

Tom Christiansen

Last Chance Fabricating LLC, Sculpture Studio and Gallery, 17 Railroad Drive, Lutsen MN
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Artist's Statement

I have been working in sculpture and architectural metal for more than fifty years. I enjoy working collaboratively with my clients to produce the best possible work for their particular purpose. When asked why I chose art for my career I reply, " I didn't choose art; art chose me." Sculpture particularly appeals to me for the robust activity and excitement involved in the process, and the power of the medium to communicate my artistic vision.

Education

1966-1968 Minneapolis College of Art and Design
1968-1985 University of Minnesota, Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1985

Employment

1989-Present Self-employed artist doing business as Last Chance Fabricating, L.L.C. sculpture studio and foundry.

Selected Exhibitions

2014 Duluth Art Institute Biennial, Duluth, Minnesota
2014 Crossing Borders Studio Tour, North Shore, Lake Superior, Minn.
2011 "Sculpture Perspectives", Johnson Heritage Gallery, Grand Marais, Minn.
2011 " Kickin'", Grand Hand Gallery, St. Paul, Minn.
2009 "Minnesota Made," Grand Hand Gallery, St. Paul, Minn.
2008 "Playing with Fire," Last Chance Gallery, Lutsen, Minn.
2002 "Minnesota Biennial, Sculpture Installation," Minnesota Museum of Contemporary Art, St. Paul, Minn.
2000 "3-D-BWCA; Sculpture by Tom Christiansen, Jean-Noel Guermonprez, Tom Gipe, and Wayne E. Potratz"; The Johnson Art Gallery, Grand Marais, Minn.
1999 "Who We Are and What We Do," Group Exhibition, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, Minn.

Selected Commissions

2014 Grand Marais Public Library
2013 100 Anniversary Presentation Sculpture, Utility Trailer Co., Los Angeles, Calif.
2011-2012 Duluth Public Art Project, Two Larger than life bronze police officers, Duluth, Minn.
2010 " Love Seat" Life size two person bench, Wells Fargo Corporate Collection, Minneapolis, Minn.
2009 "Baptismal Font" 5 foot diameter, 1st Lutheran Church, Duluth, MN
2008 "Finish line," 30-inch, two-figure bronze sculpture, St. Paul Academy, St.

- Paul, Minn.
- 2007 "Gunner," life-sized bronze portrait for private collection
 - 2004 "Diver," life-sized bronze figure for Norcroft Garden, Lutsen, Minn.
 - 2003 "Bronze Floor Tiles," Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, Minn.
 - 2002 "Eagle", Veterans Memorial for the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Grand Portage, Minn.
 - 2001 "Springtime", "The Critics", "Sit Here", North Oaks Village Center, North Oaks, Minn.

Awards/Grants/Recognition

- 2014 Guest Artist, 45th Annual Iron Pour, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- 2011 Feature Article, "Statues to pay homage to common man (and woman), Peter Passi, Duluth News Tribune, 8 December, 2011
- 2010 Career Development Grant, Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, with funding from the McKnight Foundation and the State of Minnesota
- 2009 Featured Artist on "Venture North" KTCA, Duluth, Minn.
- 2008 Guest Artist, 39th Annual Iron Pour, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- 2004 Co-taught sculpture workshop with Paul Granlund, Grand Marais Art Colony
- 1999 Opportunity Grant for travel to Wales, UK for a cast iron art conference, Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, with funding from the McKnight Foundation and the State of Minnesota