

# KEN NEWMAN SCULPTURES

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SUMMER 2020

NSS AAA SAA AA



Since everyone is in self or community imposed sequestered mode, we thought we would share a sculpture that focuses on coming together “for the Greater Good.”

Confluence of Blue is a great example of the evolutionary process of a sculpture and the connection to my journey as an artist – from idea to fruition. The concept of multiple herons developed over several years.

Inspired by a conversation about artist’s separate life journeys and the impact of coming together for a common goal and how that evolved into a sense of sharing, learning and growth. In that conversa-

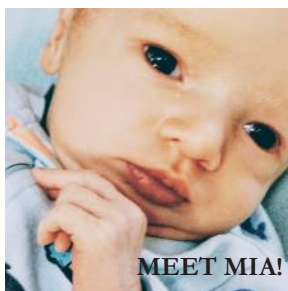
tion, a simple comparison was made to the unique solitary life of the Great Blue Heron and their annual congenial gathering to start a new generation.

Through investigation, I developed a greater understanding of heron’s biological traits and the cultural perspectives of the birds that have been woven throughout history. This built a fascinating foundation for a sculptural narrative. I struggled for years trying to define the concept in design, trying to visualize a concept that expressed the heron’s traits, cultural ties and most important a connection – my story. It was simply that of a community coming together “for a Greater Good.”

This sculpture expresses my reverence for nature and admiration of honorable societies. In creating Confluence of Blue, the heron rookery became the metaphor for what it takes to build a stronger community. Central to the theme stands the great White Oak with its deep roots suggesting the strength, history and enduring spirit of culture. Around the base of the tree, herons have gathered, joined to one another and all connected to the tree, the community.

*Continued page 4.*

## TIMES ARE A CHANGING...



Mia, our new granddaughter arrived in Truckee a little early on March 5th. We headed over to “shelter in place” as California was shutting down. A little disconcerting for everyone. Debbie helped care for Baby Mia and Miles (3), while their mom recovered and son closed a ski area.

Mia is off to a good start as the next 30 day quarantined starts. Ken spent those first weeks completing the clay “Prepared for Success” for Delta College in Michigan.

## 2020 ART SHOW FESTIVALS

**Corvid 19 Update**—From Spring to Summer and Fall shows including; Indian Wells Art Festival in CA, Oklahoma City Festival of Arts and the Spring and Fall Cottonwood Art Festivals in Richardson TX were all cancelled. In addition Art on the Green, in ID, the Palo Alto Festival of the Arts, Los Alto Art Festival and the 50th Waterfowl Festival were also cancelled or rescheduled for 2021. The one show in AZ in November is tentative and a couple of the shows are planning to do on-line sales—most are fundraisers for community programs and hopefully they can generate some money for us as well as their programming, Check our calendar on-line or give us a call, we will email those living in specific areas.

### Delta College Monumental Installation

Fall 2020 TBD Downtown Saginaw Campus MI

### 27th Fall Carefree Art and Wine Festival AZ

November 6-8, 2020

Ho Hum Rd, Carefree

### Art on the Green—Online Art Show

Coeur d’Alene ID

### 45th Los Altos Fine Art in the Park—Online Art Show

Los Altos CA

### Waterfowl Festival—Online Art Show

Easton MD

### Sculpturewalk Sioux Falls—SD

June 2020-2021 “Confluence” continues to exhibit in SD



Above is one of the final base concepts for “Prepared for Success” the 2-student monumental for Delta College—Saginaw Michigan Campus. The initial concept was presented in September 2018 with concept development to the completion of the clay in March 2020. The foundry casting process began in early April. “Enjoy “How a Public Sculpture Evolves, Part II” on the following page.

## HOW A PUBLIC SCULPTURE EVOLVES—PART II

The 36" clay sculpture was digitally scanned in Loveland, Colorado by Gary DuChateau. The digital scan is reviewed to identify any particular difficult areas and then calibrated for the size based on the female student 6'9".



DIGITAL SCAN

Next the calculations are run through the system and the individual blocks of foam are routed on the table, each piece is then glued together and joints are rasped to fit.

As you can image, when you enlarge from 36" to almost 7 feet and taking in consideration that it will be viewed up another 4' - many things change.

The foam enlargement gives the superstructure for the monument's development. Ken mounts the foam on bases with support and spends a couple weeks just walking the foam (similar to when we walk the wood before making the first cut). When enlarging something from 36" to 6'9", the view point changes and obvious distortions

pop out at you. Then the carving of the foam begins, lows are removed, bodies, legs and arms are lengthen or shorten. It becomes apparent that many adjustments need to be made before applying the first clay. Even during the clay process, foam continues to be removed.

The clay, which is oil based is heated in a cooker and applied by hand or with a tool. The clay is pushed into the foam and cools before texturing. I am sure you have heard the iconic phrase from the Karate Kid, Wax on, Wax off. It's a very similar process. The clay goes on, the clay goes off until it's just right or you take it to be cast at the foundry.

One of Ken's unique traits is that he doesn't use a model, he has a vision, a skeleton and measurements to work from, but each of the students are unique and developed from the inside out.

When Ken asked me to find some dreadlock images—I ordered a wig online and watched several you tube videos and came to the conclusion that dreads are unique to the individual and since Ken doesn't use a model I completed the wig put it on the skeleton and he created his vision of dreadlocks with movement.

The actual time from initial RFP to installation on this project will take two years. Installation is scheduled for Fall 2020.

## PRECAST OFFERING ON SCULPTURE STUDY

Prepared for Success—Seeing Opportunity

Offered in a smaller version Female Student 15" Tall. Estimated height with walnut base is 20". Pre-Cast Pricings is \$4500 plus tax and shipping. Edition size estimated at 50. The majority of the castings will be used to generate funds to place the monumental sculpture at other colleges or public institution's of learning.

If interested contact us, there will be a limited number of sculptures at this price, 1/2 down and balance at shipping. 208 337-8408.

The monumental #2/5 is also available, we are happy to discuss pricing at your convenience, only caveat is that we agreed to not install another sculpture in Michigan.



FOAM MODEL



COMPLETED CLAY

The completed clay is at Adonis Bronze in Utah in and Part III of How a Public Sculpture Evolves begins soon.



## *Confluence of Blue*, continued from cover page.

This is an important time to come together for the Greater Good! Around the base of the tree, herons have gathered, joined to each other and all connected to the tree, the community.

The heron postures suggest: looking forward, respecting the past, making connections to one another, bringing goals to fruition and balancing a central vision – calm and focused – looking to the future.

The birds are orientated N-S-E-W to suggest the great influence and impact and its unlimited boundaries pursuing the common goal. The heron that flies above reflects the success by the efforts of the community below, as the mighty oak reaches to the sky in support.

As the bird's postures developed, I came to understand they reflected six important elements of life itself; Focus – Perseverance – Celebration – Relationships – Success and Gracious Generosity.

In hindsight, this sculpture speaks to my need to remain connected to nature. Being a witness to the layers of nature that can provide insight to unraveling the layers of a life's journey, with art providing for that opportunity to share.

### **This is an important time to come together for the Greater Good!**

*Confluence of Blue* is available, it is an edition of 11—with a variety of basing options, and patinas for interior or exterior installation.

## NSS ELECTED MEMBER SHOW

**Recent Works by NSS Elected Sculptor Members** opened online at National Sculpture Society's website. While many galleries, museums and art festivals are closed to the public due to the global pandemic. For this show, Elected Sculptor Members responded with pieces in the round and in relief, bronzes fresh-from-the foundry and designs for sculptures yet to be realized. The recent works are reflective of what inspires NSS artists to create and what motivates them to return to their studio day after day. The dozens of figurative and animal sculptures on display represent the diverse styles, backgrounds and disciplines of NSS Elected Sculptor. Click on this link or type it in your browser <https://nationalsculpture.org/exhibitions/recent-works-by-elected-sculptor-members/>



I met Ken at the Carefree Art show and knew immediately that he loves dogs. I don't understand art, but I know love and a kind heart. So when I heard that some other kind people wouldn't get a newsletter about Ken's good work without a little help, I persuaded my owner that I'd be a super good dog if he'd write a small check on my behalf. This newsletter is proof that he agrees with me about Ken's heart.

Monty Python Pinkerton

A rescue Corgi, Terrier and Wild Dog Mix in Arizona

## PUBLIC ART IN LITTLE ROCK



**A Dog for All Seasons** found a new home at the Riverfront Park in Little Rock where it can be viewed and hugged daily by dog lovers. This is the third lab sculpture that resides in Arkansas.

**Forever Ready**, the lab jumping off the dock was placed in 2007 in the Vogel Schwartz Garden below the old Peabody Hotel.

**Taking Attendance** was installed in 2019 in

a round-about. Thanks to Sculpture at the River Market for loving labs and facilitating Public Art in their community. Over 80 works of art grace the City of Little Rock. Special thanks to Dr. Dean and Mary Kumpuris, his amazing group of volunteers and the City of Little Rock for their commitment to art, in particular sculpture. Kudos to the National Sculptors' Guild and John Kincaide for sharing his vision and love of sculpture with Little Rock.

If you love sculpture, consider purchasing one as a gift to your community, at a park, community center, hospital or dog park entrance. Give us a call and we can discuss the details.

<https://www.kennewmansculptures.com>

## ART TO INSPIRE—ART TO ADMIRE ART TO OWN—ART TO GIFT



Calm After the Storm—Geometry  
#20/22 Unique \$2750

## ART COMMENTS

Art influences society by changing opinions, instilling values and translating experiences across space and time. Research has shown art affects the fundamental sense of self. Paintings, sculpture, music, literature and the other arts are often considered to be the repository of a society's collective memory. Art preserves what fact-based historical records cannot; how it felt to exist in a particular time. Because art is so important to society and culture, it is highly revered and significant works are visited by millions of visitors each year at notable museums around the world.

The comments below are some responses to an email send about the importance of coming together for the greater good and the herons in Confluence of Blue on the cover of this newsletter.

*~ Shared this my sisters—we all love herons. This is gorgeous, thank you for sharing it and your message. ID*

*~ Not only is Confluence of Blue a beautiful sculpture: your inspiration, fact sharing and their relationship is brilliantly written. Thunderbird Artist AZ*

*~ Beautiful Sculpture. Knowing the story and inspiration about this piece brings a new wonderful understanding. Thanks so much for sharing. AZ*

*~ Thank you for the gift this morning...of your sculpture, your thoughts and words of insight and wisdom. You have touched my heart and given me a beautiful blessing. We are well... and know how fortunate we are to be "sheltering in place" on our ranch. CA*

*~ Beautiful piece of commentary Thanks for sending this I am a solitary bird right now, waiting to reconnect with the flock when we can once more socialize. CA*

*~ I wholeheartedly agree. It is more important than ever that we all do our part to flatten the curve and keep as many people as possible safe and healthy, including health care workers, who are putting their lives on the line. WI*

*~ Such a very beautiful sculpture Ken, with a beautiful message! Thank you. What an uplifting and beautiful email to start my husband and my day! Looking at Confluence of Blue and then reading your background of study and meaning of your art, brought me to tears, but tears of hope for the Greater Good. I am going to pass on your email to our family members and friends. This is another time in my life, 9/11, that we must come together as community, like the Great Blue Herons and know that the strength of the expanding roods of the great White Oak give us strength and connectedness. Thank you again for sharing, my heart feels better. SD*

## READY TO LET GO?

If you are interested in selling Well Worn —the 15" man sitting on a crate . We have several people interested in purchasing one, give us a call or email and we can discuss the details. Several months ago we had a successful transfer of **Forever Ready**. One client sells a vacation home and downsizing, while another gains a sculpture they have wanted for years. Success for both!

We were recently contacted by a client moving back overseas, with the interest in selling several sculptures—Tale of Respect—pheasant, Forever Ready—Lab and The Last Whistle, blue collar worker with thermos and lunch pail. Interested, give us a call.

### KEN NEWMAN SCULPTURES NSS AAA SAA AA

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WE ACCEPT VISA-MASTERCARD-AMERICANEXPRESS-DISCOVER  
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## WELL WORN



Over 15 years ago, Ken cast his second male figurative sculpture, Well Worn. The edition of 22 sold fairly quickly and still remains a favorite of collectors. After casting The Last Whistle monumental for ArtPrize8 in Grand Rapids Michigan, we considered enlarging Well Worn—well Ken's hair is almost gray, so why not.

To read about why Ken created this sculpture visit our website's [Narrative Page](#).

Technology is getting better and faster... allowing the sculptor to focus on the details rather than the enlargement process. Now in foam, the sculpting can begin on Well Worn, at life and a half.

We are planning an edition of 5 unless someone wants a one of a kind!

