

Composed—Curlew

Through observation and research of the curlew for another sculpture, I came to better appreciate and understand the sculptural qualities of the bird, but as usual more needed to be expressed. The value of a completed sculpture lies in what doors it opens for future works.

“Composed” is a direct response to “Observing Grace” (a sculpture based on observation that fully exposed the elegant anatomy of a curlew). One of the major driving forces in my process is a push to express myself by broadening my influences. “Composed” is an example of these elements coming together.

An intimate view of a curlew became the vision. To create a posture using abstract forms of triangles and planes to balance and move the eye while confining the bird to the smallest footprint possible, yet exposing its large wings, long decurved bill and legs. The posture is possible, but not one I observed in the field. This design allowed me to push and pull the anatomy and plumage in wonderful articulations that work in unison to pull the eye in closer and closer - intimacy with the curlew. For all these elements of composition and vision to come together, the creative eye artistically “Composed” the Long Billed Curlew.



EXHIBITIONS, MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS AND AWARDS

35th Birds in Art Exhibition, Museum Purchase and Tour—Woodson Art Museum, Wausau WI (2010), Museum of Gulf Coast-Port Arthur TX (2010), Newington-Cropsey Foundation-Hastings on the Hudson NY (2011) Wendell Gilley Museum-Southwest Harbor ME (2011), Michelson Museum of Art, Marshall TX (2011)

Idaho Paints Idaho, The Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, Idaho Falls ID (2011) **Wildlife/Animal Award**

Bosque Art Classic, Bosque Art Center Clifton TX (2011)

Society of Animal Artists—52nd Annual Art and the Animal and Tour—The Dennis Museum, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City MI (2011), The Wildlife Experience, Parker CO (2011-2012), Dunnegan Gallery Of Art, Bolivar MO (2012) Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI (2012)

97th Allied Artists of America Exhibition, National Art Club, New York City NY (2010)

Pietro and Alfreda Montana Memorial Award

National Sculpture Society—New Works On-Line Exhibition NY (2010)

63rd Annual Wind River Valley Arts Guild—Headwaters Art Center, Dubois WY **Sculpture Award** (2012)