

Lyle Sopel

Master sculptor Lyle Sopel is dedicated to the creation of fine art gemstone sculpture. His work is comprised of one of a kind masterpieces in jade and semi-precious gemstone, as well as limited edition pieces in bronze with stone embellishments.

Renowned for his museum caliber wildlife / abstract sculptures, Sopel has dedicated over thirty years of working and exploring the three dimensional form in stone.

The discipline of sculpting requires a vast knowledge of drawing, painting and the intuitive ability to visualize forms three dimensionally. Add to this the physical and creative challenges of sculpting hard stone and a sculptor could take nearly a lifetime to achieve proficiency in this field. Sopel's artistic journey has spanned over twenty five years as a master of sculpting in the jade medium. In 1987 National Geographic Magazine acclaimed "Lyle Sopel is among the best of the world's contemporary jade sculptors".

Today his work continues to reflect his affinity with nature, as well as his passion for the palette of colours and textures from rare and exotic minerals and gemstones. Incorporating rough and finished gemstones into his sculptures Sopel's intention as an artist is to try and interpret the magnificence, mystery, and the power of nature. Each piece that he creates is an expression of this artist's fascination with nature's theatre and the human like qualities that are subtle yet evident in wildlife creatures. Working in themes that depict essences of drama, whimsy, joy and lightheartedness, his works of art have been critiqued as sculpture that moves, has a spirit and actually seems alive.

Sopel's sculptures have been exhibited in group and one man shows through out Canada and the United States. His work is housed in the fine art collections of heads of state, art connoisseurs and royalty from around the globe. His passion to create has continued to build a solid cadre of ardent international fine art collectors.

ARTIST QUOTE: "I think of man and animal as having the same living spirit. I try to capture this feeling whenever I create a piece."

Born on December 29, 1951 in Richmond, BC. Nationality is Canadian

Education

Langara College

Exhibitions

2005 JOY, Canada House Gallery, Banff, AB

2004 Canada House Gallery, Banff, AB

1998 New York Art Exposition, New York, NY

1995 Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, Vancouver, BC

1993 Sage Brush Gallery, Sanibel Island, FL

1991 Lahaina Gallery, HI

1987 Jade of the Pacific, Southland Museum, New Zealand

1987 Commonwealth Conference, Royal Suite Exhibit, Panpacific Hotel, Vancouver, BC

1986 Discovery Canada, Canada Pavillion Expo, Vancouver, BC

1986 Expo '86, Canada Pavillion Public Exhibition, Vancouver, BC

Collections

**Hong Kong Bank of Canada
Genstar
IBM Canada
The Jim Pattison Group
Tech Corp of Canada
Royal Bank of Canada
Mining Association of British Columbia
Swiss Bank Corporation
TeckCominco - Grosvenor Americas Ltd
Duke and Duchess of Westminster
Prince Karim Aga Khan IV
United States President George Bush Sr.
United States President Bill Clinton
President Von Weizaecken of Germany
Prince Takamodo of Japan
Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden
His Royal Highness the Sultan of Johar
Southland Museum, New Zealand**

Awards

**Victor Scott Award for Visual Arts
Langara College Scholarship Arts Award**

Publications

**1987 "Jade: Stone of Heaven", National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C.
1988 "Discovery", Cathay Pacific Airways Publication, "Jade: Phantom Stone of Canada", Hong Kong
1991 "Jade", By Roger Kerverne and Peter Bridgewater, Anness Publishing Ltd., United Kingdom
2011 "Alluring Presence", published by Read Leaf**

Commissions

1992 Advisor to the Lord Abbot of Bangkok, Thailand for the world's largest sitting jade Buddha sculpture

Affiliations

**The American Artists Professional League
Sculptors Society of British Columbia
Western Wildlife Foundation
World Wildlife Association
Pacific Whale Foundation**

Lyle Sopel
Curriculum Vitae

COLLECTORS OF DISTINCTION

Former President of USA, George Bush Sr.
Duke & Duchess of Westminster, UK
Former President of Germany, Richard von Weizsäcker
Former Prime Minister of Sweden, Ingvar Carlsson
H.H. Sir Sultan Mohamed Shah Aga Khan III, Paris, France
Sultan of Brunei, Hassanal Bolkiah, London, UK
Commissioned works are also held in private, international collections.

NOTABLE COMMISSIONS

- 2015 Presentation gift, 20th Anniversary of Sister Province Relations, BC Ministry of International Trade, Guangdong Province, China**
- 2015 Jade Buddha Statue Head, Celebrity John Assaraf Private Collection, San Diego, CA**
- 2010 Jade Shri Chakra / Yantra, India Cultural Centre & Temple, Memphis, TN**
- 2008 Dept of Music Permanent Public Exhibition, University of North Texas, Dallas , TX**
- 2003 Largest Jade Buddha to be created in North America, Private Collection, Palm Springs, CA**
- 2000 Commemorative stamp design collaboration for 2001 Chinese New Year, Canada Post Corporation, Vancouver, BC**
- 1992 World's largest Jade Buddha, appointed as Sculpting Advisor, Bangkok, Thailand**

MEDIA

- 2016 Hawaii Public Radio interview, Lahaina, HI**
- 2015 LIVERight Gala, Canadian Liver Foundation, Vancouver, BC**
- 2014 Celebrity guest, BC Jade Day Inaugural Event, Victoria, BC**
- 2014 Invited guest, Faberge Symposium, St. Petersburg, Russia**
- 2014 Invited guest, Hermitage Museum Private Tour, St. Petersburg, Russia**

- 201 Attendee, Private Art Vault Presentation, Bank of Beijing, China
3
- 201 Gift presentation to Oprah Winfrey from the Mayor of Montreal, Montreal, QC
3
- 201 Honorary guest artist and speaker, Ferris State University, Grand Rapids, MI
3
- 201 Boardroom presentation, York House School, Vancouver, BC
3
- 201 First edition hard cover book launch, "Alluring Presence", by Dr. Ross King, Pablo Mandel,
2 Colette Gauthier, and Lyle Soper, Vancouver, BC
- 201 Invited guest , German Gemstone Museum, Idar-Oberstein, Germany
2
- 201 National Travel & Life Magazine Event, Vancouver, BC
2
- 200 Canuck Place Community Celebration, Vancouver, BC
9
- 198 Commonwealth Imperial Conference, Vancouver, BC
7

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 Lahaina Gallery, Healdsburg, CA
- 2014 Creations Gallery, Napa Valley, CA
- 2014-1 "Art of Aloha" Lahaina Gallery, Maui, HI
6
- 2014-1 Lahaina Gallery, Bend, OR
6
- 2014-1 Lahaina Gallery, Newport Beach, CA
6
- 2014 World Jade Symposium, Vancouver, BC
- 2013 Creations Gallery, Rosewood CordeValle Luxury Golf and Spa Resort, San Jose,
CA
- 2013 Lahaina Gallery, Healdsburg, CA
- 2013 Lahaina Gallery, Newport Beach, CA
- 2013-1 Lahaina Gallery, San Francisco, CA
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- 2013 Lahaina Gallery, Santa Cruz, CA
- 2012 Creations Gallery, Chicago, IL

2012-1 Creations Gallery, Victoria, BC
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2012 "Art of Aloha" Lahaina Gallery, Maui, HI

2012 Lahaina Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA

2010 Lahaina Gallery, Healdsburg, CA

2010 Olympic 2010 Collection, Izzard Gallery, West Vancouver, BC

2009 Amsterdam Whitney Gallery, New York, NY

2008 "Art of Aloha" Lahaina Gallery, Maui, HI

2007 Lahaina Gallery, Healdsburg, CA

2007-0 Lahaina Gallery, Newport Beach, CA
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2007-0 Lahaina Gallery, San Francisco, CA
8

2006-1 Lahaina Gallery, Bend, OR
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2005 Lahaina Gallery, Healdsburg, CA

2005 Lahaina Gallery, Newport Beach, CA

2004-1 Creations Gallery, Victoria, BC
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2003 Art of Man Gallery, Victoria, BC

2002 North Shore Arts Council, North Vancouver, BC

2001 Sopel Fine Arts Gallery, Vancouver, BC

2001 "Jade, the Ultimate Treasure of Ancient China", Vancouver Museum, Vancouver, BC

1998 New York Art Exposition, New York, NY

1995 Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, Vancouver, BC

1993 Sage Brush Gallery, San Sable Island, FL

1991 Lahaina Gallery, Maui, HI

1988 Canada Corporate Art Conference, Toronto, ON

1987 Southland Museum, Invercargill, NZ

1986 Expo '86 Exhibition, Canada Pavilion, Vancouver, BC

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2012 Terminal City Club, Vancouver, BC

2010 Creations Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

2003 Canada House Gallery, Banff, AB

- 2003 Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver,
BC
- 2000 Tilting at Windmills Gallery, Bonita Springs, FL
- 1994-9 Whistler Village Art Gallery, Whistler Resort, BC
9
- 1992-9 Brousseau & Brousseau, Quebec City, QC
8
- 1991-9 Art of Man Gallery, Lake Louise, AB & Victoria, BC
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CORPORATE COLLECTIONS

BC Ministry of Tourism
Carborundum
CIBC World Markets
Fortis BC
Grosvenor Americas
Genstar
IBM Corp.
The Jim Pattison Group
Ledingham McAllister
Mining Association of BC
Nikken of Japan
ProCura Real Estate Services Ltd.
Royal Bank of Canada
Swiss Bank Corporation
Teck Resources Ltd.
Vancouver Board of Trade