

Summer 2011

The Arts Live





Above: Joy Beckner in studio
 Above clockwise from left: All in the Family (a group of handmade miniatures, Scott Joplin Miniature Bust, Sweet Roll, Madame C.J. Walker - for the National Cosmetology Association



Joy Beckner

Q. When did you first realize you were an artist

A. In the fifth grade while recovering from Rheumatic fever, I had to stay in bed seemingly forever. That is when I started to draw, mostly horses and humans.

Q. Description of your art.

A. Classical Realism. I enjoy drawing from life, either from humans or more recently my dachshunds. I can work from photos, but for a piece to become the most lifelike, I work from life!

Q. A. Current Medium -- Clay or Wax for Bronze. Classical sculpture IS after all, thousands of drawings!

B. Previous Medium – Oil, conte' crayon, charcoal. Classical sculpture IS after all, thousands of drawings!

Q. Do you have a favorite subject matter?

A. My dachshunds, but I also love to sculpt humans.

Q. Have you been Influenced by what artist and how?

A. I love Rodin's simple shapes and the animals of Antoine Louis Barye.

Q. What inspires and motivates you?

A. Beautiful lines; I love subtle curves that come from nature.

Q. How has your work changed as you developed as an artist?

A. A big challenge was going from human to animal form. Then I realized we are all a variation on a theme. I look at animals and relate their parts to a human and it all makes more sense to me.

Q. What interests do you have besides?

A. Taking care of our home, the earth.

Q. Studio Space where is it and describe your studio what is it like?

A. My studio is a light filled room that we added to our house

Q. Do you work in your studio every day?

A. No, but I take care of business on my computer daily.

Q. What do you do for fun?

A. Pilates and yoga. I love to create in my garden.

Q. What kind of music do you listen to while creating?

A. I like new age, classical guitar, latin.

Q. Did your family have an influence on your decision to become an artist's?

A. My parents were supportive, but I will never forget when Mom wanted me to take typing classes because "typists can always get jobs."

Q. Why does the world need art?

A. Persons need release -- art gives them pleasure and peace.

Artists Statement-

Joy Kroeger Beckner is inspired by sensuous shapes of skin, bone and muscle. She models clay into classical forms, which are then cast into bronze. She is thrilled to make something move in-the-round bringing smiles, giggles or tears to the eyes of those who see and touch her work. She first showed in a national competition in 1996. Her bronze dachshunds have earned numerous awards, including the National Sculpture Society Silver Medal and four Best-in-Shows. Purchase awards have placed her works in public collections, including the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog. Joy attended Washington University School of Fine Arts in St. Louis, MO.

Birthplace: St. Louis, MO

Current Home: Chesterfield, MO

Price Range of your work: \$500 - \$22,000

Gallery Representatives: Coast to coast in the US, and, in England.

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