

Scott A. Malinsky

Sculptor and Poet

Influence in art and poetry began early for Scott. His mother, a high school art teacher, started handing him a paper and pencil in an attempt to keep him quiet in church as a young boy. She practiced her art lessons on him. His father, the high school superintendent, was a weekend wood worker whose mother lived with the family. His grandmother played an influential role in Scott's love of nature and language. She read poetry to him and taught him word games.

In 1977, an elderly Nez Perce woman read his palm and analyzed his handwriting. She predicted success in something he had never done, sculpture. There, in the Wallowa Valley of Oregon, in the town named for Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce, Scott began to sculpt. He started with a chain saw and 25 years later he was working in bronze.

As a young sculptor, he would try to “push” the wood to conform to his vision. Over time, he learned to listen to the wood, feel the spirit and ask what it would become. Solitary experimentation has yielded a unique style, unusual techniques and harmony with the wood. The result is a significant contribution to wood sculpture, including his extraordinary bronze creations. His bronze molds are pulled from wood originals, capturing the grain of the wood and challenging traditional foundry expertise.

In 1995, he undertook another creative journey as he began the construction of an exceptional Native American earth lodge on 157 acres adjacent to Mesa Verde. Northern Plains tribes such as the Hidatsa, Mandan and Arikara built these practical, earth-friendly homes long before contact with Europeans.

Santa Barbara (California) Middle School commissioned the creation of an entry piece (an amazing, spiritual sculpture based on their traditional ash ceremony). In 1997, Scott spent several weeks at the school helping the kids design and carve their own totem pole. Over 100 kids, teachers and parents visited the earth lodge in Colorado. Scott agreed to sell his collection of sculptures wholesale at a highly successful fund-raiser for the school.

In his long career, Scott's sculptures have been shown and collected across the country, from Seattle, WA, to Eagle River, WI, Palm Desert, CA, to West Palm Beach, FL. The Fred Harmon Museum in Pagosa Springs, CO, commissioned him to do Red Ryder and Little Beaver larger than life. His art has been displayed in galleries in Santa Fe and Taos (New Mexico), Scottsdale and Sedona (Arizona), Durango, Telluride and Steamboat Springs (Colorado), as well as Branson, Missouri, and Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Scott's B.S. degree in Recreation and Park Administration has afforded many wonderful experiences in beautiful places, from Black Butte Ranch in the Cascades of Oregon to Dogwood Canyon in the Ozarks, from Hunter Creek Ranch at the base of Zane Grey's Mogollon Rim to Louis L'Amour's Shalako Ranch in the La Platas of Southwest Colorado. His experiences range from the design, construction and management of facilities and wild life habitat to the education of interns and kids of all ages.

In 2000, Scott was invited to join the prestigious Santa Fe Live Poet Society where he has made regular contributions. He is currently putting together a collection of his poetry for publication.