Issue 46 WINTER /SPRING 2024

ELECTED MEMBER National Sculpture Society, Allied Artist of America and Society of Animal Artists



2024 ART SHOWS

Thunderbird Artists Art Festivals

Cave Creek Sculpture & Wine Festival Stagecoach Village AZ —March 15-17

30th Carefree Art & Wine Festival
Carefree AZ—March 22-24

29th Cottonwood Spring Art Festival Richardson TX—May 4-5 (waiting confirmation)

Ketchum Art Festival

Meadow Park, Sun Valley ID-July 12-14

Los Altos Rotary Art Festival

Lincoln Park—University Ave Los Altos CA August 10-11

Palo Alto Festival of Arts

University Ave, Palo Alto CA August 23-24

Watch for updates on our website!

www.kennewmsculptures.com

RAVEN'S DOMAIN'S MUSEUM DEBUT

Raven's Domain made its museum debut at the 110th Allied Artists of America Exhibition at the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio. AAA is a non-profit National Art Society composed of artists, sculptors, elected active members (Ken) and sustaining associate members from across the country and abroad.

276 selected works were chosen for this Annual Exhibition. Of those, 130 works of art were chosen for exhibition at the Butler Institute of American Art by Dr. Karli Wurzelbacher, the curator of the Heckscher Museum of Art in Huntington, New York. Raven's Domain won the <u>Lindsey Morris Memorial Award</u>. The Butler was the first museum dedicated exclusively to American Art, established by local industrialist and philanthropist Joseph G. Butler Jr.

Raven's Domain was also chosen for the 38th Annual Bosque Art Classic Exhibition and Sale at the Bosque Museum in the Hill Country of Clifton, Texas. The juror was Seth Hopkins of the Booth Western Art Museum of Cartersville, Georgia. Next stop for Raven's Domain is Sculpture Walk Sioux Falls, South Dakota May 2024—April 2025.

As Ken completes a sculpture, each are presented to juried shows across the country, some affiliated with Ken's Art memberships, other juried shows to expose his work to art curators and a broader audience of art lovers. The Raven sculpture is bronze and available on a walnut base or mounted for exterior installation.

The roads of the West are wide and open, like life's opportunities. The art business continues to be an interesting journey since 2001. As most know when the youngest son graduated from high school, we sold the house, bought a 37ft 5th-wheel with a diesel truck and headed out to do shows in Arizona and eventually across the country.

National Parks became a place we could hide out between shows and Ken could be sculpting within an hour of arriving to the campsite.

The Raven is a constant bird in our travels and we can not count the times they looked like they would be hit, but just in time... lifted their wings to the wind and evaded the truck—flying away—laughing.



Raven's Domain—Bronze Edition of 11



2023 ART PROJECTS

Early in 2023, Ken had the opportunity to prepare a Public Art Concept for a project next to The Clinton Library in Little Rock, Arkansas. The impetus was the loss of a sapling from the original Anne Frank Whitehorse Chestnut Tree germinated in the courtyard of 188 Keizersgracht in Amsterdam. Unfortunately this concept, "A Call for Humanity" wasn't chosen. If you would like a copy of this Public Art proposal, just call or drop us an email. We are happy to share and maybe the sculpture can come to fruition down the line.

Our connection to Little Rock goes back many years when we were part of the Loveland Colorado National Sculptors Guild with John Kinkade. Dr. Dean Kumpuris of Little Rock met John in Loveland at the infamous Sculpture in the Park show and a plan was hatched with the City to transform the Little Rock Downtown area over a period of

years with sculpture and landscape design. The concept was a little different than Sioux Falls downtown area but the revitalization was impressive. We participated at Sculpture at the River Market for many years, and competed for their annual monumental sculpture proposal. During those shows we were fortunate enough to place four sculptures; three Labs and a Trout, which are located along the Riverwalk and in a roundabout.

After seeing Taking Attendance in the roundabout, an admirer contacted Ken. After several years and a couple clay studies, in October we headed to Little Rock to deliver the completed sculpture. Bomber is his name, a small but rather special hunter-field trial lab. This is an edition of 5, hopefully using different variations of leaves based on the client's location. This one includes pin oaks and acorns and spans 5 feet. There may be another Arkansas sculpture project in the future. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

Visit our website to view more images of Bomber and other lab sculptures.



CLEANING OUT THE WOOD PILE—IT'S ALL ABOUT TIMING

In January, while waiting for State Farm to tow and then start the repairs on our livelihood, a Dodge RAM Truck, Ken found an old Redwood burl and started carving away. It has been awhile since Ken has sculpted in wood and he took to it like he had never been away. What evolved was "Timing". ~ Deb

This Redwood Root resided for many years in our infamous "inventory pile". Over time it was lifted and turned multiple times, only to be returned to the pile. On one fateful day it

decided to challenge me—to see deeper than its surface, to expose its character. This Redwood Root harbored many surprises and some

tough challenges— from the knot pattern that compliments the spotting of a trout to the swirling grains that replicate the movement of water.

The wood also gifted structural inconsistencies that must be respected dictating the sculpture's composition. Maintaining the woods original form while combining these elements and thoughts creates an opportunity for one to step outside the box. Using structural wood "butterflies" that hatch into stoneflies providing sustenance for the trout and stabilized the wood to live another life. ~ Ken



Timing—Redwood, Stone and Steel on Redwood 18"Lx12"Hx13"D 21lbs Call for Pricing



MIA—OUR GRANDAUGHTER THE RARE ONE

Mia's parents (Rob & Jill) are advocates for their daughter's future and for those with Rare Childhood Diseases, especially Glut1 Deficiency. They are active in this community which has an International reach. Mia was only 3-months old when they noticed a difference in their second child. Along with online research, their pediatrician and pediatric neurologist helped identify the causes of absent seizures, eye movements, and many missed milestones.



Mia turns 4 on March 5th. She has experienced more than most – many hospitalizations, an airflight, blood draws (hundreds), a G-tube, weekly PT, OT and Speech Therapies. She was able to participate in a NAPA Center in Los Angeles, with three weeks of daily physical therapy.

Mia has overall developmental delays, she struggles with things that come naturally to most children such as learning how to walk, how to stand independently, learning to talk and communicate. She works hard each day to make small gains. We dream of a bright future for Mia and the work being done by the Glut1 Deficiency Foundation gives our family hope that one day she will have more treatment options available and her progress will be exponential.

Thank you for the notes and prayers for Mia. The Glut1 Foundation is the lifeline as far as research, weekly questions and support to Mia's parents. Contributions to those efforts will not only help Mia, but all the 2,000 families worldwide diagnosed with this rare disease. The next Family Conference will be in Dallas TX in 2024.

Donate online at <u>Glut1 Deficiency Foundation</u> or send checks with a note in honor of Mia McClendon to PO Box 737, Owingsville, KY 40360 EIN 45-2190535—Thank you. ~ Ken and Deb

FAMILY UPDATES



Ken's son Grant took a leap into a new career, taking a page from his sister--in-law, Tara. These two are flying the skies and enjoying their layovers as flight attendants. Grant applied with Alaska Airlines a year ago and his training class was finally moved up to the front of the line and he recently found himself based in Seattle. If you are flying Alaska and notice a really tall Flight Attendant and his wings say Grant, say hi! He took this picture at the MET in NYC replicating a trip we took to NYC to an art show, oh so many years ago.

I guess, he takes after his dad, who left a custom home contracting career when the youngest son graduated from high school. He took a leap of

faith to become a sculptor and I tagged along for the adventure ~ Deb

IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE JUST A LITTLE CHEMISTRY- PATINA CARE

Each bronze sculpture is cast in silicon bronze, which is 96% copper. This copper content allows for the controlled oxidation of the bronze through the use of various acids. This process is known as patination. The patina is sealed with a layer of high-quality lacquer or acrylic and then a wax is applied, such as Trewax to ensure the patina remains as the artists intended. For sculptures that are located inside, all that may be required to maintain your sculpture is a periodic dusting, with a feather duster. Wood bases can be wiped with lemon oil.

For the outdoor maintenance of your sculpture, it is necessary to develop a simple strategy. To do extensive cleaning, rinse sculpture and clean all dirt off with warm soapy (Dawn) water and a soft cloth. DO NOT USE ANY Abrasive Cleaners or Scrub Pads. Rinse with water and wipe with a dry cloth.

While the sculpture is warm, sitting in sun, apply an even coat of wax with a

SOFT bristle brush. When the sculpture is cool, wipe the wax with a soft natural fiber cloth to bring back to the desired shine. There is a fairly simple book for patina care for outdoor placements; "The Care of Bronze Sculpture" by Patrick Kipper of Loveland, Colorado.

Caring for a wood sculpture is even easier. Give us a call, we can give you specific recommendations or the next time we are in your neck of the woods we can schedule a visit. We always enjoy catching up with part our sculpture family.



Glucose Transporter type 1 Deficiency Syndrome (Glut1DS) is a rare genetic metabolic disorder that impairs brain metabolism. The current standard of care treatment is a medical ketogenic diet. This low carbohydrate, moderate protein, high fat diet causes the body to produce ketones, which can be used as fuel by the brain and other tissues. It is not a cure. The Glut1 Deficiency Foundation, a non-profit organized by amazing parents and researchers.

WHY—KANGAROO RATS?



Popular sculptural subjects abound—but I am sometimes attracted to the unusual. Long legs, a tuff on a long tail, conical shaped head and cheek pockets, all sculptural qualities that lend themselves to dynamic compositions. In the early 2000s I was gifted logs of a Brazilian Mahogany trunk. Once used as fast growing canopy along the Arizona

rivers, the "Caruba" was cracked and hardened by the Arizona sun. A prime woodworking material if it hadn't laid for so long on the desert floor. Check and weathering just made it more interesting.

Desert Dissonance is great example of how one sculpture can open to a second. Sometimes the same subject, but more often unravelling compositional challenges. As diversified as the subject matter can be, our client base attraction is equally amazing. A recent client was very familiar with the Kangaroo rats. A researcher had recently purchased his specialized high speed camera to photograph these rats at night; YouTube Video Kangaroo rat defensive kicking of rattlesnake while jumping (youtube.com) The kangaroo rats also have an interesting metabolism, which doesn't require water survive.



DESERT DISSONACE Caruba on Water Gate Wheel and Gold Pan

THE LAST WHISTLE—HELP US FIND HIM A HOME

In December, we started the next casting process of The Last Whistle at Adonis Bronze in Alpine, Utah. We will be sharing the process and encouraging everyone to have a conversation about ART in public places. With the current climate, what should it look like? Non-representational vs representation, a great area for needed discussion. Should the new placement be in a public square vs a private installation with limited access. This sculpture is about more than one individual, it is about society and those who's backs it was built upon.

In 2016, we rented studio space in Fort Bragg, California. We both knew The Last Whistle was something special and taking a leap of faith in Ken's career as a sculptor, not to mention many gray hairs. The first in the edition of 5 was purchased by a Foundation in Saginaw MI and found its forever home in front of the Saginaw Art Museum.

The next search begins. We will be searching out communities, governmental agencies, museums and private corporations to ensure we have a home for the

sculpture once it is completed in June 2024. There is only stipulation; only one can be located in the State of Michigan. Contact us soon, we would love to start a conversation and make it happen.



2024-25 SCULPTURE WALK INSTALLATIONS

21st Sculpture Walk Sioux Falls—SD May 4
Raven's Domain
14th Sculpture Tour Eau Claire—WI May 16
Pure Freedom—1/2 Life
Art Walk, Watertown—SD 5/2024—May
A Dog for All Seasons

Ken has also participated in Public Sculpture Programs in Baytown TX, Mason City IA, and Little Rock AR.

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