



President's Letter

Hey everyone! Happy Holidays! I hope everyone is doing well and able to work on some art and sculpture. That's our priority, regardless of how your day, week, month, or year has been. Just know that's what we're here to do, make art and make the world a more beautiful place.

The annual Georgetown Library show will be here before you know it. Maybe a new year's goal for you could be to create a new sculpture for this wonderful show – a way for you to get your mind going and your hands dirty. Accept your talents and enjoy the process. Let's keep growing together.

This past fall, TSOS grew quite a bit. We had one of the best shows imagined at the UMLAUF Sculpture Garden and Museum, with 28 sculptors participating. Many new artists and members were part of the show, and the energy and vibe were hotter than the heat off the Austin pavement in September. Next year's event will be something to behold. I was proud of everyone who showed and hope the feeling is mutual.

Early in October, a few TSOS members, including me, participated in the Round Rock Chalk Walk Arts Festival. This was a first-time opportunity for TSOS, from Scot Wilkinson, Director of the City of Round Rock Arts and Culture. I want to thank Scot for the invitation and the chance for TSOS to show and engage with the festivities. We reached out to many festival goers and enhanced their understanding of the fine arts and of the methods, variety, and presence of sculptures and sculptors. Overall, it was a good show with new friends, camaraderie, new collectors, and enthusiastic patrons of the sculptural arts. More details of the participants and a few pictures follow within this newsletter.

Dripping Springs Art Tour followed later in October. Only a short amount of time was given for us to put it together, but the few of us who showed up, enjoyed some beautiful fall weather, new patrons, and more TSOS friendships and comradery. I want to say thank you to Phil and Michele Hoggatt, Doyle Morgan Fellers (STUDIO:13 Gallery and Garden), Dripping Spring's Visitor Bureau, and Tom Parmeson (Parmeson Wines) for coordinating the event, and for the wonderful hospitality the Hoggatt's showed us. It was a wonderful and carefree show, with all of us presenting a variety of sculptures and art. We will be working on participating in this show each fall, so be sure to look for the invitations next year. You will find an article below about this show as well.



*Matt Donner and Vera Smiley at The UMLAUF
Austin Museum Dav 2022*



Rodney D. Butler at The UMLAUF Austin Museum Day

TSOS is continuing to grow, and we are keeping the fire burning with events and projects – well established and on the horizon. I’m not a president who merely promises but am conscious of words that fall flat. I listen to every one of you who I’ve interacted with and want to see TSOS expand in a direction that enables and showcases all of us with many talents and abilities.

Some of the sculptors who established TSOS and have been with TSOS since the beginning are incredibly influential with their experience. These old souls have created a portfolio of work, joining the resume of the greatest artists in this world. These

same members are extremely humble, quietly continuing to make their mark on the world – not just on Texas. What I’ve recognized with such sculptors, is that they show perseverance and passion, both qualities also recognized as growth in the art world. These are the teachers we all should be listening to. Sometimes, if you’re like me, we go through the day feeling hopeless or wondering why we continue this artistic journey, “What’s the point?” I guarantee, these same old souls asked the same question at some point in their journey.

One benefit of being involved as president of TSOS is that I’m able to see the past, present, and future, just from engaging such old souls. So, on that recognition, I want to say, TSOS is more than just a society of sculptors, it is a family of passionate artists. As I said at the start, let’s keep growing together, sharing ideas, and just keep creating. I know I will.

Much love everyone and the happiest of holidays and new year!

Matt Donner
TSOS President

TSOS Museum Day 2022 Sculpture Exhibition at The UMLAUF Sculpture Garden + Museum

On Austin Museum Day, Sunday September 18, 2022, the Texas Society of Sculptors sponsored an amazing exhibit with 30 sculptors at The UMLAUF. Since 1998, the Austin Museum Partnership has coordinated Austin Museum Day, a community family event which offers free admission and includes special programs and activities at museums and cultural institutions across the area. TSOS has participated in





exhibiting at the UMLAUF on Museum Day for over 20 years.

Seven sculptors received awards. Margo Sawyer, Professor of Sculpture and Extended Media in the Department of Art & Art History, University of Texas at Austin, was the Juror for awards. There was live music, sculpture demonstrations and sculpting opportunities for children. Pyrology Foundry & Studio (formerly Deep in the Heart Art Foundry) had a special exhibit of Digital Sculpting with ZBrush software and examples of high-resolution 3D printing for direct casting in bronze without the need to create molds - lost 3D print vs lost wax.

Best of Show, Mars Woodhill (left) and Katie Robinson Edwards, executive director/curator of the UMLAUF

Umlauf Show Awards Winners:

Mars Woodhill – Best of Show, ‘Elements of Nature - Series III - Earth’ Current work explores the ancient philosophy of the Five Elements – earth, wood, water, metal, and fire – an idea that has resonated with philosophers, religions, and cultures throughout time. Born in Austin, Mars now lives and works on a ranch in the Texas Hill Country. The artist creates geomorphic abstractions in sculpture and painting. <https://www.marswoodhill.com/about>

T. J. Maclaskey – First Place After moving to the Texas Hill Country to semi-retire, I was able to turn away from the everyday grind of creating sculptures for my clients, to choosing to develop a new genre of art fully reflecting my artistic visions. <https://www.tsos.org/artist/maclaskeytj/>

Marc Eisenberg – Second Place My assemblages explore the possibilities of combining worlds, saving lives, and changing intentions. Upcycling the old and giving new life. The resulting assemblages tell stories and represent unique new personalities, well-equipped to embrace a new future. <https://www.tsos.org/artist/eisenbergmarc/>



T.J. Maclaskey at the UMLAUF on Austin Museum Day 2022

Valerie Chaussonnet – Third Place. Originally from France, I moved to Austin in 1997 from Washington DC, where I had worked as a museum anthropologist at the Smithsonian for eleven years. I trained as a sculptor at the Corcoran Art School in DC, and later through various classes at the Austin Community College, including forging and welding.

<https://www.tsos.org/artist/chaussonnetvalerie/>

Bonnie Brushwood – Honorable Mention.

I am currently operating as the established resident ceramics artist at the Dougherty Arts Center in downtown Austin. My ceramic work appears incredibly fragile. My serious side makes ceramics. My ridiculous side makes comedy.

<https://www.tsos.org/artist/brushwoodbonnie/>



C.D. Weaver at The UMLAUF on Austin Museum Day

J.J. Priour – Honorable Mention. “J.J. Priour’s vision and inspiration for art come from growing up in Central Texas and watching his father, Damian Priour, evolve in his lifelong passion as a sculptor. The Central Texas limestone and glass, used as a metaphor for water, are the unique elements combined in his sculpture that capture the light, fascination, beauty, and strength of the relationship between nature and the artist. These materials deeply depict the importance of our place in and commitment to our surrounding environment. Priour hopes to enlighten the community with love of the arts in our environments and in our homes.” (Courtesy of Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center)

<https://www.tsos.org/artist/priourjj/>

Meghan Shogan – Honorable Mention. Meghan is a European-trained stone carver currently using her architectural and technical skills to create experimental sculptural works in stone. She graduated from the American College of Buildings Arts in 2011 with a bachelor’s degree/4-year apprenticeship in Stone Carving and Historic Masonry. She went on to obtain a Mastery of Trades certificate from the Fondation de Coubertin in France. She has cut stone for Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater museum house, Lincoln Cathedral, Place Vendome, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Peninsula Hotel Paris, Palais Rose, Versailles, Hotel Lambert, French Embassy in Copenhagen, private estates in Chicago, IL and Austin, TX.

<https://www.tsos.org/artist/shoganmeghan/>



Very special thank you goes to Katie Robinson Edwards, executive director/curator, and UMLAUF staff, the TSOS planning committee, and participating artists for making this event a huge success.

TSOS at Round Rock Chalk Walk Art Festival 2022



Left to Right: Matt Donner, Vera Smiley, Harry Angel, Maria Tate, and J.J. Priour

Texas Society of Sculptors had an incredible opportunity this fall, to show and sell their work at the [Round Rock Chalk Walk](#), the weekend of October 7th and 8th. The Chalk Walk Arts Festival was located at the Dell Diamond parking lot located in Round Rock, and both days we had great weather and a wonderful crowd of people happy to be out and in a festival mood.

Scot Wilkinson, City of Round Rock Arts and Culture Director graciously invited us to participate, and a few TSOS members obliged, displaying their work under a big tent. We can't thank Scott enough. The festival was sponsored by several Texas corporations and the City of Round Rock Arts and Culture.

It was an exciting time to be outdoors, enjoying the pleasant fall weather along with patrons and art connoisseurs, as well as new collectors. A

considerable number of local citizens – who were totally amazed with the fine arts and variety of sculptures we brought to the festival – stopped by to praise our work and ask questions, many with endearing sentiments.

Overall, those few of us who participated, had wonderful things to say, gained kindred friendships, and would take the experience to heart for future shows and festivals. TSOS thanks Scot Wilkinson and the City of Round Rock Arts and Culture. Below are the wonderful participants representing TSOS.



Above: Harry Angel exhibits his sculptures in the TSOS tent at the 2022 Round Rock Chalk Walk



Left: J.J. Priour exhibits his sculptures in the TSOS tent at the 2022 Round Rock Chalk Walk

2022-2023 Georgetown Sculpture Tour Award Winners Announced

The City of Georgetown Arts and Culture Board has awarded **Tim Glover** the first prize award in the 2022-23 Sculpture Tour, a juried year-long outdoor exhibit in the historic Downtown Georgetown Cultural District. Glover won for his piece *Whirlwind*, a sculpture that features a bird and a horn toad perching atop an iconic Texas twister. The sculpture is located at the corner of Main and Ninth streets across from the Georgetown Art Center.

Second prize went to **Marla Ripperda** for *Armadillo Totem*, a sculpted, epoxy clay tower of armadillos balancing on a sphere. This piece is located at the Georgetown Public Library outside the Ninth Street entrance.

The 2022-2023 Georgetown Sculpture Tour features works by TSOS artists: *Family* by **Elizabeth Bonura**, *Alien Antenna* and *BoBo (Bwa Tribe)* by **Rodney D. Butler**, *Mantis* and *Tree of Life*, by **John Mark Luke**, *Moment of Reflection* by **Dan Pogue**, and *Orb* by **Laura Sturtz**.

[Click here](#) for more information, including honorable mention awards, a map of the Sculpture Tour, and images of the sculptures. To purchase a sculpture, please contact Amanda Still at arts@georgetown.org



Left: *Whirlwind* by **Tim Glover** at the corner of Main and 9th St. (photo credit David Valdez).



Right: *Armadillo Totem* by **Marla Ripperda** at the Georgetown Public Library outside the 9th St. entrance (photo credit David Valdez).

Dripping Springs Art Tour Fall 2022

The Dripping Springs Art Tour took place during the weekend of October 22-23rd. TSOS was graciously hosted by amazing sculptors and artists, Phil and Michele Hoggatt, on their beautiful hill country property, which is the location of the Dripping Springs Sculpture Garden, also owned and managed by Phil and Michele. Not only are they talented as sculptors/artists, but they are also two of the most wonderful people in the whole state of Texas, and the world, to boot. The Hoggatt's were an integral part of this event.



John L. Barry exhibits his work at Dripping Springs Art Tour



Valérie Chaussonnet with Rosemary and Michael Hall at Dripping Springs Art Tour 2022

The Hill Country weather was beautiful, and art patrons from all over came out to see a handful of TSOS members exhibit a visual display of individual sculptures and art representative of the Texas Society of Sculptors. We gained many new friends and collectors and will be continuing this show in the fall of 2023, and beyond. The focus of this past show was to “get our feet wet” with our presence in Dripping Springs and the foothills. It was a successful attempt to become recognized within this new market. We look forward to next fall and encourage more members to join in the excitement.

Nationally recognized sculptor, owner of Studio:13 Gallery and Garden, and new member of TSOS, Doyle Fellers, also collaborated as marketer and visionary of the Dripping Springs Arts Festival. Doyle's beautiful ranch became another stop for patrons to view and purchase great art. Along with Phil, Michele, and Doyle, I'd like to thank Tom Parmeson of Parmeson Wines, and the Dripping Springs Visitor Center for their encouragement and love of the arts. TSOS offers our deepest thanks and gratitude.



The next generation of artist is already working on new sculpture (Dripping Springs Art Tour 2022)

Message from Phil and Michele Hoggatt:

Michele and I enjoyed hosting and visiting with the sculptors who participated in the first TSOS show in Dripping Springs, which was in conjunction with the Dripping Springs Art Tour. We want to thank current president Matt Donner for making it so easy on us. The weather was great, and I was pleased to see some of our local business acquaintances and friends come out.

We also want to thank all the sculptors who participated, new member sculptor Doyle Fellers, who envisions Dripping Springs as being an art and sculpture destination and who opened his ranch as a destination gallery and sculpture garden, the Dripping Springs Visitor Center, and Parmeson Wines. I know there is interest in growing sculpture and art in this area.

Thanks to all involved,
Philip Hoggatt

TSOS Membership and Website updates:

We would like to introduce and welcome these new TSOS member sculptors – joined since June:

- Natalie Adgnot, Brooklyn, NY, joined 9/10/22 www.nataleadgnot.com
- Doyle Fellers, Dripping Springs, TX, joined 10/9/22 <https://www.instagram.com/studio13tx/>
- Evan Horn, Austin, TX, joined 11/15/22 www.evanhorn.com

We would like to draw your attention to TSOS Website Virtual Sculpture Gallery Individual Member pages, added or updated since the June newsletter:

- Natalie Adgnot, <https://www.tsos.org/artist/adgnotnatale/>
- Melissa Symmonds, <https://www.tsos.org/artist/symmondsmelissa/>
- Tara Bullington, <https://www.tsos.org/artist/bullingtontara/>
- Meghan Shogan, <https://www.tsos.org/artist/shoganmeghan/>
- Israel Armendariz, <https://www.tsos.org/artist/armendarizisrael/>

TSOS Website Reminder: All paid current members are entitled to have their own individual profile page in the TSOS Virtual Gallery. This includes contact information, artist bio, and up to 3 images. We encourage members to submit bio and images for creation of your personal webpage, so that your TSOS Website presence can be expanded beyond having your name in our current members list. Instructions for submitting images, biographical and contact information can be found at <https://www.tsos.org/join-tsos/gallery-instructions/>

Joe Kenney,
Past President and Membership Chair

Explorers of the Elementals and Keepers of the Fire

Invitation to Share in the First Event on my Podia Website, From Tom Gingras, M.A.

I'll be presenting my first free workshop, "Demystifying Welding and Metalwork," on my new teaching platform at TomGingras.Podia.com with my first posting in the first few weeks of the new year. I'll be presenting the opportunity to move beyond some common myths about this wonderfully versatile technology and open the door for you to begin to explore a whole new and exciting mode of artistic expression creating beautiful 2- and 3-dimensional work with metals, some of the most enduring materials available to us. Safety is of utmost importance and will be a cornerstone in any of my work with you as we learn to respectfully employ the tools and equipment necessary for developing a deep understanding of the creative possibilities you will find here.

This free workshop and a downloadable pdf of the most important safety rules will be available to you if you join my mailing list. New 5-week courses with one Zoom meeting per week, will be added to allow you to move through a progression of helpful techniques and possible projects that will coincide with your skill development. My experience teaching thousands of students through the years has given me this helpful overview that will effectively and efficiently benefit your experience, and I'll also be making a copious supply of related written information accessible in eBook and pdf formats. You might also find a very useful studio companion in my book, *The Art of Welded Sculpture* (Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2010), as well (available from the publisher and on Amazon).

My intention for the classes is to make the information relevant to your scope of understanding whether you own welding equipment or not. However, I am a sales rep for Cobra Torches. And, after years of trying several welding brands, I have found the Cobra Torch to be the most highly sophisticated and versatile torch for the broadest range of possibilities, particularly for the sculptor, blacksmith, and creative metal artist where precision, quality and attention to detail are of utmost importance. The primary focus for demonstrating welding/fusion techniques will be based on this oxy-acetylene equipment (The Mother of All Methods) and build toward electric welding.

An added benefit will be further course work in the realm of what I call Kreatonics, or the dynamics of creativity and how you can reach beyond the limitations that hold you back and bring a renewed childlike freshness and joy to your creative life with metalwork as your excitingly new and transformative artistic vehicle. I'm truly enlivened by the hopes that you will join me as an explorer of the elementals and a keeper of the fire. Thank you.

If interested, please call (512) 797-6860 (and leave a message), text, or email tjtorchart@gmail.com

May Compassion and Peace Prevail,

Tom Gingras, M.A.
Sculptor, Author, Instructor
Spicewood, TX

Parting Shots:

The following images are of a 20-ft. tall stainless-steel sculpture by TSOS member, **Nic Noblique**. The sculpture was installed in front of the new Family Courthouse at 17th and Guadalupe, in downtown Austin, this past fall.



More Places to View Sculpture in Texas

University Art Spaces: San Marcos, Georgetown, and Austin, Texas

- State Galleries - <https://txstgalleries.org>
- Southwestern University - <https://www.southwestern.edu/sarofim/gallery/>
- Community College - <http://sites.austincc.edu/art/gallery/>
- St. Edwards University - <https://www.stedwards.edu/fine-arts-gallery>
- UT - Visual Arts Center - <https://utvac.org>

- UT - Courtyard Gallery - <https://sites.utexas.edu/courtyard-gallery/about/>
- UT Creative Research Lab - <http://www.utcr1.org>
- UT Landmarks - <https://landmarks.utexas.edu>
- UT Art Gallery at Black Studies - <https://www.galleriesatut.org>
- UT Harry Ransom Center - <https://www.hrc.utexas.edu>

Texas Museum Links

- Austin - Blanton - <http://www.blantonmuseum.org/>
- Austin - The Contemporary - <http://www.thecontemporaryaustin.org/exhibitions>
- San Antonio - San Antonio Museum of Art - <https://www.samuseum.org>
- San Antonio - McNay Museum - <http://www.mcnayart.org/exhibitions/current>
- Houston - Menil Collection - <https://www.menil.org/exhibitions>
- Houston - Museum of Fine Arts - <http://www.mfah.org>
- Houston - Contemporary Arts Museum - <http://camh.org>
- Fort Worth - Kimbell Museum - <https://www.kimbellart.org/exhibitions>
- Fort Worth - Amon Carter Museum of American Art - <http://www.cartermuseum.org>
- Fort Worth - The Modern - <http://themodern.org>
- Dallas - Dallas Museum of Art - <https://www.dma.org/art/exhibitions>
- Dallas - Nasher Sculpture Center - <http://www.nashersculpturecenter.org/>
- San Angelo - San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts - <http://www.samfa.org/>

Smaller Contemporary Spaces:

- Austin - Umlauf Sculpture Garden - <http://www.umlaufulsculpture.org>
- Austin - Sam Z. Coronado Gallery-ESB-MACC - <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/emma-s-barrientos-macc-exhibitions>
- Austin - The Contemporary Austin - <https://www.thecontemporaryaustin.org>
- Austin - Big Medium - <https://www.bigmedium.org>
- Austin - Dimensions Gallery - <http://dimensiongallery.org>
- Austin - grayDUCK Gallery - <https://grayduckgallery.com>
- San Antonio - Blue Star Contemporary - <http://bluestarart.org>
- Houston - Lawndale Art Center - <http://lawndaleartcenter.org>
- Albany - Texas - Old Jail Art Center - <http://theojac.org/exhibitions/>
- Marfa - Chinati Foundation - <https://www.chinati.org/>