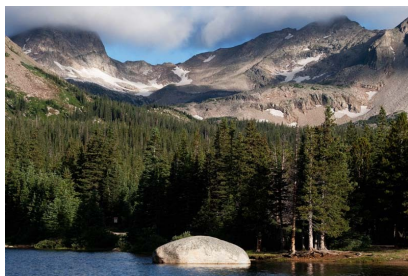


Eva's "Drawn to Nature" News

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Hello, and welcome to another issue from Eva's "Drawn To Nature "Studio"!



"Sculpture in the Park"

*(Newsletter written before the Colorado floods, so just let me say I was safe and dry. The rest of the area is a mess.) Well, it is almost fall here in the Rockies, which means the temps are beginning to drop down to more bearable levels (low 90's versus hovering around 100° - and for me, that is a welcome change! So far, this has been a year full of hard work. Good thing that it rarely feels like "work"!

August brought the annual Loveland sculpture shows, and this year for the first time, I participated "on the other side" at "Sculpture in the Park". (The two sculpture shows - the "Loveland Invitational", which is held on the high school grounds, and "Sculpture in the Park", which is held in Benson Sculpture Park - are held simultaneously, across the street from each other, and attract over 300 sculptors from around the world.) And believe me, that is a LOT of sculpture! Collectors/viewers come from across the nation, planning summer trips to coincide with the shows. ** (And once again, many, many thanks go out to all those who provided help and encouraged in some way!)

"Sculpture in the Park" proved to be a successful show for me this year. There definitely was a time crunch in the studio during July and August, as I managed to finish 5 brand new pieces for the show! (More about new works on Page 2)

For Artists who create limited editions of their work (primarily bronze art versus wood carvers and stone carvers who deal only with one-of-a-kind works), the "Park" show allows artists to bring only 9 pieces of their work. Besides the 5 new works, I opted to bring "*The Swimming Lesson*", my life size mother and babies American Alligators piece, which is always a favorite at shows; "*On My Way*", the little eastern box turtle; and "*Beaded Lace*", the gila monster on a cholla cactus skeleton and red sandstone. I have to say that "*Beaded Lace*" held the greatest surprise for me. That piece was created last year as a commission for Na 'Āina Kai Botanical Gardens in Kauai, Hawaii, and the first of the Ltd. edition of 15 promptly went off to its new home in Hawaii. The second of the edition, which was juried in the the annual show for the "Artists For Conservation Foundation", was immediately sent to British Columbia. I was not able to attend the show, so I had no viewer reaction feedback. "Sculpture in the Park" changed all that! It was the most remarkable thing to watch!

It seemed that everyone - young, old, male, female - was entranced by this unassuming desert resident! They stopped and stared, asked (or not) if they could touch it, asked (or not) if they could take its picture, stooped down on its level and gazed intently at every detail, marveling at its body texture, and giving me the opportunity to explain just what makes this reptile so unique among the world's reptiles (ie, it is one of only two venomous lizards in the entire world—the other being the Mexican Beaded Lizard. That living in the brutal conditions of the Mojave, Sonoran, and Chihuahuan deserts, our largest U.S. lizard [up to 24" long] spends up to 95% of its 20 to 35 year lifespan resting in cool moist underground burrows, escaping the heat above. And that, by leading a mostly slow moving lifestyle, the gila monster will eat only 4—5 meals a year, storing and living off the fat in its tail! Quite a feat in the animal world! (Prey consists of both bird and reptile eggs, nestlings, other reptiles, rodents, and insects). It was a joy to see what a stir this unique desert denizen caused!

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© Eva Stanley

"Beaded Lace" - Gila Monster Ltd. Ed. 15 • "On My Way" - Eastern Box Turtle Ltd. Ed. 30 • "The Swimming Lesson" - Am. Alligators Ltd. Ed. 15

New Works debut at 2013 "Sculpture in the Park"

The Roadrunners are finished!!

The first week of August saw "*Eyes on the Prize*" - the life size roadrunners/ collared lizard/ prickly pear cactus piece —finally come to fruition. Originally a commission for Na 'Āina Kai Botanical Gardens in Kauai, Hawaii, this first piece of a limited edition of 25 premiered at the show. I think the best part of the show had to be the look of delight on the faces of Na 'Āina Kai's co-founder, Joyce Doty, and head horticulturalist, Marty Fernandez, who once again made the journey "across the waters" to attend the Loveland sculpture shows! Though updated with photos as the piece proceeded, neither had seen any pictures of the piece after the assembly began! Needless to say, I was delighted that *they* were delighted!!

This 10 month project was a definite challenge in engineering, technical skills, and patience. Over the last couple of years, I have expanded my skills to include mold making (definitely a challenge on this piece!), and metal chasing. Adding that to wax pouring, wax chasing, and patina work, all parts of the process that most sculptors pass on to other people, it certainly made for a long process. (That means that I did everything myself, except the molten metal pour, welding, and photography of the finished sculpture!) But, judging from their reactions, the end results were well worth it! (Hooray! The first piece of this edition has now arrived safely in Hawaii, and slated for installation next week!)



"Eyes On The Prize" - Greater Roadrunners, Collared Lizard, on Prickly Pear Cactus

Ltd Ed. 25

49"X32.5"X16"

© Eva Stanley

Off To Their New Home!

Photography by Mel Schockner

Following the show, this first piece was promptly photographed, crated and shipped off to Hawaii!



Beginning the Crating Process



Finishing the Crating



Closed and Ready to Go—Destined for
Los Angeles and a ship bound for Hawaii

© Eva Stanley

New Works debut at 2013 "Sculpture in the Park" cont.

This year, I decided to begin some "seasonal series" bird pieces—by that I mean, birds that we all associate with the changing of the seasons—ie, the first birds of spring, birds who share our summers, etc.

My first series, "*Heralding Spring*", has begun with its first piece, "**Bright Note**" - a perky life size little wren perched on a budding cottonwood branch, singing his heart out to attract a new mate to his selected nesting site. He may have to present several possible sites to his "Lady Fair", before she will finally accept a location for this year's nest (and ultimately him), but the beauty of his clear flute-like song clearly heralds that Spring has arrived in the woodlands.

My second choice for the "*Heralding Spring*" collection is "**Sunshine and Shadow**" - a life size male Baltimore Oriole, in all his breeding splendor, caught in a split second of time as he momentarily perches on a budding White Oak branch, while searching the woodlands for his heart's desire.



"Bright Note" -

Wren on Cottonwood branch

Ltd. Ed. 40

14"x7.5"x9"

© Eva Stanley



"Sunshine and Shadow" -

Baltimore Oriole on White Oak branch

Ltd. Ed. 40

14"x10"x7"

© Eva Stanley

For my second seasonal series, "*The Bounty of Summer*", I chose as its first representative, a bird that delights and entertains countless viewers across North America, the Hummingbird.

This piece, entitled "**Long-stemmed Jewel**", speaks of summer and true love. This life size tiny visitor, attracted by the deep red color of a long-stemmed rose left resting briefly on an outside table, pauses only for an instant, before dashing off in his relentless quest for nectar.

(For those sweethearts out there, this piece is also available as a single long-stemmed rose, minus the hummingbird.)



"Long-stemmed Jewel" - Hummingbird on Long-stemmed Rose

Ltd. Ed. 40

2.5"x16.25"x6"

© Eva Stanley

New Works debut at 2013 "Sculpture in the Park" cont.

My final piece, created literally just in time for the show, is a piece entitled "**Desert Denizen**", and features a life size western screech owl who has found a lovely cool place in a saguaro cactus "boot" to rest for the day and watch the world go by. Finding this cavity unoccupied by the myriad of desert creatures which often use these holes for shelter from the heat or as places to nest (this could include anything from woodpeckers—who originally create the holes - to purple martins, wrens, elf owls, finches, sparrows, flycatchers, and kestrels), this little screech owl has chosen this nice, dark, and cool Saguaro Cactus "boot".

(This bronze is a wall hanging, and perfect for indoors, out on a patio, or positioned on a tall fence.)

"Change of Venue": New Studio Digs

After spending a year driving back and forth across town to an external studio, I have decided to switch back to a home studio. Working from the house is more convenient for those late night endeavors, bad weather, or just being able to pop downstairs for a few minutes between other life doings. Therefore, I am up to my armpits in moving at the moment. At least it is only studio-related this time, and not personal belongings! My housemate (who also engages in some sculpting every once in a while) and I have now sealed the basement's cement floor to resist our wax drips and clay drops, and soon, all the studio paraphernalia should be ensconced in its new home! Then, I can get to work on the several new projects rumbling around in my head! Always something going on! :>)

** With the Colorado floods, I am cut off from the studio by road closures.

Hopefully not much still left in there, but the Roadrunner molds and alligator crate. Hold a good thought that the water has not risen that high!



"Desert Denizen" - Western Screech Owl
in Saguaro Cactus Ltd. Ed. 25

19"x10.5"x4"



2013 Shows and Exhibitions

Two exhibitions slated at the moment.....

First show.....

The brand new wildlife art organization, the "*Rocky Mountain Animal Artists Group*", formed by members of the *Society of Animal Artists* who reside within the seven Rocky Mountain states, in conjunction with, and hosted by, The Wildlife Experience Museum, (located just south of Denver in Parker, Colorado), will hold its first annual show, *The Wildlife Experience in Art*. A juried show, featuring world class wildlife art created by these member artists, is to be held Sept 28th, 2013 through Jan 5th, 2014 at The Wildlife Experience Museum. Having participated in previous shows at The Wildlife Experience, I can tell you that they have a beautiful 1st class facility within the Museum, and put on spectacular art shows. I hope as many of you as possible will put the dates on your calendar, and plan to attend our premier show! My Tarantula/ Cockroach piece, titled "*The Last Tango*", was selected for this show.

The second show on the books will not require any travel on the part of the viewer, at least not as far as my piece goes!

The "*Artists For Conservation Foundation*" selected my 2 bronze 2/3 life size sandhill cranes to participate in the "Virtual" portion of the annual show, *International Exhibit of Nature in Art and Festival*. (These cranes were my portion from "*The Winds of Change*", the Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area Visitors Center monument from 2012, which was a joint project with my dear Indiana limestone and bronze sculptor friend, Sharon Fullingim, from New Mexico. Sadly, without her being an AFC member artist, we were not able to submit the entire sculpture to the jury.) The "Virtual" portion of the show is AFC's attempt to make participation possible for artists who work large or monumental, where weight and shipping factors otherwise made participation impossible. Artists participating in the "Virtual" portion of the show will have work displayed online (along with the "Live" show pieces shown in BC), and are also included in the annual hardcover show catalog. For those wishing to attend the "Live" show, it is once again being held in Vancouver, British Columbia at the fabulous Grouse Mountain Resort, and will take place, from the Gala fundraiser opening on Friday, Sept 27th through Sunday, October 6th, 2013. For more information on the show and Festival activities, or to view the show online after Opening day, or to order your own hardback copy of the luscious catalog, see the AFC website at: <http://www.artistsforconservation.org>

Upcoming 2013/ 2014 Shows and Exhibitions

Naturally, the jurying for several other shows is currently taking place. If you are interested in the possibility of seeing some of my recent work in person at one of these shows, please check back with me personally, or follow my Drawn To Nature Studio blog at EvasWildlifeArt.WordPress.com (That's EvasWildlifeArt Dot WordPress Dot com) for further updates.

New Works Rumbling....

I'm thinking....

1 or 2 Elk pieces.... (bas relief/ table top size? Not life size, at the moment!) :->)

A life size bald eagle landing....

And....

And....



Travel???

Not sure I remember what that is.... Haven't traveled since last January's photo jaunt to Florida. I keep thinking perhaps fall photography in Yellowstone, though the Park is getting ready to shut down for the winter shortly, so would have to make up my mind awfully fast, and with the studio reorganization.... Hmmmmmm.....

On the other hand, sticking closer to home, there are always the bighorn sheep and mountain goats of Mt. Evans, west of Denver, and less than 3 hours away; the elk rut, which should be in full swing shortly up in Rocky Mountain National Park and only 1 hour away; and then the moose rut will begin at Brainard Lake (about 2 hours west of Longmont), or up over Cameron Pass (about 3 hours west of Fort Collins).... Hmmmmmm.....

In the meantime, I am trying to get out in the field a little bit around home, because it is time for the shorebirds to start moving through on their way south.

** (Sorry, that upper photo looks way too happy, given the state of Colorado at the moment. But I will leave it there because hopefully it says something about indomitable spirits and the human ability to rebound despite our difficulties. The extensive flooding and highway loss (17 miles of Hwy 34 alone!) has destroyed human access into most areas—mountains and high plains. For the first time in almost 100 years, Colorado's wild ungulate (hooved) population will enjoy a very peaceful breeding season this year, without all that human presence! They are certainly much more resilient in the face of Nature's antics than we are! I wonder if the migratory birds may be forced to move straight on through this year because of food issues? Just looked, and Rocky Mountain National Park is CLOSED, except for Trail Ridge Road, which is only open to essential traffic (ie, Estes Park residents having to get in and out for services through Grand Lake on the western side. Who knows what they will do come winter! They will have to find some of that pioneer spirit to see them through, or leave before winter sets in. That is for sure.) Hopefully, today will be our last rain for a while! For more Park info: www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/flood_alert.htm



Mountain Goat, Mt. Evans, Colorado

As for me, guess I will have to curtail some of my wanderlust, and just sculpt instead!

If you have enjoyed this newsletter, I encourage you to share it with anyone and everyone, private and corporate, alike! I am trying to build a bigger audience for my work, and can only succeed with the help of friends like you! If they would like to continue to receive it, have them send a quick e-mail!

Professional Art Organizations:

Society of Animal Artists—Associate Member

Website: <http://www.societyofanimalartists.com>

Artists For Conservation Foundation—Signature Member

Website: <http://www.natureartists.com>

National Sculpture Society—Associate Member

Website: <http://www.nationalsculpture.org>

American Women Artists—Former Signature Member

If you are interested in seeing all of my work, both 3-D and 2-D, go to the home page of:

<http://www.natureartists.com>

- 1) On the left side of the page, you will see a box for "Artist Quick Jump" 2) Click for the drop-down box and scroll down, and select "Stanley, E", and "Go" This will take you to my site page.
- 3) Click on "Artwork", and it will show you my three categories of work.
- 4) Click on "View Artwork", and click on any piece that you would like to enlarge and/or see information about!

Sounds complicated, but it really isn't!

Na 'Āina Kai Botanical Gardens, Kauai, Hawaii

<http://www.naainakai.org>

Sculpture in the Park, Loveland, Colorado

<http://www.sculptureinthepark.org>

Loveland Sculpture Invitational, Loveland, Colorado

<http://www.lovelandsculptureinvitational.org>

Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area, Linton, Indiana

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3094>

The Wildlife Experience Museum, Parker, Colorado

<http://www.thewildlifeexperience.org>

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