

Nancy Legge

Nancy Legge's sculptural work explores abstraction, the figure, and the expressive possibilities that emerge through an intuitive process. Influenced by artists such as Alberto Giacometti and Isamu Noguchi, her work emphasizes discovery and surprise, allowing each piece to develop its own voice without preconceived ideas. She engages directly with porcelain and tools as equal partners, embracing uncertainty and failure as essential parts of creation.

Her abstract sculptures were originally inspired by the ancient stone circles of Callanish and sites like Stonehenge and Avebury. While those megalithic forms remain a foundation, her current work integrates mixed materials such as iron embedded directly into the clay, encaustic treatments, and settings of stone or recycled metal. Though porcelain is her primary medium, she explores how a figure's presence evolves when translated into bronze or glass, experimenting with surfaces ranging from unglazed porcelain to dynamic shino and raku glazes.

Drawn to the fragmented figure, Legge is inspired by the Japanese concept of *zan ketsu no bi*—the beauty of what is missing. Her sculptures reflect a timeless quality, influenced by Greek Cycladic art, mummified forms, and Giacometti's philosophy that "the object of art is not to reproduce reality, but to create a reality of the same intensity."

Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Finding the Figure, Solo Exhibition, 2018
The San Francisco Design Center, San Francisco, CA, Kneeder/Fauchere Showroom, 2018
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Powder and Smoke, 2017
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Material Matters, 2017
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Summer Salon, Gallery Figures, 2016
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Personae, Solo Exhibition, 2015
Art Market San Francisco with Seager Gray Gallery, 2015, 2016
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, All in the Family, 2015
Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition, Brooklyn, NY, Figuratively Speaking, National Juried Show, 2014
Susan Street Fine Art, Solano Beach, CA, Sculpture Spotlight: Nancy Legge and Carl Dahl, 2014
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Women's Work, 2014
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Summer Salon, 2013
Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, Figures in Abstract, 2012
Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA, Fall Salon, 2011
Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA, Introductions, 2011
Donna Seager Gallery, San Rafael, CA, New Work by Gallery Artists, 2011
Susan Street Fine Art, Solano Beach, CA, Forever and Floating, 2011
L.H. Horton Jr. Gallery, San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA, Visions in Clay, 2010.
San Francisco Fine Art Fair with Donna Seager Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2010
Lincoln Arts and Cultural Foundation, Lincoln, CA, Feats of Clay XXI, 2008.
Kellogg University Art Gallery, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA, Ink and Clay 34, 2008

Kellogg University Art Gallery, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA, Ink and Clay 33, 2007

Donna Seager Gallery, San Rafael, CA, Finding the Figure, Waldemar Mitrowsk and Nancy Legge, 2006

The Branson School Gallery, Ross, CA, From Callanish to California, solo exhibition, 2005

CFA Gallery, San Anselmo, CA, San Francisco International Art Exposition, 2005

PRO ARTS Gallery, Oakland, CA, New Visions: Introductions '04, A Juried Exhibition of California Artists, Juried by Rene di Rosa and Jack Rasmussen, 2004

CFA Gallery, San Anselmo, CA, The Figure in Art: New Explorations of a Bay Area Tradition, 2004

Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Sebastopol, CA, White on White: New Figurative Sculpture, solo exhibition, 2004

Sanchez Art Center, Pacifica, CA, elements: 2 painters and a sculptor, 2004

Tierra Solida, Santa Barbara, CA, Clearly Black & White, curated by Michael Arntz, 2003

Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Sebastopol, CA, Annual Juried Exhibition, Juror's Award, 2003

Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Sebastopol, CA, Sculpture, curated by Manuel Neri, 2003

Falkirk Cultural Center, San Rafael, CA, Memorias: El Dia de los Muertos, an invitational show celebrating the Day of the Dead, 2002

Marin County Civic Center, San Rafael, CA, It Figures...A Showcase of Figurative Works by Eighteen Marin County Artists, 2002

Falkirk Cultural Center, San Rafael, Falkirk 2002 Marin Artists Exhibition, curated by Claire Carlevaro, The Art Exchange, 2002

Galerie Elektra, Sausalito, CA, new bronzes exhibited, 1999 – 2004

Publications and Other Affiliations

O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA, 13th Annual Wabi-Sabi Exhibition, Juried by Nancy Legge, June, 2016

Nancy Legge, Personae, Catalog for Seager/Gray Solo Exhibition, August, 2015

Marin Independent Journal, July 6, 2006, "The Mystery of Stone and Human Form," Working Artist Profile by Christine Brenneman.

500 Figures in Clay Ceramic Artists Celebrate the Human Form

Lark Books, 2004.

Artweek, November, 2004, Review of New Visions: Introductions '04, A Juried Exhibition of California Artists.

Ceramics Monthly, Work featured in "Upfront," February, 2003.

Falkirk Cultural Center, San Rafael, CA, Wit and Wisdom Small Works from the Pacific Rim Sculptors Group, Curated by Beth Goldberg and Nancy Legge, 2005.

Falkirk Cultural Center, San Rafael, CA, Exhibitions Selection Committee, 2004 - 2008.

Member, International Sculpture Center

Education

Pratt Institute, New York, NY

The Studio School, New York, NY

The National Academy of Design, New York, NY

Pilchuck Glass School, Stanwood, WA, (Workshop with Kirstie Rea)

Mendocino Art Center, Mendocino, CA , (Workshops with Stephen De Staebler and John Toki)

Taking the Leap, Emeryville, CA, (A professional practices program for visual artists)

Representation

Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA

Seager/Gray Gallery, Mill Valley, CA

Susan Street Fine Art, Solano Beach, CA