

Tracy Mahaffey

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SCULPTOR, MEMORIAL ARTIST

Profile

Tracy Mahaffey has been a professional stone carver and sculptor for nearly twenty-five years. The concentration of Tracy's work is hand carved memorials and gravestones, as well as inscriptional architectural carvings. Having come to the field of memorial arts through her studies in sculpture and relief while also finding joy in the beauty, expression, and playfulness of letters. Her love of creating letters, which then comes to life in her sculptures, is what keeps her work fresh and forward. Though stone is her first love, Tracy has been exploring other materials such as clay and cast metals to create smaller, more intimate, commemorative work. This is highlighted by her recent study and practice of medallion art. Tracy lives, works, and plays in Greene, Rhode Island.

Education

1989 ~ 1993 B.F.A. Studio Art with a Sculpture Concentration. Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA.

Professional Career

2007~ Present *Owner, Designer, Carver @ Tracy Mahaffey Studio. Greene, R.I.*

A stone carving and sculpture studio designed to work closely with clients to create original artwork and one-of-a-kind memorials and gravestones.

2000 ~ 2020 *Stone Carver, Designer @ Karin Sprague Stone Carvers. North Scituate, R.I.*

Commissioned to design and hand carve sculptural elements as well as lettering on slate memorials. Also instrumental in project managing and installation of gravestones.

1993 ~ 2000 *Visual Display @ Nordstroms Department Stores. Various locations in the U.S.*

Worked and traveled extensively throughout the United States designing, building, and installing window and interior props as well as construction of major fashion show sets.

1990 ~ 1993 *Low-relief Artist @ Bush Pattern Works. Reading, PA.*

Commissioned to model low-relief portraits and building facades in clay to be cast in bronze.

Publications

2017 "Opening the Tool Box," Letter Arts Review 31:3

2015 "Process Issue," Letter Arts Review 29:2

Exhibits

- 2024 "NetWorks Exhibit." WaterFire Art Center, Providence, Rhode Island
- 2022 "Text" Pawtucket Arts Collaborative, Pawtucket, Rhode Island
- 2014 "Networks 2013-2014." Newport Art Museum, Newport, Rhode Island
- 2009 "Shutter, Shade, and Stone," Warwick Art Museum, Warwick, Rhode Island
- 2009 "Duets, Celebrating Collaborative Work." Berkley Springs, West Virginia
- 2007 Masscribes "Annual Calligraphy Show." Norwood, Massachusetts
- 2006 "Mixed Media." Matthewson Street Chapel, Providence, Rhode Island

Juried Publications

- 2023 "My Heart" Terracotta. Letter Arts Review 36:4
- 2015 "Cycladic Figurine" Mable and "My Heart" Slate. Letter Arts Review 29:1
- 2010 "Pawn" Limestone. Letter Arts Review 24:2

Skills

Drawing: Pencil / Ink, Full Scale Layouts, Design, Scale Architectual Drawing.

Sculpting: Dimensional and Relief ~ Clay, Stone, Plaster, Bronze, Zinc.

Lettering: Full Scale Layout, Design, Hand Draw, Carved.

Cast: Clay Modeling, Bronze, Zinc, Terracotta.

Ceramic: Stoneware, Terracotta, Hand Built Sculpture, Cast.