



Bev Oliwa: The Paverpol Queen



Hi. I'm Beverly Oliwa. I'm a sculptor and I love to say I take old T-shirts and turn them into garden art.

Have you always wanted to be a sculptor?

No. It's not anything I had ever considered. In my very young days, I loved to draw but being an artist was certainly not considered in a rural Ukrainian upbringing. I eventually honoured my creative side by becoming a seamstress. I loved working with fabric and am very tactile. When I discovered Paverpol and the fact that I could drape fabrics and have it hold, I was in heaven.

Why art?

Always art. I've learnt that being creative is the essence of who I am. Being lost in a sewing project, or a painting (walls) project or the garden or the kitchen have always brought a sense of accomplishment for me. I love to problem solve and figure out how...

What mediums do you work in?

For my business side I've basically worked with fabrics - sewing - and now the sculptures. Outside of business I'm very adventurous. If I was younger, I would be doing the refinishing of furniture and home decor. Gardening and flowers. So many things.

What inspires you?

Seeing successful courageous people. Especially women. Those who didn't have all the answers and moved to something new on instinct and desire. I love seeing images and often they speak to me. When I start working on a project they will often take off into their own direction.

What other work have you done besides sculpting?

Sewing, I was a costume maker at the Citadel Theatre and I had designers who I worked with independently.

What makes you smile?

Many things. Mostly simple pleasures. My dogs' expressions. Flower blossoms - their shape, their colour. The sun on my face. Holding my granddaughters' hands. I'm a gal of simple pleasures.

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President's message



I can't believe I'm preparing for a new year! As I write this, Festival Season in Edmonton is in full swing and it is hard to get my head around the end of summer... but here it is... our AGM is almost upon us.

The past year was both fruitful and challenging. We had some successful group exhibitions and sales - from the Christmas sale at the Army & Navy on Whyte, to Night of Artists, and Creature Comforts in Drumheller this summer. We had a great snow-and-ice season, and

returned to our first in-person "meeting" with our end-of-year BBQ in June. It was so good to break bread together and see everyone's faces again!

Our membership has been consistent, even through the pandemic. Our meetings and speakers were engaging and many of our non-Edmonton members joined via Zoom. On the other hand, many of our locals were less comfortable meeting on line and we have missed their participation. I hope that will change as we look to a hybrid style of meeting next year.

As for challenges... costs continue to rise as our finances struggle to keep up. And, the biggest one of all is the uncertainty surrounding the future of Harcourt House - our home and support. I hope to be able to update you at our AGM. Please wear your mask if attending in person.

Please do make an effort to come to the AGM - and consider volunteering for the board or one of its committees. Many hands make light work. Also, please remember that our **membership year begins in Sept. Dues are \$40 per year** and can be paid through e-transfer to sculptorsab@gmail.com. (Cash and cheque are welcome too!) You will need a current membership to participate in shows, sales, and ice/snow commissions as well as get the member rate for workshops. And, if you know anyone who creates or has an interest in sculpture, please invite them to join us as well. Growing our membership is a priority.

There are some cool things in the works for the coming year(s), but I'll leave it for you to hear about them at the AGM. In the meanwhile, enjoy the rest of the summer and see you Sept. 6.

-Ellie Shuster, President

Grandpa T.

I was asked to do a sculpture of my late grandfather for the Chauvin, Alberta, museum. He was influential in building the town. It is finished and is drying prior to firing. It will be presented to the museum in the spring.

-Keith Turnbull, Board member

SAA Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday, Sept. 6,
2022
7:30 pm**

At Harcourt House Annex
10211 112 St, Edmonton
(ring the bell)

OR

Join the [ZOOM meeting](#):
Meeting ID 840 2844 1497
Passcode 160357

For the meeting agenda, minutes of the last AGM, Financials and Bylaws, check your email for an email from Maria Koulouris (sculptorsab@gmail.com).





Bev Oliwa continued

What is your dream project?

For this next phase of my art business, I'm looking forward to doing commissions. People bringing me their fabric treasures and incorporating them into a wonderful piece of art that carries on the story of "grandma's doilies" or dad's favorite shirt.

What is your outlook on life?

It's always shifting and changing. The hard times test our mettle and create who we are.

How has your work evolved over time?

Very much so. At first it was an intriguing hobby, then I ventured into teaching it. Now as an artist I'm always trying something different. The Paverpol medium I use itself is very versatile so it lends itself to the evolution.

Do you have a favourite work of art or artist?

So many. Locally in sculpture Dave Hogg's work blows me away. In paint I've have many. Jani Galarneau's mixed media work always inspires me. Katherine McMillan. We have a very talented local artists here in Edmonton. Internationally, Karen Baker's doll work is incredible. One of my students in South Africa, Brenda Helfrich's work is outstanding. Lex Sorrentino in Australia. I'm always in awe of her work. It's so wonderful that with social media that we experience work from around the world.

What role does the artist have in modern society?

It's vital. I feel that it's an important facet for stress relief and a safe form of escapism. I truly feel that all of the skills required to create art (regardless of what form) bring valuable skill sets to our life.

What is the best thing about being an artist?

The wonderful people we get to meet.

What is the worst?

The doubts you get when you have not "sold" recently.

What advice would you give your younger self?

To value my creative side. It wasn't respected when I was younger.

Where can we see your art?

Right now, at various events around the city. Through events with the Sculptors' Association. At Gossamer's Gallery in Wabamun. I have several classes available on line with Curious Mondo.

-Bev Oliwa, Member





Kitchen Madonna (*not in show*)



The Bather (circa 2014)



Mountain View

Dale Smith – Coda – Life as Seen & Experienced

In remembrance of a past member of SAA and fellow sculptor, you might be interested in checking out this retrospective art show hosted by CARFAC Alberta that pays tribute to creative spirit of the late Dale Smith (1950-2017).

Drawn to the arts at an early age, sketching and creating art became as natural as breathing for Dale. He carried a sketch-book wherever he went – festivals, cafes, the Yardbird, hikes, camping, and travels – depicting interesting characters, captivating views or compositions, or the gestalt of a moment. In the traditional plein air fashion, his easel, folding canvas chair, handy little sketchbook, and box of paints served as his studio. Combining his love of nature, travel, and his artistic talents, Dale captured many landscapes around Alberta and abroad with bold and yet delicate brushstrokes on canvas or Masonite. Dale was often found painting or creating wooden sculptures in his backyard. His sculptures were often studies in whimsy; his nudes in raw earthiness.

Dale was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta. After extended travels abroad and residing in Montreal, he eventually returned to settle in Edmonton. His initial career path as an architectural technologist took a turn when Dale returned to school to complete a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts at the University of Alberta in 1988 and then fully embraced his true passion for the creative arts. Dale regularly partook life drawing/ sculpture drop-in sessions and exhibitions at Harcourt House enjoyed various workshops offered by SAA. As a professional artist, Dale exhibited his paintings in several galleries and juried art shows around Alberta over the years. The Edmonton Art Gallery (EAG) and then the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA) rental and sales gallery represented his landscape paintings for decades until his passing in 2017.

You are welcome to join us on for a reception of an art show & auction of his works on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022, from noon until 2:30 pm at CARFAC (address below). While raising funds for the arts, I hope to find good homes for some of Dale's art.

CARFAC Project Space
3rd Floor, Harcourt House
10215 112 St. NW, Edmonton
780.421.1731 / 1.866.421.1731

Check out the CARFAC fundraising auction at:
<https://www.biddingowl.com/CARFACAlberta>. The auction will be available until Friday, Oct. 7, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Thursday to Saturday, 11 am - 3 pm

-Janet Smith, Member
See more of Dale's artworks on p. 8

“...and the virus made everything a bit strange.”

Sculpture show by Keith Turnbull



The Main Gallery
Harcourt House Artist Run Centre
Sept. 16 - 24, 2022
Presented for the *2022 Design Week @ Harcourt House* and the *2022 Alberta Culture Days*
Presenting Partner: The Flanagan Foundation

“This evocative exhibition project presents recent body of metaphoric ceramic sculptures by Keith Turnbull, an Edmonton-based sculptor, art educator, and a community activist. The exhibition consists of 24 clay sculptures conceptually developed and produced during the first two years of the COVID-19, representing one per month of the pandemic. While the sculptures are of animals, recognizable from their heads, their body parts are from different zoo- and anthropomorphic creatures. Small, removable animals ride most of the pieces, making them possible to use as coin banks.”



Please join me for the opening on Friday evening Sept. 16 at 7 pm.

- Keith Turnbull, Board member



Dash - dog portrait

Deb Laninga - feature artist at Spruce Grove Allied Arts

I will be the “feature artist” at the Allied Arts Council of Spruce Grove in their Gallery located inside the public library in Spruce Grove. The show runs from Oct. 24 - Nov. 12, 2022. Reception TBA (likely the Halloween weekend?). I should have 9 or more pieces there to show including 3 bronzes.

-Deb Cameron-Laniga, Member

Upcoming courses taught by members

Ritchie Velthuis at the City Arts Centre

To register, call 311 or register online at movelearnplay.edmonton.ca. For more information about these courses, [click on this link](#)

Figurative Sculpture

Experience a classical art form by sculpting the human figure by working with live models. Use the medium of clay to explore the anatomy of the human body and successfully create multiple figurative sculptures as you develop a sense of proportion, 3D design, and capture unique and individual qualities while finding your own sculpture style.

Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:30 pm Thu, 13-Oct-22 - Thu, 01-Dec-22 Price: \$280.00 ID: 711748

Winter Sculpted Statues & Ornaments

Get cozy and play with clay this November, put your holiday cheer to another use and create using the medium of clay. Learn hand-building and sculpture techniques while creating unique pieces for your home, garden, or to give as gifts to friends and family members for them to decorate their favourite indoor or outdoor space.

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 9:30 pm Wed, 16-Nov-22 - Wed, 30-Nov-22 Price: \$105.00 ID: 711796

Sculpted Clay Animals

Love animals so much that you want to recreate your favourite pal or furry friend in clay? Perhaps you want to sculpt your favourite wild animal to cherish in your home for years to come. This three-week class is the perfect opportunity for you to learn the basics of clay as a sculpting and modeling medium.

Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:30 pm Thu, 22-Sep-22 - Thu, 06-Oct-22 Price: \$105.00 ID: 711784

Shawn Olander & Sally Fairhead at Leduc Arts Foundry

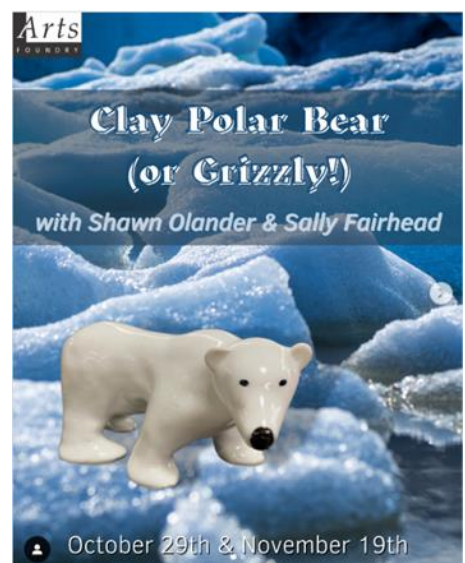
Clay Bear Class for Teens Ages: 12-19

In part one, participants will learn basic bear anatomy and simple sculpting skills resulting in a rough bear. In part two, the bear will be finished and smoothed in preparation for glazing and firing. The instructors will complete the glazing and firing portion and the finished bears can be picked up at Leduc Arts Foundry. You will be notified when your bear is ready.

Students are encouraged to bring in a reference image of a bear.

Oct. 29, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm & Nov. 19, 10:00am - 12:00pm
Price: \$95. Register online at:

<https://www.artsfoundry.ca/whats-on-at-the-foundry/sno-bear>



Figurative Sculpture with a live model at Harcourt House

Harcourt House will be restarting Figurative Sculpture sessions (with a live model). These sessions do not include instruction.

The dates for the first session are Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 17, and 24 from 6:30-9:30 pm. There will still be a limit of 7 attendees and they must sign up for all four times. Block of four: Members \$53, Non-Members \$63.

Because of the uncertainty with the Harcourt buildings they are not going to order clay in bulk so the cost might be slightly higher. They will reach out to the participants and only pick up what they need.

To register, contact the office. info@harcourthouse.ab.ca or call 780.426.4180.

Unveiling of Herman Poulin's Treaty Six medallion monument



A new monument was unveiled at the Alberta Legislature grounds on Aug. 21, 2022 to commemorate the Edmonton signing ceremony of Treaty Six between Indigenous People and the Crown.

The massive bronze cast sculpture is an enlargement of the original medallion gifted 145 years ago by the British Crown to the Indigenous chief signatories of the adhesion to Treaty No. 6.

Land covered by Treaty Six extends from what is now known as west-central Alberta into Saskatchewan. Seventeen First Nations are encompassed by

the treaty in central Alberta, including the Cree, Nakota Sioux, Dene Suliné, and Saulteaux peoples.

SAA member Herman Poulin, the artist who brought the monument to life, says he was given the concept for the monument in 2001 when a chief showed him the Treaty Six medallion, and he wondered if there was a way to bring it to life.

It took more than four years of continuous work to bring the large casting to life.

"When it comes to the value, what it will bring to our community is indispensable," Poulin said.

-Excerpt from CTV News

**More artworks by
Dale Smith**



**Newsletter
submissions**

We are always looking for 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 shawnolander@gmail.com by the 25th of the month and contact me with any questions!
Shawn

Riverbank at Dusk



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.

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

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