

PERSON OF INTEREST

Joy Kroeger Beckner

BY SHEILA FRAYNE RHOADES

BRONZE SCULPTOR JOY KROEGER BECKNER IS RENOWNED FOR HER HOUNDS. JOY'S CANINE SCULPTURES, ESPECIALLY DACHSHUNDS, HAVE EARNED HER INTERNATIONAL FAME AND OVER 80 AWARDS.

Raised and educated in St. Louis, Joy attended Washington University School of Fine Arts. She pursued professions in fashion at Famous-Barr, and later ran her own fund-raising business, Joy of Youth. A 1990 sculpture class reawakened her love for

modeling clay into the human form.

Joy and her husband Brian live in Chesterfield. The couple's three dachshunds were her first canine models. Today her work ranges from 1:6 scale palm-sized miniatures to life-size canines, animal design jewelry, and human portraits. Joy said, "I'm always thrilled to evoke memorable experiences, from giggles to tears, in those who view my finished creations."

Her attention to detail has resulted in membership in many prestigious organizations. These include the Society of Animal Artists, Allied Artists of America and the Salmagundi Art Club of New York. Poplar Bluff's Margaret Harwell Art Museum invited Joy for her first solo exhibition in 2012. For eight years, Joy has been an Elected Sculptor Member of the prestigious National Sculpture Society. Note – Joy is one of only three active Missouri sculptors who have been elected to Fellow of NSS.

Her sculptures are displayed in international and national collections including the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog in St. Louis, the Scott Joplin International Ragtime Foundation Inc., and the Dunnegan Gallery of Art in Bolivar, MO. Joy's work is currently on display and available for purchase at Kodner Gallery in Ladue.

Interesting fact - besides modeling clay, her own sparkling beauty *allows Joy to model - with* West Model and Talent, Inc.

www.joybeckner.com "Classical Realism, from Hounds to Humans." **UT**

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1. "MERRY SUNSHINE" MEL SCHOCKNER PHOTOGRAPHY | 2. "SQUIRREL SEASON" LONG, MEL SCHOCKNER PHOTOGRAPHY | 3. "BIG HEART" - MEL SCHOCKNER PHOTOGRAPHY | 4. "THE EYES HAVE IT!" DON CASPER PHOTOGRAPHY | 5. "SUNNYSIDE UP" SMOOTH 1/6 SCALE IN MY HAND, BRIAN BECKNER PHOTOGRAPHY | 6. "DELI'S OPEN" SMOOTH 1:6 SCALE - DON CASPER PHOTOGRAPHY