

TALE OF RESPECT

PHEASANT SCULPTURE RECIPE

- Undying respect
- The magnet that pulls one outdoors
- Building friendships
- Sons and fathers
- Love affair with the amazing lab
Appreciation for all things wild

Out to the studio. Bending and twisting that armature wire. Push, pull and tool the clay, but to no avail. Until searching your soul will you find that pheasant which exists only in your mind. Out of the studio you come with "Tale of Respect" in hand.

CHALLENGES AND STRUGGLES

Creating a posture that expresses the dynamic nature of a pheasant while accentuating an artistic line was the challenge. This posture only existed inside of me and may not be a natural representation of the bird. So, the bird's posture and artistic line are a reflection of my own life experiences, attitudes and understanding of nature and not that of a camera lens.

The struggle of expressing an artistic concept while structuring my first armature, developing textures to move the eye and trying to visualize a patina that would complement the design represented a formable challenge. These challenges are what drive the next sculpture.

As a sportsman, "Tale of Respect" not only reflects the historical pheasant hunting tradition, but my personal experiences in the fields. Several years ago, when I arrived home in the spring, I was greeted by the call of a lone male pheasant in search of a mate. The diligence at which he crowed on the half hour became almost heart felt for our local population has declined. This image will be with me for a lifetime. The decline is both nature and man related; weather—predation—agricultural change and development. This image will be with me for a lifetime. For now, I must keep the lab fresh and conditioned and only test their abilities against those of the clever pheasant.

Standing on a single slender leg (foot) accentuates the pheasant's dynamic posture and precarious relationship with man. This bird's continued existence, as much as with most wildlife, is based on man and economics.

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SCULPTURES