ALAN NEWBERG



Alan Newberg in his Bemerton studio Photo by Gregory Nelson, Experience Kitsap

"Art is a way of thinking. It is also a doing. It is a way of responding to events in life that catch our attention or offer an opportunity. Every artwork is the consequence of a string of hundreds or even thousands of decisions. Each artwork has its own story of coming into existence." ~ Alan Newberg



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"Hidden Soul of a Tree" (detail) photo by Don Turriaga



"Spirit Vessel" photo by Don Turriaga

ALAN NEWBERG

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RUMINATIONS ABOUT ART

Art is a way of thinking. It is also a doing. It is a way of responding to events in life that catch our attention or offer an opportunity. Every artwork is the consequence of a string of hundreds or even thousands of decisions. Each artwork has its own story of coming into existence. It is this process that lends meaning to art, literally giving form to feelings. These forms become the substance for further thoughts and feelings. They can also be experienced by the viewer across time and space and contain and reveal the circumstances of their making. They have the potential to expand human understanding. The viewer faces the task of experiencing the art and gleaning the meaning.

I like to work in many mediums. In sculpture I have worked in steel, clay, wax, cast metal and carved wood. In each case, I find that part of the content is always in response to the material. When I work in steel, my ideas tend to be more abstract, and hard edged. In clay or wax, I might get more representational. When working with wood, I am always taken by the sensuousness of the material and often choose a feminine form. Carving, of course, is a subtractive process and the artist must visualize the form within the limits of the block or log.

In the case of Kraken, I started with pieces cut off logs while roughing out larger sculptures with a chain saw. The main components came from pieces cut from two species of trees. Each component has a flat, sanded, and polished side and a natural unfinished side. I saw in the grain of the upper component an image reminiscent of a squid-like creature and in the lower component the roil of turbulent water. The Scandinavian in my blood inclined me to name it after the mythic Norse sea-monster.

Alan Newberg May 9, 2023



"Kraken" black walnut and English walnut, 24.5 x 11.75 x 5 inches, 2021 photo by Don Turriaga

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Alan is a full time artist working in Kitsap County, Washington. He has exhibited widely throughout the United States in museums, art centers, and galleries. His work has won awards and honors in numerous juried professional competitions including several first place and best of shows. Notably, the **Bainbridge Island Museum of Art** featured his sculpture in a three month solo exhibition in 2016-17. In the month of April 2021, Port Townsend's **Northwind Center for the Fine Arts** featured a show of his sculpture in their main gallery. **The Moses Lake Museum and Art Center** hosted a solo exhibit of Alan's work titled 23 *Sculptures and Me - An Evolution in Wood*, June 24 – August 5, 2022. Major examples of his work can be found in a number of public and corporate art collections including:

- Butler Museum of American Art in Youngstown, OH
- Bainbridge Island Museum of Art in Bainbridge Island, WA
- Yellowstone Museum of Contemporary Art in Billings, MT
- Northwind Center for the Fine Arts, Port Townsend, WA
- Habitat for Humanity of Kitsap County Headquarters in Bremerton, WA
- National Benefit Life Insurance Brokerage Inc. Bremerton
- WA Norm Dicks government Center, Bremerton, WA
- Ninth District Federal Reserve Bank Headquarters Building in Minneapolis, MN
- First Bank Systems Headquarters Building, Minneapolis, MN
- Wells Fargo Regional Headquarters Bank in Billings, MT
- American Dry Ice Corporation, Seattle, WA
- Global Partnerships Incorporated, Seattle, WA
- Montana State University-Billings, Billings, MT
- Joseph E. Salsbury Science Center, University of Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls, SD
- Benedictine liqueurs Inc., Manufacturers Hanover Trust Gallery, N.Y.C.
- Senior Deputy Chief Prosecutor, King County (Seattle) WA
- GeoResearch Corporation International, Washington, DC
- Merrill Lynch Brokerage, Tacoma, WA
- Kitsap Bank in Port Orchard, WA
- Olympic Bank in Chimicum, WA
- Deaconess Hospital, Billings, MT
- Billings Medical Clinic, Billings, MT
- Publication: Sculpture: Image & Abstraction

Alan's work can also be found in numerous private collections throughout the country.

Alan maintains a studio in Bremerton, WA and is a founding member the Collective Visions Gallery, where he is the lead organizer for the annual CVG Show & State-wide Art Competition. Before moving to the Puget Sound area in 1989, Alan was a professor of art (1969 -1989) and for seven years was chair of the Art Department at Montana State University-Billings. He holds a B.A. from Sioux Falls University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, an M.A. from the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyoming, and an M.F.A. from the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon. He is married to Ellen Newberg, former director of Kitsap Regional Library. He is active in RESULTS, a grass roots citizen's advocacy organization dedicated to creating the political will to end hunger.

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