

Michael Binkley

Sculptor in Stone

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Collectors

Bryan Adams
Jann Arden
Cecilia Bartoli
Peter Bentley
BC Children's Hospital
BCIT
B.C. Sugar Ltd.
Blundell Seafoods Ltd.
Peter Brown
Canyon Ranch SpaClub
City of Changsha
City of Vancouver
City of White Rock
Chris Carter
Clark Wilson LLC
Cunard Line Ltd.
District North Vancouver
Gary Fitzgerald
Gordon Diamond
Sir Richard Glyn
Gotack Transportation Ltd.
Doug Holtby
Husky Oil Ltd.
Laguna Reef Inn
Napili Kai Beach Resort
PABS Ltd.
Pan Pacific Hotels
Oscar Peterson
Mary Pratt
RCS Enterprises Ltd.
Ricoh Electronics Ltd.
Sea Lion Pointe Lodge
SFU
Sterling Winthrop Pharm.
David Terrant
Tyndallstone Lodge
UBC
Vancouver Board of Trade
West Coast Reduction

Artist statement

"I want to reconnect individuals to their primal instinct of touch. The sensory experience of touch is quickly de-programmed in most of us during childhood. 'Don't touch' is a phrase often spoken to a child during formative years, and we learn that it is almost taboo to touch objects. This imposed societal constraint pushes our desire to touch to a deep place within us and sculpture is one means to resurface that instinct.

When carving sculpture, I try to pay as much attention to the finishing of the piece as I do to the design - different textures are integral to the piece itself, as it supports my desire to have people touch my work as part of their interaction with a particular piece.

In our contemporary world of 'conceptual art' as popular art form, I believe there is missing piece that dismisses line and form, positive and negative space and composition of a discrete sculpture, which I feel is truly valuable in aiding an individual's interaction with art through touch.

I give thanks for two main blessings in my artistic path. I was fortunate to have experienced my epiphany at an early age, which has allowed me to pursue my passion for sculpture as both a young and middle aged man. And I have the foundation of an international group of collectors that have allowed me to remain self-represented and I am eternally grateful to the support and patronage of this group. I've heard it said that it takes a village to raise a child, and I believe it takes a community to raise an Artist."

Experience

- professional stone sculptor for over 35 years
- owner and operator of Binkley Sculpture Studios
- instructor at 10 international sculpture symposia
- instructor at intensive workshops for advanced stone carving
- board of directors and president of North Vancouver Arts Council
- board of directors and president of West Coast Sculpture Association

Achievements

- created and sold over 10,000 original stone sculptures
- produced & curated over 45 solo exhibitions of own work
- exhibit in over 20 international group exhibitions
- created over 15 public art works internationally
- first artist to hold solo exhibition aboard a cruise ship
- first artist to give stone carving lessons aboard cruise liner
- first sculptor to lead art tour on a cruise ship
- FANS Award honouree