

NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD

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ARTESIA

BY KATHLEEN CARICOF & THE NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD

Mixed Media one-of-a-kind

Scale: 12-14ft high, 12ft wide, 9ft deep

Site Location: Artesia Blvd.

Commissioned by: the City of Long Beach, CA

Date commissioned: September 2007

Date installed/dedicated: scheduled Summer 2008

Structural Engineer: Gregory P. Luth & Associates

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The City of Long Beach contacted the National Sculptors' Guild seeking artwork for their public art initiative, the main objective was to provide fun, colorful works that could beautify and uplift as a part of their redevelopment of the city. Caricof submitted several proposals using drawings and models made from AerBlock [a green material that is a lightweight stone/concrete composite]. One of her designs 'Artesia' was selected from the 100 proposals NSG sent.

The twisted flowing form 'Artesia' was named for both its future street location and its visual connection to the word definition 'A well-spring, made by boring into the earth till the instrument reaches water, which, from internal pressure, flows spontaneously like a fountain.

The artwork will be fabricated in California using a steel inner structure and polymers set on a granite base. The artist from Evergreen, CO is working closely with the fabricators throughout the process. It will be installed by Caricof and the National Sculptors' Guild in 2008. The city will set a lush backdrop of trees plus a curved wall and flowers surrounding the sculpture.

The boldly colored, non-objective wave form is a bold departure for Caricof's sculptures that have until now largely consisted of carved natural stone. Caricof intends to pursue this new method with future works and is experimenting with making the artwork turn kinetically.

ABOUT THE ARTIST: Caricof has gained many accolades for her stone sculpture and reliefs over the years. Sculpture developed from a background in designing for space having earned a bachelor's degree in Industrial Design from the Art Center College of Design. Professional projects include working with Buckminster Fuller in product design and with PPG Glass in developing a next generation of products. Public art commissions include the cities of Burbank, CA; Broomfield, CO; Cerritos, CA; Long Beach, CA; the University of Denver, CO; War Memorial Stadium Little Rock, AR.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD: Representing some of the most renowned sculpture artists in the nation, the Guild artists work as a team under the leadership of executive director John W. Kinkade. Our organization works closely with cities, municipalities, corporations and private institutions across the country to successfully enhance both indoor and outdoor venues with creative design and innovative artwork. The NSG design teams have enhanced public spaces in a timely fashion within budgets ranging from \$25,000 to \$2.8 million. When appropriate, the design team grows to include architects, landscape architects, structural engineers, designers and contractors from around the nation. Dependent on the nature of each project, the NSG draws upon this knowledgeable group of professionals with proven accountability in past projects.

