

# MARK YALE HARRIS

2005 newsletter



Mark Yale Harris, 2005

## HISTORY *behind the artist*

In the business world, Mark Yale Harris is known as one of the most successful and innovative hotel developers in the country. Harris embarked upon his auspicious business career in 1972 as Co-founder of Red Roof Inns. This endeavor resulted in over 300 hotels across the United States. Over a decade later, as Founder of AmeriSuites Hotels, Harris actualized a new concept - the first affordable suite accommodations in the nation. AmeriSuites has grown to include over 100 locations. Harris has also served in various organizations addressing development and urban growth, specifically the intelligent use of land and available resources. After 30 years as a successful businessman, Harris now pursues an altogether different path as a renowned artist throughout the country. Harris relocated to Santa Fe in 1999 to explore his lifetime passion for the visual arts. His sculpture has since been featured in several publications, museums, collections, and other prestigious venues nationwide. Currently Harris' sculpture is represented by eighteen galleries throughout the United States.

## ART *business*

The artistic passion that existed just beneath the surface of Harris' long established business persona eventually surfaced in tangible form. "Becoming an artist is like being reborn" says Harris, whose evolving body of work propels a career in art that rivals the success of his business pursuits.

Harris states, "The purpose of my artwork is to provoke a perceptual, internal, and intellectual response: a visual that speaks to life's experiences. To create symbols of universal connection and the relationship that one has with others and with nature."



Cavorting Kai, Colorado Yule Marble 13x17x10"

## STATEMENT *philosophy*

I enjoy the challenge of working with permanent and natural matter. Unlike other art mediums where one can add or delete, with stone, one can only delete.

The material often dictates to me the direction in which the design is supposed to head.

It is my belief that as we go through life we can only create from that which we have, or are given. We cannot replace what is lost or taken away, or that which we never had. The ability to interpret and create beauty from what we have is the challenge and the satisfaction I experience in creating my work.

As I move through the creative process of visualizing, drawing, or forming a maquette in clay, I utilize a sixth sense through my hands. I am able to draw upon the subconscious of my experiences and, in-turn, interpret gesture, form, energy, pleasure, and pain. Alternating between gesture and geometric form, depicting the contradiction we experience in nature, awakening in the viewer an appreciation of the duality in the world around us.

-Mark Yale Harris



The Way We Are, Portuguese Rose Marble 17x20x20"

"Mark is one of my heroes. At an age when most people would never make a change, he went and pursued a dream. He jumped off a cliff without a parachute, he landed on his feet with the wind at his back"

Craig Hester, CEO - Hester Capital Management  
Quote taken from:

"Mark Yale Harris, A Visionary's Way"  
*The Elegant Texan, Summer 2005*

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El Gallo De Lajitas, New Mexico Alabaster 27x12x22"

## CONTRIBUTIONS

### *donations*

Mark Harris has been a benefactor of many charitable initiatives throughout his life and changing careers. He is an ongoing patron of the Randall Davey Audubon Society in Santa Fe,



Got Away, Translucent Orange Alabaster 14x9x16"

New Mexico through the sale of his work permanently on exhibition there.

Harris contributed to Art for Life, Ohio, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to fund AIDS research and education.

The Buckaroo Ball in Santa Fe, New Mexico also lists Harris as a donor. Each year a new group of

charities are selected by this organization to receive the proceeds from their annual art auction and event.

In 2004, Harris was among an elite group asked to donate to the Artists Emergency Medical Fund at Riva Yares Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Bear Tango, Brenze30 22x20x19"

## MEMBERSHIPS

### *affiliations*

Recent affiliations include the Society of Animal Artists and the Wildlife Artists Association.

Long standing memberships continue with New Mexico Sculptors Guild - Vice Chair, International Sculpture Center, National Sculpture Society,



Pecos Red, Texas Red Sandstone 26x36x12"

Texas Society of Sculptors, Friends of Contemporary Art - Santa Fe Museum of Fine Arts and Austin Visual Artist's Association.

## TEXAS *spotlight*

Hudson's on the Bend in Austin is pleased to announce an exhibition of sculpture by Mark Yale Harris. A Texas boy at heart, Harris is enthusiastic about the placement of his work, he comments, "Fine art and fine food are one and the same. I am honored to be exhibiting alongside the exceptional works of painter Shanny Lott, currently gracing the walls of Hudson's on the Bend."



Bear Necessities, Utah Alabaster 21x12x9"

Harris was selected as a finalist for the City of Frisco, citywide monumental sculpture project.

The Thornwood Gallery in Houston features Harris as one of their established sculptors. And in San Angelo, a solo-exhibition is on the horizon at the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts.

# MARK YALE HARRIS



My Muse, Spanish Marquese Marble - 31x21x11"

## PRESS *in the news*

"For Mark Harris, natural stone is both his material of choice as well as a metaphor for life. 'I am personally chipping away at who I am and trying to get to the essence of my being.' His provocative figures are meant to resonate."

Virginia Campbell  
*Southwest Art*, July 2004



Got It, Bronze/30 - 22x16x14"

## THE YEAR *in review*

Over the past year, Harris has exhibited his work in a number of prestigious group exhibitions: SOFA New York; SOFA Chicago; Santa Fe Sculptors, Crossroads Contemporary Gallery - Santa Fe, NM; Santa Fe Artists Emergency Medical Fund Invitational, Riva Yares Gallery - Santa Fe, NM; Art For Life - Columbus, OH; US Bank Art on the Streets - Colorado Springs, CO; Chesterwood Museum - Stockbridge, MA.

Harris has also been selected for many juried exhibitions over the past twelve months, including: The Sea and The American West, both presented by the National Sculpture Society - New York, NY; 22nd Annual Sculpture in the Park - Loveland, CO; The Farmington Museum - Farmington, NM; Tri-State National - Beaumont, TX; Texas National - Nacogdoches, TX; The Terrain, Las Cruces Museum of Fine Art - Las Cruces, NM; Focus on the Figure, A New Leaf Gallery - Berkeley, CA; and the 2005 Annual Awards Exhibition, National Sculpture Society - New York, NY. Currently, Harris is working toward a solo-exhibition opening at Ohio State University, November 2006.



Mark Yale Harris in his Santa Fe studio, 2005

No stranger to the press throughout both his careers, Harris seems worthy of national coverage no matter what his endeavor. Find feature articles in *Southwest Art Magazine*, July 2005 and the *Elegant Texan Magazine*, Summer 2005. Harris has also recently been highlighted in the *Texas Society of Sculptors* publication - *The Third Dimension*, April 2005.

*Recent additional coverage includes:*  
*Art and Antiques*  
*Wildlife Art Magazine*  
*Austin American Statesman*  
*Guild Sourcebook of Architectural & Interior Art*  
*National Sculpture Society News*

*The Santa Fean*  
*The Columbus Dispatch*  
*Albuquerque Journal*

"He (Mark Yale Harris) is that rare breed of visionary, born with a keen perception and passion for beauty and elegance... Harris was born to be an artist, an explorer and discoverer. Like great artists for centuries before him, he can see the beauty of 'what can be,' in places where others see only what is. Mark Yale Harris is a sculptor extraordinaire."

Jane Gibson  
*The Elegant Texan*, Summer 2005



Recall, Bronze/8 - 46x33x42"

# MARK YALE HARRIS

*to be continued...*



Adrift, Limestone and Steel 12x7x22"



Orange Crush, Utah Orange Alabaster 22x29x7"



Looking for Something Not Known, Utah Alabaster 33x12.5x5"

THE STORY OF  
THE THREE BEARS KNOWN AS

**"NO WORRIES"**

AND INTRODUCING

**"LITTLE WORRIES"**

A whimsical bear, standing on his head; that was my original concept for No Worries. As the sculpture evolved it became apparent to me that this bear had a wonderfully warm personality, which produced various emotional responses when displayed in different positions.

No Worries was first carved from translucent Italian Alabaster, it was then cast in bronze using the lost wax process.

Because No Worries emotes so many responses depending on how it is



Little Worries, Bronze/80 7x4.75x2.5" each

displayed, I made the decision to cast it in bronze and to exhibit the bear, not singularly, but as a group of three. Three bears, three patinas, three different positions!

No Worries is an animated sculpture, which is meant to be played with. Celebrate the joys of life, the pleasures of contentment, and the humor in being foolish. No Worries serves as a reminder that nothing is that serious. These sculptures represent the revelry of happiness, silliness, childishness, and warmth.



No Worries, Bronze/40 14x9.5x5" each

No Worries covers a vast array of emotions, communications, and expressions.

- Reflective
- Embarrassed
- Playful
- Curious
- Happy
- Silly
- Content
- Dumb-founded
- Sleepy
- And more...



I invite collectors to play with No Worries daily. These



bears have the ability to transform the viewers' frame of mind through their lively presence. Poses may also be altered to reflect each bears' ever changing mood. No Worries will create

smiles and bring whoever collects one or all three, joy and happiness.

-Mark Yale Harris