36TH ROSEN SCULPTURE COMPETITION & EXHIBITION

MAY 23, 2022 - MAY 14, 2023
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Vision, generosity, and a pursuit of excellence are some of the many qualities that characterized the lives of Martin and Doris Rosen. From their years devoted to building a successful business, to their lives after retirement, revolving around family, philanthropy, and a commitment to the arts, this exceptional couple left an indelible mark on the communities in which they lived and worked.

Thanks to the continuing generosity of the Rosen Family, Martin and Doris’s legacy of support for quality visual arts programming has been continued by their children, and enables this beloved exhibition program to continue to develop and flourish. In July 1997, the Rosens donated Hephaestus, a large commissioned sculpture by Bruce White, to Appalachian State’s Permanent Collection, and it adorns the Rivers Street frontage area of the Schaefer Center for the Performing Arts to this day.

On the occasion of the Rosens’ 50th wedding anniversary in October 1999, their children established the Martin and Doris Rosen Scholarship to assist rising junior or senior art majors at Appalachian State. Tireless supporters of the arts, the Rosen Family has given so much of themselves over the years to ensure that the arts remain a strong foundation of campus and community life in the High Country. We wish to extend to them our deepest appreciation.
Exhibiting Artists

Andrew Light
Divergent

Kevin Eichner
Mei Amor

Matthew Newman
Here to There

Shawn Morin
Longing for Santa Croce

Paris Alexander
Love Bound with Claws

Wayne Vaughn
The Window

David Boyajian
Silver Sage

Jackie Braitman
Man, I feel Like a Woman

Kevin Curry
Lost and Found

Susan Moffatt
Sinsuosity II

36TH ROSEN
Annual Sculpture Competition and Exhibition
ABOUT THE JUROR

Elizabeth Brim

The juror of the 36th annual Rosen Competition and exhibition is Elizabeth Brim. Elizabeth is a blacksmith and teacher who lives right here in western North Carolina in beautiful downtown Penland. She’s best known for her feminine imagery in her fabulous ironwork. A native of Columbus, Georgia, Elizabeth graduated with an MFA in printmaking before studying and working with a variety of materials at the Penland School of Craft including ceramics and jewelry. Quite unexpectedly, she fell in love with iron. Since then, she has taught at Haystack, Peters Valley, and Penland. Her work is in the collection of the Metal Museum in Memphis, the Mint Museum in Charlotte, and the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh. If you have the latest issue of American Craft magazine, there is a wonderful article in it that features Elizabeth and two other amazing women who work with hot metal. With a unique juxtaposition of the feminine and the ferrous, she transforms the frilly dresses, fairy tales, and gender expectations of her childhood into remarkable works of social commentary. We are so pleased that Elizabeth has been the 2022 juror for the 36th annual Rosen Outdoor Sculpture Competition and Exhibition here at Appalachian State University.
TO VIEW A FULL MAP PLEASE CLICK HERE
Andrew Light (#1) First Place AWARD, is based in Lexington, KY where he maintains an active studio, focusing primarily on fabricated metal sculpture. Light has an extensive background in industry, having worked in several skilled trades. He is an academically trained artist with a principal focus in monumental sculpture. After his formal education he apprenticed as an iron worker, and then served as studio assistants to John Henry, in Chattanooga, TN and Richard Hunt in Chicago, IL.

He has worked for the British Open Air Museum of Steel Sculpture, as a workshop and foundry technician. Light has conducted sculptural workshops at various facilities such as University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL, Arrowmont, in Gatlinburg, TN, and at the Sculpture Trails Outdoor Museum, Solsberry, IN.

This is his second finalist entry in the Rosen Sculpture Competition.
Light is principally concerned with abstract figuration in his work. The pursuit and capture of a momentary gesture in a static object continues to be a fascinating and limitless challenge. This is informed his explorations of body morbidity, and the move from classical notions of representation of the figure towards an understanding of the human form as landscape.

The context of a work varies from project to project, site to site. Often, works exist as epiphanous gestures. Only after a sketch is developed or the beginnings of a form assembled, can refinements happen. Other works are the result of determined, contemplative practice. Developing forms and context to harmoniously pursue a given initiative. It is the artist's explicit intention to leave room for these principle modes of working to exist simultaneously in his practice. Cultivating curiosity and an openness to the process are critical.
Kevin Eichner (#2) Honorable mention, a native of Buffalo, NY, is a sculptor, professor, and director at The Moncure Museum of Art in Moncure, NC. He received a BFA from State University of New York College at Buffalo and his MFA from East Carolina University. He has taught sculpture at Central Carolina Community College in Siler City; Meredith College, Raleigh; SUNY College at Buffalo; and East Carolina University School of ART. His work has been exhibited widely in North and South Carolina as well as internationally in New Zealand, Belize, and Estonia.
Kevin Eichner’s work evolves from the stiff, ridged, industrial I-beam, an icon of the 20th century, typically used in the construction of vast bridges and towering skyscrapers. He searches to understand the truth to the materials and strives to discover ways to stretch and manipulate that truth bringing forth its potential in new ways. He says he has discovered the breath within the beams, an understanding of how the structural nature of the material frees itself of its industrial function, allowing the material to blossom, intertwine and gesture towards the sky, as a symbol and celebration of both human nature and Mother Nature within the industrial beams.
Matthew Newman

Here to There, 2022

Recycled #2 plastic with locust seat and handlebar
3’5” x 2’5” x 9” each

Damascus, VA

A woodworker most of his life, the small red vise that Matthew Newman (#3) uses today is the same vise that clamped his first piece of wood over fifty years ago. In 1976, after graduating with a BFA from Tufts University and a diploma from the Museum School of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts, Matthew started a 5-year sawmill apprenticeship with master sawyer Stanley Stephenson in Stow, MA. From tall tales to details he trained to be a sawyer. Matthew founded Newman Lumber in 1981 running through 2011, providing quality material to fellow woodworkers, all the time honing skills and broadening his vision.

In 1985, he created the “Newman Basket” which has since been awarded a U.S. Design Patent by the United States Patent office. They continue to be in production and have been sold around the world. In 2013 he moved to Damascus VA, bought the old hardware store and started “Trails ARTware,” a working studio/gallery.

Matthew submitted this poem to be read with his piece:

It’s easy to get from here to there,
with a smile on your face and the wind in your hair,
so don’t sit by the road like a stick or a stone,
go for a ride with a friend or alone
HERE TO THERE

SITE 3

Matthew Newman
Here to There, 2022
Recycled #2 plastic with locust seat and handlebar
3'5" x 2'5" x 9" each
Damascus, VA

His intention as a woodworker stated at age 12 when he realized: “I want to design and build beautiful things from wood.” At the time it was just something that I thought I wanted to do; now I know that it is who I am. The goal is to stimulate imagination, provoke thought, and inspire others: thru the celebration of a visual experience. This is challenging but communicating three dimensionally and validating interpretations are key in establishing an open mind. Encouragement and being exposed to a visual image is the impetus for future innovations. Here, in support of free-thinking inquisitiveness, the celebration begins. Three Dimensionally; no words, paint or sound; a form that can exist in no other way; completely the right size, but containing growth; still, yet having movement; quiet with real vitality.
Shawn Morin received his BFA from the University of Tampa and his MFA from the University of Georgia, both in sculpture. He is currently a professor of sculpture and department head at Bowling Green State University. He has been featured in numerous solo, two-person, juried, group and invitational shows across the Midwest and eastern United States. He is represented in galleries in Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, and North Carolina as well as in public and private collections. This is his 8th time as a finalist in the Rosen Sculpture Competition including a 2nd place winner in the 30th Rosen Competition.
Born and raised in New York City, he studied art all his life. After spending ten years as a research specialist at the Duke University Cancer Center, Paris Alexander (#5) decided to pursue his passion full time. Since 1993 he has studied and created sculpture. He is a well-known instructor in sculpture, drawing and anatomy. Besides teaching privately, he has been an instructor for arts councils, the Lucy Daniels Center, the Artspace Arts and Outreach Programs, and the NC Museum of Art Outreach Program. Paris’ work has been exhibited widely in galleries, universities, and museums and he has created numerous public and private commissions.

His work is included in the collections of WakeMed, Duke University, UNC Chapel Hill, Saks Fifth Avenue, the R.C. Kessler Collection, SAS Institute, former President Bill Clinton, Senator Bob Dole, former Governor/Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska and many others. Paris’s works can be found across the U.S., Canada, England, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Austria, and Japan. Alexander has been a finalist in three Rosen Sculpture Exhibitions.
LOVE BOUND WITH CLAWS

SITE 5

Paris Alexander
Love Bound with Claws, 2019
Carved limestone
3’7” x 1’6” x 1’3”
Raleigh, NC

Paris Alexander’s carved stone sculptures pare sculpture down to its essential forms, resulting in abstract and iconic forms.
Wayne Vaughn (#6) is a builder, musician and sculptor. As an apprentice to a master carpenter, Vaughn enjoyed a successful building career that spanned four decades. Music plays an important part in his life as founding member of the 30-year-old Triangle Brass Band. Rooted in this combination of physical skill and know-how, dedication, and creative pursuit, his career as sculptor was fostered. Very quickly his bold, geometric, large-scale works began winning awards and the attention of regional and national shows. This is the fourth time Vaughn has been a Rosen Sculpture Competition finalist.

Wayne Vaughn
The Window, 2022
Steel
4’ x 10’ x 18’ per piece
Graham, NC
Wayne Vaughn
*The Window, 2022*
Steel
4’ x 10’ x 18’ per piece
Graham, NC

Nature and industry inspire Wayne’s creative work. He strives to bring animation, balance and intrigue to his work, playing with gravity, but keeping trust between the piece and its landscape. His hope is that his work invites the viewer to play, question, and respond. Vaugh says: “It is a great honor to have my work recognized. I love to bring animation to cold hard steel. My greatest satisfaction is bringing a smile, inciting a conversation or inspiring a new creation.”
David Boyajian (#7) is an artist, art instructor, and the owner of David Boyajian Sculpture Studio in New Fairfield, Connecticut. In the early 1980s, Boyajian studied at Alfred University, the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, and earned his MFA from the Maryland Institute Rinehart School of Sculpture. Boyajian’s teaching career has spanned over twenty years at institutions such as Western Connecticut State University, the Silvermine School of Art, and Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford. Boyajian’s teaches metal, stone, and wood sculpture at his studio at David Boyajian Sculpture Studio.

Over the course of his thirty-plus-year career, Boyajian has shown his work in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including SculptureNow on The Mount, Edith Wharton’s home in Lenox, MA, Bull City Sculpture Show in Durham, NC, and ‘Genesis,’ an outdoor solo show at the Robert Moses Sculpture Garden at Fordham University. This is the fourth time Boyajian has been a finalist in the Rosen Sculpture competition and he won 3rd place in two of those competitions.
He says: “An iconic form is created in the moments when nature deconstructs itself. A seed caught in the wind. The green shoots of a wildflower pushing through the soil. The thrashing of a river after heavy rains. A surge of energy spurs a separation — a great unfolding. It is these naturally sculptural moments that inspire my work.

The physical act of creating sculpture requires a great deal of energy. I create and alter structures until they find balance and become entities unto themselves. This process often begins in drawing, a much more cerebral and immediate medium connecting the hand to the mind.”
Jackie Braitman (#8) is a full-time sculptor – She uses Material, Scale & Abstraction to Explore the Human Female Body in Motion. She’s enthralled by the power and grace of the human body — and completely absorbed by the challenge of capturing that essence in a static sculpture. She says: As is obvious from my work, what drives me is the idea and not a medium or style. In fact, experimenting with material, scale, and form is what helps me in this exploration. Sculpture is completely integrated in my life. The studio takes up the entire first floor of my bungalow in historic Takoma Park, MD.

I work with the doors open and welcome the constant pedestrian traffic of neighbors. The lower and upper levels — award-winning, much-toured spaces — are light-filled, private havens with purpose-built indoor/outdoor spaces. These spaces are remnants of my previous design/remodeling practice which I ran for over 15 years. I think of my current focus on fine-art sculpture as Act 7.
My formal education formed a way of looking at and working within the world that has greatly influenced my art and design. Ph.D., Decision Analysis, The Rand Graduate School, Santa Monica, CA, 1983. B.A., Government, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 1974.

Artist’s statement: Based on the music of Shania Twain, this piece celebrates everyday superwomen. This work started with a 24” high wax model of the figure. The model was then digitized. The digital mesh file is then manipulated — scaled, clothing and hair added, abstracted, and sliced. The slats that compose the figure emphasize the motion of the figure. The fabrication includes use of a CNC machine — essentially a computerized router. The piece took approximately 8 weeks of full-time effort to produce. It is fully water-resistant. The wood is marine-grade Okoume Mahogany Plywood — wood that’s usually used for boat-building. All glues and screws are fully water resistant.
Kevin Curry (#9) Third Place Award, received his BFA in Graphic Design from the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan. After working as an Art Director in New York and Philadelphia, he started his own design & Illustration business before receiving his MFA in Sculpture from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois in 2008.
This floating baby sculpture simultaneously echoes sentiments of potential, safety, trust and support.

**LOST AND FOUND**

**SITE 9**

Kevin Curry  
*Lost and Found*, 2019  
Coroplast  
8’ x 4’ x 5’  
Tallahassee, FL

**THIRD PLACE AWARD**
SINUOSITY II

SITE 10

Susan Moffatt
Sinuosity II, 2020
Marble on granite base
5’2” x 2’2” x 2’4”
Chapel Hill, NC

After a professional career as an industrial designer with IBM, Susan Moffatt (#10) Second Place Award turned her creative energies to sculpting. It was a last-minute decision to accompany an artist friend to Carrara, Italy to study marble carving in 2005 that set her on a new path. She fell in love with marble’s beauty and mailability and is fascinated by the earth history that it reveals. Susan’s work has been widely shown and awarded in numerous public art exhibitions and resides in several private collections. Her work is widely recognized by its sensuous, organic forms in brilliant white marble.

This is the third time her work has been a finalist in the Rosen Sculpture Completion. She lives and works in Chapel Hill, NC.

SECOND PLACE AWARD
Susan says: “The driving impulse of my work is a desire to capture perishable organic forms in stone. Often we come across small details — an emerging bud, a piece of fluted coral, a seed pod that dried in a surprising way, the depths of a flower calyx — and find them exquisitely beautiful. I want to preserve these finds in a way that magnifies their beauty. My aim is to reduce the form to its bare essentials so that the work tends towards abstraction while retaining its organic quality.”
BEHIND THE SCENES
BEHIND THE SCENES
ROSEN WALK
Plan your entry for the next Rosen Sculpture competition. Using pencil and paper, start to sketch your ideas.

Remember, your sculpture will need to be sturdy enough to withstand the weather in Boone, NC for an entire year. You will want it to be safe as it is on display outdoors in a public location for many months!

What materials will you use?
How will you come up with your design?
What is the best location on campus for your sculpture?

Maybe you will be the newest artist to enter the competition next year!

Materials required:
- Pencil
- Paper
- Big imagination
The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts at Appalachian State University engages visitors from the university, community, nation and beyond in creating unique experiences through dynamic and accessible exhibition, education, outreach and collection programs. These programs inspire and support a lifelong engagement with the visual arts and create opportunities for participants to learn more about themselves and the world around them.