

Voss-Andreae ships Texas Tech commission



PHOTO COURTESY, JULIAN VOSS-ANDREA

BY PAUL HAIST

Julian Voss-Andreae's large, welded steel sculpture, "Agave Dreams" (a provisional title) was completed in July at the sculptor's Portland studio and shipped near the end of July to Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.



JONI KABANA PHOTO

VOSS-ANDREA

The university commissioned the piece for installation in front of its new Biology Building. Installation was scheduled for July 30.

Voss-Andreae describes the work as "a polyhedron consisting of over 1,000 triangles, about half of them large ones for the body and the other half small ones for the hands and face."

Once installed at the university, the figure's hands will surround a live agave plant about four feet tall. Agave is indig-

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Hard work, cooperation built Sculptors Gallery

BY PAUL HAIST

The big news for Pacific Northwest Sculptors this spring and summer has been its new Sculptors Gallery at Pioneer Place Mall in the heart of downtown Portland.

The gallery came into being seemingly overnight—well, OK, a few short weeks—after former PNWS President Carole Murphy's vision of a sculpture-only gallery in Northwest Portland collided with the vagaries of the real-estate marketplace and the sought-after property became unavailable.

Then, almost out of the blue, a 3,000-square-foot gallery space in one of Portland's most elegant and high-

traffic retail venues was made available to PNWS by Portland artist and arts activist Chris Haberman and his business partner Jason Brown, who hold the lease to the space.

The PNWS board quickly formed a steering committee to explore the opportunity. That led to the board's March 20 decision to move forward on the proposal.

The formal opening of the gallery's first show May 16 attracted a large crowd and resulted in strong sales that evening, which pleased everyone and made the job of opening a major art gallery seem like a piece of cake.

However, as satisfying as the opening was, it was anything but a piece of

cake. Just ask Murphy, who was named the gallery's director.

"To take an idea from the drawing board and place it into action within three weeks from its inception, is quite a feat," she said. "There are systems to be created, decisions about so many details, the lighting, the pedestals, the people, the contracts, the sales, the business structure, handling of money, keys, etcetera. And then there is the art work itself.

"The hours were long and crazy and it was demanding and amazing and great fun. The process is pulling the organization of PNWS more together

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Works in Progress

Jill Townsend

“BOOK MARK”

by PNWS member Jill Townsend is in its final stages before it goes to foundry. It is book-end size, 8.5” x 5” x 6”. The name of the piece is a play on the name of the model, Mark, who was reading a Garrison



Keiller book as he modeled; he was chuckling all the while. Townsend also is offering the piece at a precast price significantly below the gallery price once cast. People interested in this piece or “Float Fairy” (viewable on line at http://www.jillperrytownsend.com/JillPerryTownsend/PreCast_Slideshow.html) should contact the artist at 541-921-0502 for price and delivery estimate. In exchange for making a 50 percent pre-payment that will provide the funds to go to the foundry, she gives the art patron a significant discount over what the sculpture will sell for once it has been cast. The patron will then pay the remaining 50 percent after the foundry has cast the piece.

Robert H. Foster

THE TILLAMOOK 2ND STREET ALLEY GATE SCULPTURE, by

PNWS member Robert H. Foster of Lake Oswego is nearing completion at the Trovo Design Studio in Portland. The sculpture is a collage of Tillamook-area icons laser cut in 1/4” aluminum depicting the history of Tillamook, Oregon. The aluminum will be powder coated in vivid colors to bring life to the sculpture and the street on which it will be installed at the end of this summer. A media event is planned for the installation. Learn more about Robert H. Foster online at www.roberth-foster.com.



VOSS-ANDREAE: Custom software facilitated polyhedron design

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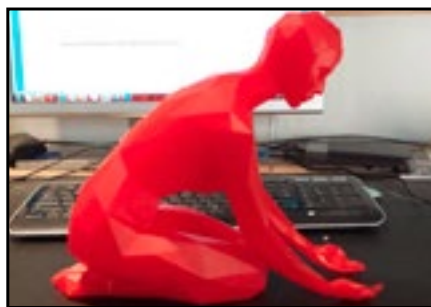
enous to Texas and many other tropical and sub-tropical climates worldwide.

Texas Tech University Public Art Manager Emily Wilkinson commented on the selection of Voss-Andrae’s design.

“The University Public Art Committee selected Julian’s concept for a project at our Biology Building. He proposed a design for a 10 foot tall kneeling sculpture made from triangles,” she said

“The selected color is blue to represent the sky and water, provide a calming effect, and to complement existing colors in the space.

“This sculpture will appear to be blessing one of the plants in front of the Biology Building, providing a holistic view that we should give back to the natural world. It will be incorporated with the plants on site and provide a



VOSS-ANDREAE 3d-printed two maquettes to help decide on the final version.

central approach to viewing nature,” said Wilkinson

Actual fabrication of the piece began in February. Voss-Andrae and his crew took one month off to work on another project. So, in all, it took about five months to cut, assemble, finish and coat the work.

It’s best to let the artist describe the design process that preceded fabrica-

tion and, for that matter, the assembly process, which included the use of maquettes created with a 3D printer.

“The design started out with a model and a 3D scan of her, and then successive steps of designing, first in full resolution and then using different algorithms in the faceted state with very few triangles,” said Voss-Andrae.

“I actually used parts from two different models. The key to fabricating this is my own custom-written software that transforms the triangles into laser cutting instructions that allow the fabrication. It is kind of like a giant puzzle.”

Except for the figure’s hands and face, the completed sculpture was coated with a blue Devthane, a two-part urethane gloss finish.

Learn more about Julian Voss-Andrae on line at <http://julianvossandreae.com>.