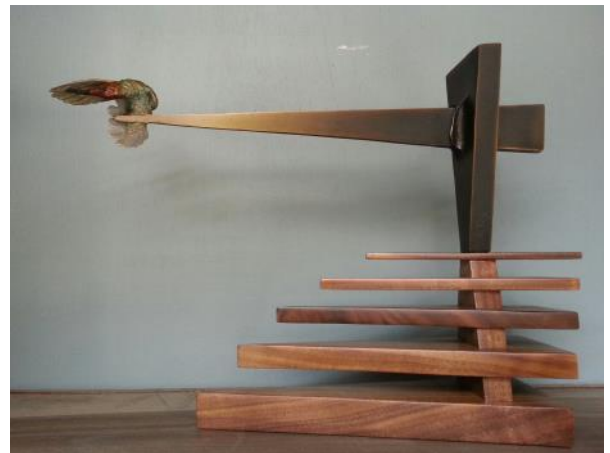
The composition was greatly aided by the fact that the Magpies are of the corvid family possessing an intelligence that makes for

## SMALL WORKS FOR INTIMATE PLACEMENTS

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 the hummingbird 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 Florida, the tornadoes in Joplin, Missouri and the storm surges of Sandy. Each bronze sculpture depicts a different theme representing the power and resilience of Mother Nature.

Edition #16/22 SOLD ~ Layers is a reflection of walking the river bottom across America. The common denominator from East to West and North to South is the rise and fall of the river level. Exposing layers of sediment and erosion, the life and history of the river and its extremes. That great natural beauty and the power of rising water, all represented in an abstract form of shadows. There are six more unique Calm After the Storm sculptures left in an edition of 22.



**Calm After the Storm ~ Layers**

Currently Available

Rebirth~Lily #6/22

Lightening Bursts #17/22



### AMERICAN PI SERIES

Sunday's Dress captures a lost generation of women who widowed early, ran businesses and farms and 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 and dignity, and of course their caring hands.

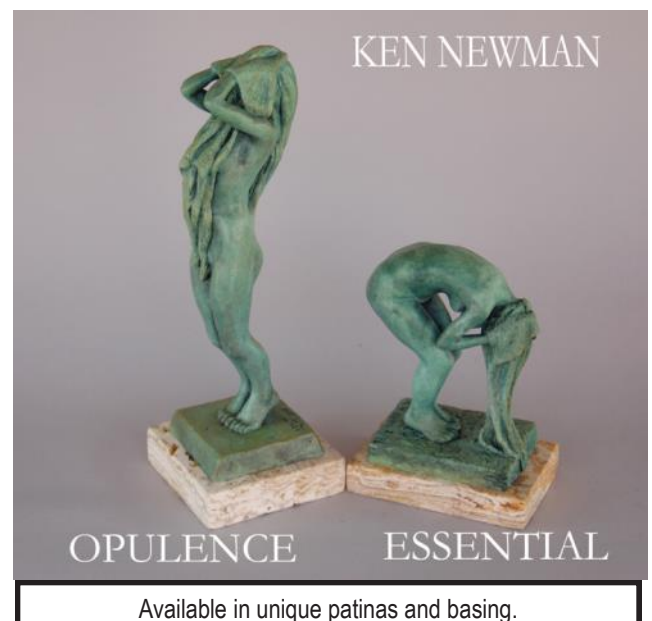
The long dress and apron can be found back centuries, although it is lost in today's society. I chose to remember the past and its impact on women of the future, the solid oak chair was the chair of choice. To read about the other sculptures—A New Perm and A Moment's Rest, click on this link [Narratives](#)

Available as a series or individually, edition of 22.

I encourage Ken to just play with a concept. Opulence began as was a study on a scratch pad at a Days Inn for a larger sculpture he was contemplating several years ago at a show in Arizona.

He intently worked daily on this small 9" clay for a couple weeks, one of the artists at the show who enjoys converses 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 tells her "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 to her the sculpture is all about that 5 star resort towel... and then asked her to show him how she dries her hair, she bent over and hence Essential. So that's the end of the story... ~ Deb

Perfect for a bathroom setting, Opulence and Essential, edition of 22.



Available in unique patinas and basing.



## A DOG FOR ALL SEASONS

If you are very lucky — a great dog may grace your life. They move beyond a companion to a true, invaluable friend and family entity, but most importantly they are a patient teacher. They provide a lifetime of memories, wonderfully seared into our hearts for a lifetime. “A Dog for all Seasons” was inspired by the stories of a client’s magnificent lab. A perfect example of the physical conformation of a British male Labrador retriever and the loving and complex personality of such a great breed.

The lab mastered the many worlds of sporting, family and service. His intense focus and desire in the field was only matched by his measured and well-mannered ability to read people and his surroundings. Everyone already knows of a lab’s devotion, love of family and of course the family bed. His unique ability was to excel in so many different environments, from nature to those of man’s making. Great dogs seem to possess a split personality. Lab owners fondly refer to this trait as “the switch”. They transform in an instant, from a calm and sweet social being, to an intense and focused hunting machine, by a simple opening of the gun cabinet.



As an artist this trait became the focus and challenge of this new sculpture. What evolved is the illusion of a dog just sitting. A calm posture, with a cock of the head he exudes the aura of a stoic and confident friend, whose kind eyes melt your soul. However, as you move around the sculpture, a sense of physical tension starts to emerge. The hind legs slightly raised — the front shoulders form a straight hard line with his foot, just over the edge. He now looks as if he awaits the unknown (sounds of incoming ducks — a pheasant in the wind—a human command). Only to us, is it the unknown — the switch is flipped.

The relief panels serve as the completion of the story of a great dog, a window to bring his personalities to life. From family to service to the field — The Lab, truly a Dog for All Reasons. A dog bred for the cold water and duck hunting, who adapted and became so much more. A dog that can shine throughout all the seasons of the year — “A Dog for All Seasons.”

Available: A Dog for All Season Large — 52x23x23 (ed. 11) Study 20x12x12 (ed. 22)

