



Photo above:  
Sculpture by  
Calgary  
artist/sculptor,  
**Connie  
Geerts...**  
More inside

Photo above: **Keith Kobylka...** at Ice Sculpting Workshop at Ice Castle Edmonton

*"The difference between a master and a beginner is that the Master has failed more times than the beginner has tried."* Unknown

**Maggie Slater...** I have found that my creative flow has been disrupted during all this going on. And at the same time, I am not beating myself up over that. It will begin to flow again!

But I'd like to share a piece I did earlier this month. Other members may recognize the style as I shared two similar pieces at the February meeting in Edmonton. The series that this is becoming deals with our human emotions and the ways in which we process them. I've been calling the series Letting It Go.

So the first photo attached is the sculpture titled Dance Like No One's Watching.

The second photo is a photograph of my niece dancing in the sand on a beach in San Diego which inspired the photo.

Thank you for encouraging me to share!



## From Metal Scraps to Art Sculpture

by Ljubomir Ilic

I work as a maintenance worker in AHS at Alberta Hospital. When I came back from my holiday last summer, I saw a bunch of metal scraps, in front of our power plant building. The scrap metal was from an old boiler.

As soon as I saw the different shapes of the metal, I got an idea that it would be good to make an art sculpture from it. I started visualizing what I could create from the existing metal shapes. Even though I never did similar metal work previously, I was confident that I could make a sculpture from it.

I created a sketch of the future sculpture and went to my manager and director of the department. I saw a flower among the scrap metal, and I planned to build a sculpture from the scrap and present the sculpture to the community. After a few days, I got the green light to go ahead. I was very happy and excited. Finally, I had the opportunity to do a public art sculpture. I have been doing art for twenty-seven years and the last ten years trying to do public art sculpture or art installation. Art is my big passion and now I got an opportunity.

I was dealing with old, rusted, thick heavy metal. I did not have any experience welding, laser cutting, or grinding etc. since my high school experience a long time ago, but I was confident that I could create a beautiful art piece from the metal scraps.

I knew that planning was crucial, so I started to visualize how I would use existing pieces, which way to cut shapes, their proportions, and what pieces to use for the base, body and flower pedals.

Although the material isn't optimal, I wanted to make the most of the existing materials and taking off previous industrial details. On its own, metal is "cold", so I wanted to bring more energy and warmth to it.

After work, people typically go home. However, I stayed and started working on the flower sculpture day after day. Slowly, week by week my flower started to gradually grow.

Since there wasn't a big shop that I could work in, and there was about one thousand pounds of metal which had to be cut, welded, and grinded, I had to work outside. With winter quickly approaching, I just needed a few more days to complete the sculpture and begin the finishing touches of the flower. Just before it became very cold, I was able to finish all outside work, and we brought the flower into our paint shop where I did the finishing touches.

My flower bloomed last winter and now we are waiting to put it in the park of the community when the snow melts.





## Connie Geerts...



I haven't been an active member for quite some time but I do miss having other sculptor's to discuss all the processes of 3D art with. It's snowing again here in Calgary.

My son is 12 so I've spent the last couple of

days of isolation working out his online learning. I'm a painter as well and I've made a commitment with friends to do and post "something creative" for every day of the isolation. So far it's all been paintings or sketches but I have been itching to do something 3-dimensional. My sculpture work is always a mixture of materials and processes. I did cast glass and concrete figurative work until last year when my 56 year old kiln finally gave out on me. Since then I've been playing with resin instead of glass and getting some effects I really like by using metal powders on the surface and encasing materials in the resin. I've included a few shots. The first image is small resin pieces the other two are concrete and glass (cover & above photos). I won't be upset if I don't make the 3rd edition.

Stay well and stay safe!

## Gordon Pengilly...

is making sailboats. Clay sails attached to driftwood from Tofino.

*(Editor: Sorry, I missed this photo in the earlier issue.)*



**Warren Finlay...** With the unseasonably cold weather in Edmonton these days, I was able to carve the attached ice sculpture outside, which my dog appears to appreciate. It's a uniblock from lake ice I harvested last weekend. The lake ice was 21" thick!

**Keith Kobylka...** I hope everyone is healthy and staying active. I find that a stay home order doesn't mean I get more art work done.

I am still a deadline guy and thank goodness my neighbours are continuing to come up with ideas every day for me to decorate our front room window with inspirational drawings, jokes and thank-you notes for the neighbours to enjoy while on their daily walks.

I participated in the beginner's ice carving workshop, (photo on cover) which was very fun. Eileen Heidler and Barb Marcinkoski were just fantastic tutors. Many thanks to Maria, for bringing her car filled to the brim with ice tools. A beautiful winter day spent carving ice down by the ice castle in Hawrelak Park.

A mosaic ball that I started with Helen Rogers, last fall, at her mosaic workshop, is finally finished. Very fun learning about mosaics and being able to marvel up close at Helen's beautiful mosaic art. And many thanks to Marjorie, for the exciting, inspirational newsletters she is creating.

And the 'piece de resistance', was Ritchie's sculpture of Bob and Doug McKenzie unveiling and installation in front of the Rogers Place; A wonderful sculpture for all of Edmonton to engage and enjoy.

I am truly grateful for all the sharing of the SAA members' talents and artwork.



**Susanne Scheers...** Hi everyone, I've been keeping busy building birdhouses from scrap materials and hand painting them with nice bright flowers, I may have to make more since my kids all decided they need some too! I've also completed two sculptures for the VASA exhibition in June? I chose the osprey and the baby bird as subjects. Next I'm working on a custom order for three owl sculptures! Hmmm, I think I see a trend in my work lately! Stay healthy everyone!



\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*

**Al Henderson...** [alanhenderson@shaw.ca](mailto:alanhenderson@shaw.ca)

The only things I have to add are that I am moving studios and getting rid of some perfectly good stone: also that the EAC has put out a short interview with me on their website. If anyone wants these full crates of stone (photos below) they can have them by simply arranging to take them away before the end of May.

I hope someone can put them to good use.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdYrII9zKIE>

[www.hendersonsculpture.com](http://www.hendersonsculpture.com)



Shipping marks	Description of Goods	Quantity		N.w. (kgs)	G.w. (kgs)
		crate	piece		
	Original stone artwork & granite products				
DL1	155 x 82 x 90 cm	1	7	1150.00	1200.00
DL2	105 x 97 x 52 cm	1	2	1000.00	1100.00

### The Sculptors' Association of Alberta MEMBERSHIP FEES:

\$40.00 (Newsletter emailed):\$45.00 (Newsletter mailed)

Address: P.O. 11212, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3K5



**The beginnings of wonderful sculpture...**  
**Gesture Workshop with Herman Poulin**





**‘SOLITUDE’...** relief by Marjorie Davies speaks to the current climate of isolation  
(based on VASA photo for ‘What Moves You’)



**Editor:** I thought I too would share ... I have been playing with an idea but it hasn't turned out quite as I planned... Began with doing an epoxy relief on wood, I planned to do an overall colourful resin finish particularly for the sky but when I did the base coat, I rather liked it so now I am considering doing it again to create my original idea... of course, I am running out of the wood panels so they will change size... No telling what I shall finish with... Hope this inspires some of you too!

Marjorie Davies

**NEWSLETTER PRODUCED & EDITED**

**by: Marjorie Davies**

[theARMATURE@xplornet.com](mailto:theARMATURE@xplornet.com)

780-929-8866

Copy Editor: Keith Turnbull

