

Mark Hopkins

BRONZEWORKS

A MARK HOPKINS SCULPTURE SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

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Hot Off the Crucible

While Mark specializes in brilliant creativity, our collectors sometimes bring us inspiring ideas. One of our collectors, seeking a truly special gift for his wife, inquired if Mark had ever created a sculpture of a newborn baby descending from heaven. We loved the idea, and Mark came up with a breathtaking design for this concept, with the infant arriving into the welcoming arms of its mother. Although the original sculpture is a one-of-a-kind piece for a beloved wife, Mark has created the same design in a smaller size to offer his collectors. The stunning *Heavenly Gift* has been an instant hit all over the world.

Mark's newest offering is another of his charming bird sculptures. *Fine Feathers* features a sweet cluster of chickadees having a friendly neighborhood chat - or maybe admiring each others' new spring feathers.



Fine Feathers



Heavenly Gift

Highlights

Mark has finally finished his portrait of *Joel Chandler Harris*, author of the classic Uncle Remus stories, for The Wren's Nest Museum in Atlanta, Georgia. This masterpiece will be unveiled on Thursday, May 4, 2017. The family has graciously given us permission to cast a small edition of the sculpture, and Mark Hopkins Sculpture will donate 10% of the



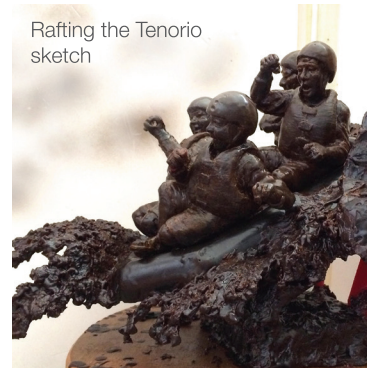
Joel Chandler Harris

purchase amount to The Wren's Nest Museum, so let us know if you are interested in acquiring one of the few available sculptures. For information about the museum or the writings of Mr. Harris, visit: wrensnest.org

With the completion of the *Joel Chandler Harris* portrait, other commissions are in the works. A collector in Arkansas commissioned Mark to create a sculpture taken from a photo of her very active family going over the rapids as they enjoyed an exciting river adventure. Another collector from New York is excited to have Mark design a large lion mounted on marble for the office of her sweetheart.

Mark's largest upcoming commission is a life-sized portrait of a wonderful philanthropist in Virginia. The sculpture will be installed at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley. The campus of the facility includes a garden called Kathie's Spring Garden, named in honor of this generous and committed friend of the museum.

Art World News magazine will feature some of Mark's many recent commissions in their April issue. Pick up a copy to hear more about these new projects.



Rafting the Tenorio sketch

Artist's Corner

Mark's bird sculptures get a lot of attention from his collectors. When asked about their design, he has often described them as visual haiku. When we asked him to define what he means by that description, Mark said:

Haiku originated in Japan, where it was a short, very simple form of poetry. It has been adapted by English poets but remains faithful to the original spirit of the Japanese form.

The traditional haiku paints a verbal image of a fleeting moment involving nature. It is minimalist, using no superfluous words. It is also impressionistic, focused on imagery more than ideas or statements.

The meaning is suggestive and requires reader participation.

I think my birds, and my flowers, too, invoke this same feeling. They are the essence of my subject, with nothing unnecessary. Less is definitely more in this case. These are a simple images, requiring the viewer's mind to participate in the interpretation based on their individual vision.

Mark is still enjoying teaching occasional classes at Sculpture Depot in Loveland.

Contact Sculpture Depot at
970.663.5190

for information on future classes.

From Our Collectors

Mark's birds have brought us some lovely letters from collectors. One happy lady from Oregon wrote to us about Mark's *Family Reunion*:



"It was so nice to meet and talk with you at the Sculpture in the Park...After I got home and read your newsletter, I just had to write you a note! My husband and I had just sold our [high stress] business of 20 years the day before the show, and I was sleep deprived but elated... One of the ways we unwind from it all is spending time at home on our back balcony. It is two stories high, right up in the tree canopy, bordering a wood and stream.

Being up in the canopy, we have developed a whole new appreciation for birds, especially the chickadees and



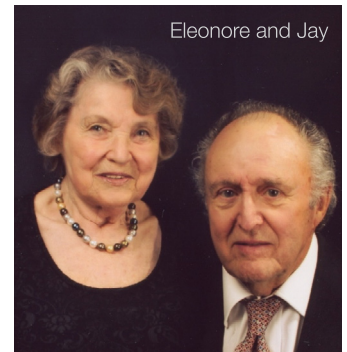
hummingbirds which gather at our fountain / bird bath and feeder. They are so close we could practically reach out and touch them. They are sweet, trusting, and so expressive. Time with them has been so restorative and joyful.

So, when I read in your newsletter about why these birds inspire you, I understand why I was drawn to this diminutive but emotionally powerful sculpture! Surrounded that day by so many beautiful pieces, it was the one that spoke to my heart! We are so excited to welcome it into our home and will treasure it forever!"

Another collector from Texas ordered *Sunshine* for his ill mother and said, *"Wow! Thank you so much. The bronze art piece works great !!! [My mom's] nickname is Sunshine and [she] loves birds and sunflowers... so it could not have been a better fit, even if you knew her."*

One of our devoted gallery owners and collectors passed away not too long ago and we miss her terribly. Mark's sculptures brought her great joy during her lifetime. Her daughter wrote to us about her memorial service, saying, *"We are bringing a bronze (or 2 or 3) to the memorial to showcase the art gallery time of her life. Mark's work was her 'go-to' gift for the really special people in her life. Lucky them!"*

Not every letter is about birds. A collector in Ohio fell in love with *Heavenly Gift* (pictured on the front page) and said, *"Oh my word! This is so beautiful!! I almost couldn't keep my mouth quiet when I opened my email up! [My husband] was sitting close to me and I didn't want him to know because I would like to order it for Christmas... I am tickled pink that Mark has done another wonderful sculpture that speaks volumes without saying a single word. [We] have lost six little ones before they were born, the oldest being five months. So this is very meaningful to us. It took my breath away. Please tell him 'Thank you'!!"*





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OUR MISSION

is to create an enduring legacy of beauty and excellence in bronze to enhance the lives of those who will own a Mark Hopkins sculpture.

Through the daily work of our hands, we will share the eternal nobility of our hearts and minds.

From the diversity of our individual talents and strengths, we will forge a great unity of purpose and achieve unlimited success and prosperity.

Mark's SUMMER APPEARANCES

AUGUST 12 & 13 | 2017

SCULPTURE IN THE PARK

LOVELAND, COLORADO

AUGUST 12th—13th, 2017

Saturday 9:30 am—6:00 pm

Sunday 9:30 am—4:30 pm

For more information, go to:

<http://www.SculptureInThePark.org/show/information>

WWW.MARKHOPKINSSCULPTURE.COM

BronzeWorks welcomes your suggestions and articles.
Editors: Laurie Hopkins & Jenay Hopkins

Looking for a hard-to-find or sold-out Mark Hopkins piece? Call or email us at hopkinsbronze@gmail.com and put us to work. You never know what we might be able to find for you.



Like "Mark Hopkins Sculpture" on Facebook for sneak peeks at new pieces and behind-the-scenes glimpses into Mark's process.

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