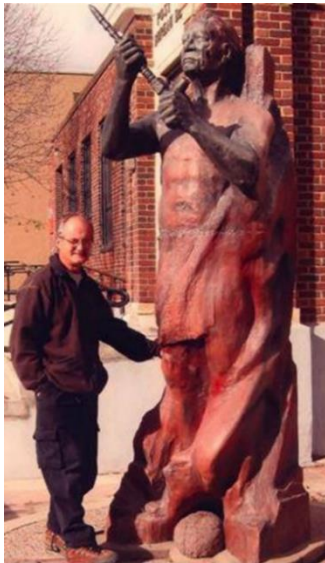




## Herman Poulin: Monument maker



Sacred Manner, St. Paul

### Have you always wanted to be a sculptor?

Yes, at the youngest age with mud/water/sun.

### What is the best advice you have ever been given?

When it comes to art, we are all equal in the world of creativity. I will never be able to do what you do!

### Why art?

Art surpasses your expectations all the time. [It is] the key to growing.

### What mediums do you work in?

Multi-medium. From clay to foil, papier-maché (any non-toxic medium).

### What inspires you?

The idea of breaking down complexities to its simplest forms within the notion of time. Simple shapes and volumes assembled or drawn in gestural manner.

### What other work have you done besides sculpting?

Painting, drawing, wire art and casting.

### What makes you smile?

Seeing a child show you his own creativity in any



Francophone Bronze, Alberta Legislature Grounds

art accomplishments; how empowered he/she becomes from inner achievements. This is when I become their student.

### What is your dream project?

My dream accomplishment is to have my sculptures or paintings displayed in a

gallery next to my indigenous mentors such as Alex Janvier, Aaron Paquette, Norval Morrisseau, Lana Whiskeyjack, Terrence McGillivray, Jane Ash Poitras, Stewart Steinhauer and so many more, to the music of Buffy Saint-Marie.

Continued on page 3



Elk Point Memorial

## President's message – Ellie Shuster



\* **Margaret Braun** is an experienced photographer who has explored the world through the lens of a camera for over 40 years. As an artist, she has also shown ceramics, fibre arts, sculpture, drawings, collage, handmade books and mono prints in galleries.

The first month of the new year is about done, but the pandemic is not done with us – so here we are on-line again! Mother Nature has also been adding insult to injury with deep freeze, balmy thaw, snow, rain, sun and everything in between – often in the same week!

Still, Edmonton's crazy weather has allowed us to slip a successful snow carving workshop in between the deep

freeze and the rain. SAA is grateful to Snow Valley, Geoscapes, and our instructors, Ritchie Velthuis and Christian Denis, for leading this workshop! Feb. 5th is an Ice Carving workshop – weather permitting!

The time is flying and Night of Artists is fast approaching. We need to know who wants to participate and who will volunteer on a small committee to help put the event together.

Please look for details elsewhere in the newsletter. I'm looking forward to our February meeting with our speaker, photographer Margaret Braun... hoping for tips and tricks to improve my own presentations.

Stay healthy and safe, and I'll see you on line February 1.  
Ellie

### SAA Monthly Meeting

**Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 7:30 pm**

**Program: Photographer Margaret Braun**

**On Zoom:** [LINK HERE](#) Meeting ID: 840 2844 1497 Passcode: 160357

**Agenda & Minutes** from the last meeting are distributed by email. Check with [Maria Koulouris](#) if you haven't received them.

## Night of Artists March 16-20

If you are interested in exhibiting with the SAA at [Night of Artists](#), please let [Ellie Shuster](#) or [Carroll Charest](#) know ASAP. The cost per artist will be determined by how many of us wish to take part – as will the number of pieces we can each display for the weekend.

Artists are invited to submit a piece as a silent auction item fundraiser – with 50%

of proceeds going to the artist and 50% to [Amy's House](#) (a home for cancer patients who must travel to Edmonton for treatments). The auction will take place at the opening gala.

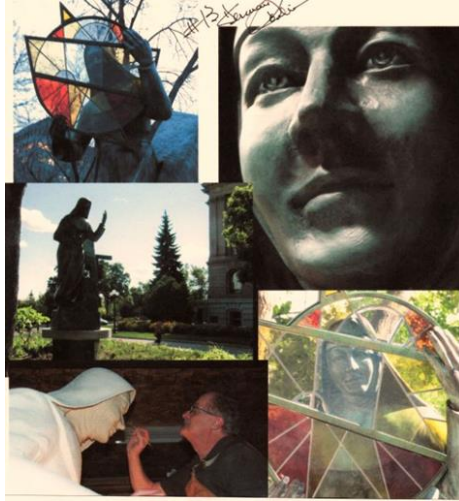
**Volunteers needed...** to help organize Night of Artists. We need a small committee to pull the show together – to determine how many pieces per sculptor, create schedule and

show tags, organize set up and tear down, and anything else that comes up. This year's organization will be easier... we have gridwall, material, lights and plinths, and we are getting good at putting these group shows together. Please contact Ellie [ellie@shuster.com](mailto:ellie@shuster.com) or Carroll [saaexhibitions@gmail.com](mailto:saaexhibitions@gmail.com), to volunteer.

# Herman Poulin: con't



David Thompson, Lac La Biche



Sisters Legacy Monument



St. Paul Metis Monument

cast, transport, install. such monuments. The collaborative support and knowledge of the team is so essential for such endeavours.

**What is your outlook on life?**

Life is beautiful. Your weaknesses render you strong.

**How has your work evolved over time?**

It evolved in depth and simplicity.

**Do you have a favourite work of art or artist?**

The [Burghers of Calais by Rodin](#) and also the figurative sculptures of [Christophe Charbonnel](#).

**What role does the artist have in modern society?**

An artist is often in a buffer role in modern society. A song, painting or a sculpture can communicate without confrontation.

**What is the best thing about being an artist?**



Centennial Clock Tower, Morinville

Unscheduled hours - early morning when the world sleeps - is the best of times.

**What is the worst?**

Artistic ADHD; hyperactivity in the artistic world. How can you set aside creativity?

**What advice would you give your younger self?**

To dare more. To explore more. To seek more.

**Where can we see your art?**

My (our) art and sculptures have dispersed throughout our fair province of Alberta, including 14 monuments and loads of paintings and sculptures.

Some are in public and private collections in the Maritimes, Quebec, Alberta Legislative grounds and northeast communities.

The word "our " above refers to team effort needed to research,



Celtic Cross Monument

## Ice time – Barb Marcinkoski



**Strathcona County, Jan. 2, 2022** (L to R) Jeremy McConville, Christian Denis and Eileen Heidler, each did two-block sculptures celebrating the new year on the Plaza in Broadmoor Lake Park, Sherwood Park.



**Boyle Street Comm. Services, Jan. 24**

Robert Woodbury did a coloured, 3D version of their butterfly logo in one block.

### **Innisfail Historical Village, Jan. 15**

Stephen Chung (buffalo) and Christian Denis (snowmobiler) each did a one-block sculpture.

## Snow workshop, Snow Valley Jan. 22



Sponsored by Snow Valley and Geoscapes Events, Ritchie Velthuis (not pictured) and Christian Denis (left, top picture) instructed this workshop on the Rainbow Valley campground.

He was joined by sculptors Elena Lukawiecki (top picture, right), Deb Laninga (bottom picture left) and Warren Finlay (bottom picture right).

It was a beautiful day, and the snow stuck together, despite the warm temperatures.

Snow Valley and Geoscapes are making more snow forms in the same area for their Enchanted Valley and if you'd like to carve them contact Barb Marcinkoski at [barbmarcink@gmail.com](mailto:barbmarcink@gmail.com).

## Sturgeon County, Jan. 29

Christian Denis and Eileen Heidler did a large sturgeon fish carving with 6 blocks of ice.

### Upcoming

- Drayton Valley Feb. 19, 5 blocks
- Blackfalds – Feb. 19-20, 4 or 5 5-block sculptures



**Ice workshop with Steve Buzak at Ice on Whyte, Saturday Feb. 5.**

This workshop is now full.

### Ice tools for sale

Stephen Chung has ice carving tools to sell. Contact him at [stephenck@hotmail.ca](mailto:stephenck@hotmail.ca)

## Exhibitions – Carroll Charest

**March** - Night of Artists (NOA) at the Enjoy Centre in St. Albert is scheduled for March 16-20. However, as of the last contact, the organizer is awaiting clearance from government COVID protocols and safety measures, expected closer to the date. But keep it open.

**May** - VASA Gallery St. Albert. This is the show where we asked the St. Albert public to submit photos of "what moves

you?" and we, in turn, transform them into a 3-dimensional piece of art - from 2D to 3D. If you would like to participate, please let me know and I will share the photo album with you so you can see the images to choose from.

**June** - GM Western Gallery of Drumheller. The theme of the show is Creature Comforts. That is, whatever brings you comfort, what moves us to feel safe and secure, what soothes the body

and fills the soul, and what makes us human. If you would like to participate but are unsure of your ability to bring pieces to Drumheller, we will coordinate with others who are going down to bring additional pieces - so don't let this stop you from participating. I look forward to showcasing our group's work in a whole new venue! Again, we are still looking for people to be part of the Exhibition committee and chair.  
Carroll

### Newsletter submissions

We are always looking for your submissions to the newsletter. If you are showing your work, teaching a workshop, working on something special, have an update you'd like to share, or any story ideas, please contact me. Also, please keep the photos coming, they are greatly appreciated.

Submit your items to me, Shawn Olander at: [shawnolander@gmail.com](mailto:shawnolander@gmail.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month and contact me with any questions!  
Shawn

### More by Herman Poulin



Above – Meet the Inukshuks

Right - Fishing Lake War Memorial



The Armature is published by the Sculptors' Association of Alberta. Images have been supplied by artist members and may not be reused without permission of the artist(s). For more information contact Maria Koulouris, SAA Administrator at [sculptorsab@gmail.com](mailto:sculptorsab@gmail.com).

This newsletter was prepared by Shawn Olander and edited/formatted by Barb Marcinkoski. If you have anything for the newsletter, please contact Shawn at [shawnolander@gmail.com](mailto:shawnolander@gmail.com)

**Sculptors' Association of Alberta** PO Box 11212 Stn. Main, Edmonton, AB T5J 3K5 P:780-668-6300  
[www.sculptors-alberta.com](http://www.sculptors-alberta.com)