

Carl Bandy

as Fiber Canyon Studios

Carl Bandy uses the earth's materials for his sculptures as a link with the subject itself. The mountains, buttes & mesas of the Southwest contain the stories of the ancient peoples who lived in & among them in harmony & great respect for the power & the spirit of the land.

Carl Bandy has been carving bas-relief sculptures since 1977, usually in mahogany & creating cast paper sculptures since 1987. The even-grained mahogany allows him to achieve chiseled, rocklike textures, fine detail or smooth surfaces. This, combined with the fibers of the finished cast paper sculpture, yields a multi-textured effect, enhanced by shadows. The illusion of depth & mass is one of the most important things Bandy strives to achieve.

The carving is the first step. Next, a latex mold is formed around the wood positive. This results in a recessed image of the original sculpture. While the latex still surrounds the carving, a "mother mold" is made around the latex, using a polyurethane foam. This keeps the flexible latex from distorting the image during the casting process.

The carving is then removed from the mold assembly. The mold is inspected for defects, cleaned & is then ready to receive the paper pulp. Usually 100% cotton & Philippine abaca fibers are used to make the pulp for casting these sculptures. Additives are mixed which make the paper water repellent, pH neutral & strong, even though it is thin. This makes the paper last as long as any other conservation-quality paper. When colored pulp is needed, special fiber pigments make the color consistent & light-fast.

The pulp is placed, a little at a time, into the mold & delicately worked into the detail areas. Most of the water is then sponged away. The mold & casting are placed in a special drying area. When completely dry, the casting is removed from the mold assembly.

After the paper cast has been inspected, it is signed, numbered & made ready for display. Conservation-quality mats & frames are used for the finishing touch.

Personal Biography

Born: 1953, San

Antonio, Texas

Educated: Colorado

State University; Bemis

Art School; Taos

Institute of Art

Studied under:

Painters: Joseph Bohler

& Tom Owens

Sculptors: Charles Hilgar

& Immigard Knotch

1983-86: College

Commercial Art Instructor

1985-87: President, Commonwheel, a 40 member co-op of professional Colorado artists

1988: Two person show, "Water & Wood", works of & on paper, Manitou Springs, CO

1989: One person show, "Paper Chase", Southwest cast paper sculptures, Commonwheel Gallery, Manitou Springs, CO

1989: International Conference of papermakers & paper artists, Reno, NV

1989: Commission from Colorado Governor's Office 35 cast paper awards given to Colorado communities against drug abuse.

1990-92: Encore Colorado Governor's commissions

1991: Best of Show, BAC Alumni Juried Show

Business of Art Center, Manitou Springs, CO

1987-93: Exhibited in 90+ national juried shows

1992: One-Man Show, Wade Gallery, San Antonio, TX

