

Christopher Erney

Sculptor

My artwork is nature-centric, which means I find artistic inspiration all around me: from the moment the sunrise reveals silhouettes outside my window each morning, the plants, creatures and clouds I see throughout the day, to the amazing sunset sky as I drive home. These sights have always sparked an intense fascination of the beauty around me which I seek to bring into my artwork and designs on every project.

During creative studio work, I strive to highlight for the viewer details, emotions, a point of view, or contrast they may normally overlook. When working for clients, I act as a translator of sorts, artistically transforming words into three dimensions. During this process, I gather the client's ideas, undefined concepts and emotions, then craft them into crisply designed art that goes well beyond what they expected.

Projects and Commissions (partial list)

- 2023** **Mars, Incorporated**, McLean, VA
"Our Journey Together", Portrait of Frank Mars, Chairman of the Board, Bronze patina over resin and stainless steel, mounted on walnut base, 13" H x 8" W x 14" L
- 2023** **GWMNM, National Memorial**, Alexandria, VA
"Portrait Of George Seghers", Clay into Marble, 29"Hx24"Wx14"D
- 2022** **2022 Defense Intelligence Agency**, Alexandria, VA
"Hidden in Plain Sight", Stainless steel panels, 13'H x 6'W
- 2022** **Legal Seafood**, Boston, MA
"Coral Reef", Stainless steel, 30" H x 72" W x 19" D
- 2022** **Vizcaya Gardens**, Miami, FL
"Dragonfly", Stainless steel with waxed colors, 5' W x 4' H x 6" D
- 2021** **Canadian Embassy**, Washington, DC
"National Crest of Canada", 3 aluminum medallions, 12" Dia.
- 2020** **American Legion**, Alexandria, VA
"American Legion Post 24", Stainless steel display 72" W x 34" H
- 2019** **Army Navy Country Club**, Arrington, VA
"Fort Richardson", Bronze sculptural relief, 3' W x 3' H x 3" D

Contact

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Skills

Hand Sculpting in Terra-cotta,
Plastelina, Epoxy Clay, Paper



Excellent

Mold-making in Gelatin, and
Silicone or Polymer Rubber



Excellent

Casting in Plasters, Resins, and
Bronze



Excellent

Patinas using Acid, Acrylic
Glazes, Heat



Excellent

Drawing



Excellent

- 2018** **Research Row Group**, *Rockville, MD*
 "Watch This!", Three life-sized stainless steel figures, 5.5' H x 14' W
- 2016-2017** **Indigo Hotel Group**, *Alexandria, VA*
 "Potomac Harvest", Bronze heroic-sized figure, 10' H
- 2016** **Holy Cross Hospital**, *Bethesda, MD*
 "Sea, Stream, And Sun", Three stainless steel/painted panels, 5' H x 11' W
- 2015** **Hilton Incorporated**, *Alexandria, VA*
 "The Acrobat", Stainless steel figure balanced on bronze sphere, 12'4"H
- 2014** **Walter Reed Naval Hospital**, *Bethesda, MD*
 "Nature", Stainless steel on painted panels, three 40" x 40"
- 2014** **The New Franciscan Church**, *Centreville, VA*
 "Gabriel", Bronze life-size St. Bernard, 40" H
- 2013** **GWMNM, National Memorial**, *Alexandria, VA*
 "State Seal Medallions", Completed 33 medallions: designed, sculpted, and cast, and bronze patinaed, 12" Dia.
- 2013** **Arlington County Parks & Rec. Dept.**, *Arlington, VA*
 "Fort Ethan Allen", Bronze relief, 3' H x 3' W x 3" D
- 2013** **United States Air Force**, *Arlington, VA*
 "William A. Davidson", *The Pentagon*, Bronze relief, 14" H
- 2013** **The Pentagon Facilities**, *Arlington, VA*
 "Doc Cooke", Bronze memorial plaque, 24" W x 30" H
- 2013** **The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association**, *Mt Vernon, VA*
 "Ann Cunningham Medal", Bronze portrait, 12" Dia.

General Construction in a variety of materials



Creativity



Problem Solving



Project Management



Carving of Wood, Plaster, and Limestone



Tig Welding



Hot metal shaping



CNC, Laser, Waterjet and Plasma Cutting



Digital Illustration



Painting (acrylics)



Professional Awards, Achievements, Press (partial list)

- 2023** **Torpedo Bike Made it's 33rd Appearance**
 Appeared in local Parades, Art Festivals, and Holiday Events. Alexandria, VA
- 2021** **Restored 8 Bronze Sculptures**
 Valued at over \$1.5 million sculpted by Ivan Schwartz. National Harbor, MD
- 2020** **American Legion 2020 Citizen Appreciation Award**
 For donation and volunteer work to improve AL Lodge Facilities Alexandria, VA

- 2020** **Elan Magazine Featured Article**
 "Steel Creations" 4-Page Spread Featured Interview in January 2020 Edition.
- 2018** **TV News Program DC NEWS 4**
 DC NEWS 4's Molette Green interviewed Chris Erney and rode the Torpedo Bike on TV Show, Neighborhoods, featuring Alexandria's waterfront: DC/VA/MD
- 2017-2016** **Indigo Hotel Commission Bronze Sculpture**
 "Potomac Harvest" Celebrates the history and culture of the Potomac waterfront. The first of new waterfront sculptures in Alexandria. Bronze 10' H, Alexandria, VA
- 2016** **Juror for "Navy Combat Art" Program**
 Selected as juror for "Navy Combat Art" Program. It was an honor to be a part of this program and opened my eyes to the impact of creating art as a pathway for coping with PTSD. Fairfax, VA
- 2015-2014** **President, Torpedo Factory Artist Association**
 Elected President of the Torpedo Factory Artists Association (TFAA) for two-year term. Alexandria, VA
- 2015** **Howard University Sculpture Program Outreach & Critique**
 As President of the TFAA, I visited Howard to recruit students to apply for studio space at the Torpedo Factory Art Center (TFAC). Participated in Senior Sculpture Critique with HU Faculty. Washington, D.C.
- 2015** **Conducted Diversity Roundtable**
 Organized and participated in a multi-racial gathering of local artists to discuss current perceptions of the TFAC and Alexandria in general, generating ideas for increasing the racial and cultural diversity of the TFAC's artist population. Alexandria, VA
- 2014** **TFAC Open House 400% Attendance Increase**
 Planned, organized, advertised, and supervised the annual holiday event. Increased guest attendance event by 400% over previous years; over 5,000 guests attended. Alexandria, VA
- 2014** **Donated Art Bike**
 Built and donated "Terminal Velocity" Art Bike to the Terminal Velocity Bike Co-Op in efforts to increase their community engagement and visibility. Alexandria, VA
- 2014** **Alexandria Art Grant Recipient "Torpedo Bike"**
 Built three wheeled recumbent "Torpedo Bike" inspired by the torpedoes originally made at the Torpedo Factory circa 1920-1950 for advertisement in parades and events, increasing public awareness, curiosity, and visibility of the Art Center. Alexandria, VA
- 2013** **Jefferson Houston School for the Arts Outreach**
 Led discussion with diverse population of Title One students on the life of a professional artist, strategies for achievement, available opportunities and children's programming at the TFAC.
- 2012-2011** **Public Art Finalist**
 Finalist for "Charles H. Houston Civil Rights Memorial. Selected as top 3 finalist out of 61 national artist teams, Alexandria, VA. (Memorial was never built due to insufficient funds.)
- 2010** **American Style Magazine**
 "Celebrating Art" Photo montage of sculpture work February 2010 Edition.
- 2008** **Washington Business Journal Arts Section**
 "On Washington's Birthday A Present for Alexandria" article about completing the longest realistic mural (1,200 feet) in the United States. February Edition 2008.

- 2008** **DC City Paper Arts Section**
 "What's your Problem? Helping DC's Art Scene Talk through Problems" article documents challenges of working on a large-scale project, while managing criticism. February 8, 2008
- 2008** **Featured Speaker at The International Artist's SALON**
 Presented on the experience and challenges of painting the longest history mural in the United States. Aarhus, Denmark
- 2007** **Washington Post Arts Section**
 "Founding Father as Functional Art" article about completing the longest realistic mural (1,200 feet) in the United States. February 8, 2007 Edition.
- 2006** **Elan Magazine Feature Article**
 "Of Heart and Mind" 4 Pages, Interview about Chris' journey to become a sculptor in November 2006 Edition.
- 2006** **Sculpture Instructor at The Escher in the Palace Museum**
 Taught Life Casting at The Escher in the Palace Museum. Cast over 100 faces. The Haag, Netherlands
- 2006** **Sculpture Instructor at NIMETO Design School**
 Visiting Sculpture Instructor at the NIMETO Design school. Taught students how to make life-cast molds and cast body parts. Utrecht, Netherlands
- 2004** **Sculpture Instructor at The International Artist's SALON**
 Special sculpture instructor for the "International Artists Salon" in Netherlands. Den Haag, Netherlands
- 2004** **Sculpture Exhibitor at the U.S. National Capitol Historic Society**
 Participated in the "Freedom" Show, sponsored by the United States National Capitol Historic Society. Bronze 1/13 scale replica of the statue of "Freedom." Washington, DC
- 2003-2002** **Sculpted U.S. Olympic Trophy, the Statue of Freedom**
 Hired by the National Trust Foundry for the United States Olympic Committee. Trophy is currently on display at U.S. Olympic Committee Headquarters, Colorado Springs, CO

Education

The Masters of Washington's National Cathedral

Stone Carving with The Washington National Cathedral Masters - Manassas, VA

Tailored Instruction: 1:3 student to instructor ratio.

Purpose: Intense stone carving lessons with "Master Carvers" of The Washington National Cathedral in Washington, DC. Course was designed to preserve the skills of stone carving for future generations.

Bachelor of Science: Industrial Design

The University of The Arts - Philadelphia, PA

Senior Thesis: Designing Medical Products, Advised by Design Team at DuPont Medical Products

Project 1: Designed Autonomous Heterogeneous Blood Analyzer.

Project 2: Developed Motorized, Stand-Up Wheelchair, Featured in Italia's Cup, Annual Italian Design Competition.