

LOUISE PETERSON

STATEMENT

As a long time Great Dane owner, I see in these dogs a combination of playful goofiness and regal elegance. As a sculptor I see also a magnificent combination of long bones, muscled limbs, fold of skin and dynamic movement. Although canine subjects are the basis of most of my work, I am currently exploring the fusion of different animals with contemporary architectural elements while commenting on aspects of the human condition. I don't want my work to become stagnant. I'm always taking workshops, learning, and trying to grow as a sculptor. I learned to *model* with the human figure, I learned to *sculpt* with the Great Danes, now I want to say a little more with my art.

I have developed an appreciation for abstract forms and am experimenting with combining my realistic animals with contemporary abstract elements. One of the advantages of this is that I can create presence without mass. My ten-inch high bloodhound sits on a fabricated stool which makes him almost five feet tall. This little guy has presence. I hope that he is no longer projected as a small sculpture of a dog; instead of a sad looking creature, perched on high, looking down on the world. He is like the title states 'Lonely at the Top'. Some of us can relate, and the rest of us might like to.

Another effective use of fusing abstraction with realism is my wolf, 'Omega', is the lowest ranking member of the wolf pack, always picked on and beaten up. His is a lonely existence. He cowers when approaching the other wolves. His base is a simple curved piece of steel which emphasizes his posture and his role in life.

In 'Little Fish', I have portrayed bison in a fabricated stainless steel landscape. When I travel to the Loveland foundries I drive across South Park. In the background, the snow-capped peaks of the Mosquito Range rise above an immense valley. In the foreground Bison graze on the valley floor. These enormous animals look so small in the big sky landscape. They are truly little fish in a big pond. It is all relative, we like to think we are important, but really we are a speck in the universe.

I'd like not just to be an animal sculptor, rather a sculptor who uses animals as a means to express. I'd like my sculpture to be appreciated by animal lovers and non-animal lovers alike. I hope one can see my love for the animal I've represented and the message I've tried to convey. When that happens, I believe that I've succeeded in turning clay into a form with life and one which evokes emotion.



"LITTLE FISH"

LOUISE PETERSON

BIOGRAPHY

In the hands of sculptor Louise Peterson, dogs can offer clever observations on the complicated condition of being human. Although Peterson has sculpted many types of animals, she is best known for expressive, regal, engagingly goofy, and often life-size bronze depictions of one breed, the Great Dane. As a dog owner, she's been captivated by Great Danes for almost 20 years. As a sculptor she finds the big breed's 'magificent combination of long bones, muscled limbs, folds of skin and dynamic movement' irresistible. Inspired by this muse, what results are fine classical renderings of Great Danes in complex compositions that are equally humorous and elegant.

Dynamic movement and a tactile, three-dimensional sense of the world have been part of Peterson's life since well before she discovered her voice in clay. Raised in rural southwestern England, she trained in classical ballet in London and spent three years dancing professionally, with Dance for Everyone in London and the Israel Ballet in Tel Aviv. After moving to the United States in 1987, she worked as a massage therapist in Los Angeles and for a time ran a business walking dogs. Meanwhile, she began taking figurative sculpture classes at Santa Monica College and numerous workshops elsewhere. In the late 90's she married and moved to Colorado where she is inspired by vistas of the surrounding high country.

Today Peterson and her husband share their home and ranch near the mountain town of Guffey, Colorado, with their Great Danes, Bella and Rigel and two cats, all frequently serve as models. Since 2001 the sculptor's art has earned more than 90 awards – including four Best in Show – from national and regional shows. It is in the permanent collections of several museums and cities, and currently is part of a show, Paws and Reflect: Art of Canines, which tours nationwide through 2010. And while she continues to create primarily dogs, other animals are emerging more often in her work these days. 'Each animal is a challenge, and I find something appealing about every one of them.' But still, there's something about dogs, with their infinite variety of shapes, personalities, and textures from fluffy to smooth. And there's something in particular about Great Danes, whose rescue groups receive a portion of the sculptor's sales receipts.

-Gussie Fauntleroy, Southwest Art Magazine



"BELLA & THE BUG"

LOUISE PETERSON

RESUME'

EDUCATION & PERSONAL

Presently	Full Time Sculptor	Guffey, CO
2007	Center for American Sculpture Workshop (Sandy Scott, Stanley Bleifeld)	Brookgreen Gardens, SC
2006	Center for American Sculpture Workshop (Carter Jones)	Brookgreen Gardens, SC
2005	Scottsdale Artist School (Bruno Lucchesi, Walter Matia, Simon Kogan)	Scottsdale, AZ
2002-04	Workshops at Loveland Academy (Lincoln Fox, Paul Lucchesi, Victor Issa, David Turner, David Klass, Eugene Daub)	Loveland, CO
1997	Brentwood Art Center	Santa Monica, CA
1994-96	Santa Monica College	Santa Monica, CA
1987	Moved to United States Attended Urdang Academy & North London School of Performing Arts- studied classical ballet	England Tel Aviv, Israel
1962	Israel Ballet, performed classical ballet Born	Darlington, England

PUBLIC ART PLACEMENTS

Colorado Springs Police Memorial commission – <i>Fallen Lion</i>	Colorado Springs, CO
River Run at Poudre River Ranch, <i>The Shepard</i> , commission	Greeley, CO
Benson Sculpture Garden, <i>High Four</i>	Loveland, CO
Art on the Streets, <i>Bella and the Bug</i>	Colorado Springs, CO
City of Sheridan, <i>Bella and the Bug</i>	Sheridan, WY
The Reserve at Lake Keowee, <i>Chickadee</i>	Sunset, SC
City of Northglenn, <i>High Four</i>	Northglenn, CO
City of Greenville, <i>High Four</i>	Greenville, SC

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Brookgreen Gardens, <i>Bella and the Bug</i>	Murrell's Inlet, SC
The AKC Museum of the Dog, <i>Chickadee</i>	St Louis, MO
The Wildlife Experience, <i>Mountain Chickadee & The Bug</i>	Parker, CO
The Dunnegan Fine Art Gallery, <i>Grande Dame</i>	Bolivar, MO
Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, <i>Chickadee</i>	Wausau, WI

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

since 2007	<i>Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society</i>	Washington, DC
since 2007	<i>Allied Artists of America; professional member</i>	New York, NY
since 2005	Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club; professional member	New York, NY
since 2005	National Sculptors' Guild; elected member	Loveland, CO
since 2005	National Sculpture Society; professional member	New York, NY
since 2004	Society of Animal Artists; signature member	New York, NY



"CHICKADEE"



"HIGH FOUR"

MAJOR HONORS & AWARDS

2007	Michael Gressel Award, Hudson Valley Art Association	NY
	Second Place Sculpture, Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	NY
	Second Prize, National Greeley Art Exhibition	CO
	Third Prize, Northern Colorado Artist Association	CO
	Best in Show & JAVMA award, Animals in Art, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine	LA
	Leonard J. Meiselman Award, Pen and Brush 61 st Exhibition	NY
	Best in Show, Art Show at the Dog Show	KS
2006	Pietro & Alfreda Montana Memorial Award, Allied Artists of America	NY
	Award of Excellence, Art and the Animal, Society of Animal Artists	NY
	Paul Manship Memorial Award, Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	NY
	Anna Hyatt Huntington Horse's Head, Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	NY
	Gamco Award, Kentucky National Wildlife Exhibition	KY
	Best Sculpture, Red River Valley Art Museum	TX
2005	Anna Hyatt Huntington Bronze Medal, Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	NY
	First Prize, Northern Colorado Artist Association	CO
	Betty King Wright Award, Red River Valley Museum	TX
	Second Place, Second Annual Sculpture Competition Sculptural Pursuit Magazine	
	Best Entry Working Group & Great Dane, Art Show at the Dog Show	KS
	Second Place Sculpture, Art Show at the Dog Show	KS
2004	Leonard J. Meiselman Memorial Award, Allied Artists of America	NY
	Leonard J. Meiselman Memorial Award, National Sculpture Society	NY
	Leonard J. Meiselman Memorial Award, Society of Animal Artists	NJ
	The Harriet W. Frishmuth Award, Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	NY
	Michael Gressel Award, Hudson Valley Art Association	NY
	Best In Show, American Women Artists	NM
	Charlotte Dunwidde Memorial Award, Pen and Brush Exhibit	NY
	Purina Award of Merit & First Place Sculpture, Art Show At The Dog Show	KS
2003	First in Sculpture and Scrimshaw, Miniature Art Society of Florida	FL
	Anna Hyatt Huntington Award, Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	NY
	John Spring Founders Award, National Sculpture Society	NY
	First Place Sculpture, 22nd Annual Miniature Art, El Dorado Gallery	CO
	Best Entry by a Colorado Artist & Working Group, Art Show At The Dog Show	KS
	First Place Sculpture, Art Show at the Dog Show	KS
2002	Beverly Hoyt Robertson Memorial Award, National Sculpture Society	NY
	First Place Sculpture & Award of Distinction, Art Show at the Dog Show	KS
	Judges Award, Animals In Art, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine	LA
	Award of Excellence, Mixed Media IX, Period Gallery	NE
	Second Place 3-D, Regional Art 2002, Thompson Valley Art League	CO

SELECT EXHIBITIONS

2005-08	National Sculptors' Guild Annual Show, Columbine Gallery	Loveland, CO
02, 03, 08	Annual Awards Exhibition, National Sculpture Society	New York, NY
2002-08	Annual Art Show at the Dog Show, City Arts Building	Wichita, KS
2008	Pooches and Purebreds, Brookgreen Gardens	Pawleys Island, SC
2007	Sculpture at the River Market Invitational Inaugural Exhibit	Little Rock, AR
	Colorado Gold Invitational, The Wildlife Experience,	Parker, CO
	76 th Annual Exhibition, Hudson Valley Art Association	New York, NY
	Birds of a Feather, Fraga Gallery	Bainbridge Island, WA
2006-07	Art and the Animal, Society of Animal Artists	National Tour
2006-07	Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum "Birds in Art" Tour,	CO, CA and LA
2003-07	Annual Exhibition; Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club	New York, NY
2002-07	Sculpture in the Park, Loveland High Plains Arts Council	Loveland, CO
2004, 07	Annual Miniature Art Show, Miniature Art Society of Florida	Tarpon Springs, FL
2006	Annual Exhibition Allied Artists of America	New York, NY
2005	Cultural Gateway to the Rockies, Colorado Springs Airport	Colorado Springs, CO
	Winning Works: NSS 71 st Annual Awards Exhibition	Brookgreen Gardens, SC
	74 th Annual Exhibition, Hudson Valley Art Association	Hudson Valley, NY
	Pen and Brush 59 th Annual Sculpture and Medallion Art Exhibition	New York, NY
2003-05	Art of the Animal Kingdom IX, Bennington Center for the Arts	Bennington, VT
2002, 05	Animals in Art, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine,	Baton Rouge, LA
2004	69 th Annual International Exhibition, MPSGS of DC	Washington, D.C.
	44 th Annual Exhibition, Society of Animal Artists	New York, NY
	Sculpture at Explorer's Hall, National Geographic Society	Washington, D.C.
	Englewood Arts National Juried Show, Museum of Outdoor Arts	Denver, CO
2003-04	90 th Annual Exhibition, Allied Artists of America	New York, NY