



The Bonita Museum & Cultural Center announces the National Sculpture Society (NSS) California exhibition in February and March of 2022. The exhibition features thirty-eight artworks by master California sculptors, members of the prestigious National Sculpture Society based in New York city. The NSS was founded in 1893 and is the oldest sculpture society in the United States, promoting the work of sculptors and architects who specialize in highlighting our natural world.



Mark Edward Adams *Young Bear Walking*

The exhibition documents moments in time during the last two years with thoughtful works including a portrait of our first female Vice President *Kamala Harris* by San Marcos artist Marsha Brook. The spirit of California is exemplified by San Diego artist Mark Edward Adams *Young Bear Walking* and Encinitas sculptor James Nelson presents *Carlos*, a portrait of a young person lost in thought and contemplation. The diversity of material and subject matter includes artworks in bronze, clay, ceramic, wood and resin, featuring animal and human portraiture as well as fantasy and sea based subject matter.

*It should come as no surprise that California is home to so many talented sculptors — but the incredible range of artworks in terms of medium, style and subject matter is also impressive: ceramic, bronze, wood, abstracts, humorous, haunting, bright, dark, light, fun, serene, colorful — just a huge range.*

*Come and see this show! You'll see animals full of life, soulful portraits, socially expressive works, beautiful figures, pop commentary not to mention a super cute baby hippo and a flying monkey.*

*— Exhibition juror and master sculptor, Richard Becker NSS*

Jurors for the exhibition were NSS members Richard Becker and Nilda Comas, along with the director of the Bonita Museum, Wendy Wilson-Gibson.



James Nelson *Carlos*

The Bonita Museum and Cultural Center welcomes the public to view the exhibition Feb. 5 through March 18, 2022. An opening reception to meet the artists and view the work will be held Saturday, February 5, from 4:30pm to 7:30pm.



Manuelita Brown *America's Son*

Encinitas artist Manuelita Brown started sculpting at a young age by re-imagining and re-crafting her dolls. By high school, she had already moved onto bronze sculpting. A math major in college, Manuelita came back to art while working as a math educator. Now a full-time sculptor living and working in Encinitas, Manuelita's two works in the exhibition explore themes of multi-culturalism in America as well as the daily activity of hard work. The bronze sculpture *America's Son* is a portrait of her son, who she was visiting in Paris when he commented that "He had never felt so American as when he was living abroad." For Manuelita, America's multiculturalism is part of the beauty and power that emanates from her sculpture. *Hard Work*, also a bronze, was inspired by the artist's feelings about not trying to solve the world's problems, but dealing with today, and the daily hard work that people do. Sweat is visible on the face of "Hard Work" and it reflects Manuelita's ability through her art, to express how people feel.



San Marcos sculptor Marsha Brook has artworks in the exhibition including *Kamala Harris*, a bas relief, which is part of a larger series *Inspired Social Conscious*. Marsha, who has been a part of the NSS for

over 30 years, invites the viewer to delve into a deeper understanding of the diversity that makes up our collective humanity. Locally Marsha Brook has public works at the Jackie Robinson YMCA as well as the Fallbrook Library.



Edward Holec *Confidence*

Artists in the exhibition include:

Marsha Brook from San Marcos with two pieces entitled *Kamala Harris* and *Spirit of Hope*; Oceana Rain Stuart from Sausalito with *Guessing Game*; William Pupa from Redondo Beach with *Icarus*; Jacquelyn Giuffré from San Rafael with *Lucy, Edward* and *3 panels of Verdigris*; Mark Simpson from Olympic Valley with *Leda, Flying Monkey Portrait* and *Portrait of Zamiro*; Robert Cantor from San Francisco with *In the Moment #1* and *In the Moment #3*; Maily Morhous from Del Mar with *Blowing in the Wind*; Karen

Coburn from Chatsworth with *Reaching*; Lance Glasser from Saratoga with *David*; James Nelson from Encinitas with *Carlos*; Paul Reiber from Mendocino with *Judy*; Deanna Rae C. Montero from Palo Alto with *The Itch*; Claudette Bleijenberg from San Francisco with *Pandemic I*; Cynthia Siegel from Santa Cruz with *Kavita*; Karina Furhman from San Pablo with *Torrey*; Manuelita Brown from Encinitas with *America's Son* and *It's Hard Work*; Julia C R Gray from Cardiff by the Sea with *Jellyfish/NOT & SHE Shell-Sea Wisdom*; Tony Gangitano from San Diego with *Azteca*; Jim Callahan from Sonoma with *Almost, Ravens Awakens* and *Royal Flush*; Patricia Palenschat from San Diego with *Neighborhood Rascals*; Ruth Green from Santa Barbara with *Cookie Please* and *Mountain Lion Study*; Mark Edward Adams from San Diego with *Young Bear Walking*; Gina Cohen from Los Angeles with *Dark Night of the Soul*; Terry Chacon from Redlands with *Full Circle*; Edward Holecko from South San Francisco with *Contemplation* and *Confidence*; Louis Quaintance from Nevada City with *Narcissist*.



Claudette Bleijenberg *Pandemic I*

The Bonita Museum & Cultural Center is open Wednesday thru Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

Information about the exhibition and programming can be found on the website [www.bonitahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.bonitahistoricalsociety.org). The museum is located at 4355 Bonita Road, Bonita California.

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For photos or more information about artists in the exhibition:

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