

HUNTER-WOLFF GALLERY

ART COLLECTOR MONTHLY December 2023

December 2023 Insider News

Hunter-Wolff Gallery
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Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays

Where did the year go? Here we are planning for gift-giving holidays and we take this moment to count our blessings! We are thankful for each and every one of you, our loyal followers for supporting Hunter-Wolff Gallery's fine artists in 2023.

Among this year's many blessings, we are especially thankful for the opportunities that allowed us to forge new friendships and introduce new artists like [Ed McKay](#), [Hulet Glass](#), [Karen Storm](#), [Victor Chiarizia](#), [Allen Voss](#), [Mark & Rebecca Harry](#), and [Cormac Robinson](#). We hope that you learned more about art with our help as we got to know you better too. The gallery and its artists appreciate your spending time with us selecting fine art and sharing with friends and family your experience at Hunter-Wolff Gallery.

Like Santa, we can help you place special gifts under your tree and fill your Christmas stockings with affordable original art. So, before the snow starts blowing and panic sets in, stop by or call to learn why everyone on staff is excited about this year's holiday offerings. We are here 7 days a week and ready to help. Remember, early holiday shopping means you get first pick!

Start enjoying art by visiting our [website](#), [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/hunterwolffgallery) and [Instagram](#). If you picked up one of our hard copy newsletters previously, be sure to sign up for our monthly Insider Newsletter. We want you to be one of our Insider readers and learn about the joy of art.



Maria Battista

Artist
Spotlight

Meet one of the finest sculptors and jewelry fabricators I know, [Maria Battista](#). Maria says that her art is her “sanity, my service, and my psychological and spiritual practice. It is also true that I make art for the simple, gritty joy of handling the elements of the earth.”

Possibly, having grown up on the east coast as a child play-sculpting on the beach had something to do with the way she feels about these elements. Today, living in Colorado, she makes art out of the substance of mountains where she lives. She says she loves to be covered in stone dust, metal, and clay. So, both the esoteric and the elemental drive her creative activity.

When she was only 17, she was selected to install her first public work, a metal and stone sculpture in the new high school where she graduated. An abstract aquatic form depicting bodies, water, and earth merging in movement presaged many characteristics of her adult work. Fitting for a woman who was to later name herself “Battista” (baptist). Water is her temperamental element, but earth the ground from which she now creates.

Academic training in fine art (B.A. Rutgers, M.A. Kansas University) honed her natural propensity to dwell in the symbolic. After formal education, Maria was trained as a sculptor in Tuscany and Umbria, Italy, in Denver with renowned stone carver Madeline Weiner, and most recently with master figurative sculptor Valentin Okorokov of Russia.

Though it is still suspect in today's art market, Maria works with the body as subject matter because it is the sacred form to which we can all relate as physical beings. She does not distort or disintegrate the body as do many modern representational artists. Maria explains that she fears that this may reflect and perpetuate our tendency in this age to fragment reality, to become desensitized to violence, and to forget our basic empathy for the fragile body of the world. The human being is soft. She seeks to portray this with respect for our shared vulnerability, our universal emotional experience, and our innate need for relationship.

Many do not think of art as a business but it is, and Maria named her business Études, which refers to a life of studies (of music, art, and reality). Her influences are many and she lists those most important as 1) her mother who painted; 2) her father who was fond of saying that mathematics could explain everything! (the golden proportion and the Pythagorean triangle found throughout nature come close); 3) Taoism, whose notion of a mutually arising unified field, inseparable from ourselves, teaches patience about the source and rigors of creative production; 4) Jungian thought, which considers art to be “a beneficial complex” aiding the transcendent function of the individual and of the collective psyche; and 5) the old masters whose virtuosity and timeless achievement feed us all.

Maria works tirelessly full-time as a goldsmith and sculptor in Colorado Springs where she enjoys life with her partner Steve in the alpine desert land that sustains and inspires us. Join us Friday evening, December 1 from 5-8 pm when Hunter-Wolff Gallery officially unveils [Maria's latest works of art](#).



Big Hits on the LeaderBoard



There isn't a more joyous time of the year at the gallery, when we get to visit with you and learn about your family and the art surprises you plan for the holidays. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! A special thanks to: Robert D for selecting a Steve Coleman kaleidoscope; anonymous for buying a special Scott Huebner burl maple/resin globe; Lee P for selecting two Adam Long clay/wood sculptures; Vidula B for adding another Allen Voss painting to her collection; Cindy O for purchasing an Allen Voss painting; Terry D for adding a watercolor to her home by Lorraine Watry; Simon L for having us mail an extraordinary pair of earrings by Maria Battista; Troy B for his Clifford Bailey layaway; Robin W for selecting a Steve Coleman kaleidoscope for a gift; Pat M for commissioning a Scott Huebner charcuterie; anonymous for purchasing a Scott Huebner burl maple/resin globe; Nancy D for selecting a Victor Chiarizia blown glass vase; Michele E for selecting a Dennis DeBon glass Energy Web as a gift; anonymous for buying a George Bodde fall painting; Michelle for purchasing a special gift painted by Clifford T. Bailey; Amparo R for purchasing 3 Adam Long wall sculptures; Anna Maria R for selecting 2 Cheri Isgreen clay horse sculptures; Patti G for adding to her already large order by Tony Heslop; Bobby R for letting us know how pleased he is with his John Sherman commissioned painting, and the other 170 people who visited and took special one-of-a-kind art home with them or asked for shipping. We appreciate you and look forward to your next visit. Happy Holidays!

SAVE THE DATE

December Schedule: Open Daily

Friday, December 1 ARTWALK
5 pm to 8 pm
Featuring Maria Battista

**Voting Starts Friday,
December 1
For
Best of the Springs**



**Vote for Hunter-Wolff
Gallery as Best Gallery and
Best Commercial Gallery**

VOTING from
December 1 – January 14

<https://thebestofthesprings.com/voting-home/>

Ethically Sourced Redwood

Where do Hunter-Wolff Gallery redwood tables come from? In the late 1800's and early 1900's when the majority of the largest grand redwoods were harvested, loggers worked standing on spring boards sometimes 10 to 15 feet from the ground level. This was done because the mills only wanted straight-grained redwood. The base of the trees had too much curly grain and burl to be structurally sound for cutting lumber for building. Today, crews are salvaging these valuable stumps dating back more than hundred years from previously logged areas to be milled for a variety of products, like the beautiful slabs topping our one-of-a-kind tables created in Colorado by Jerry Wedekind.



Give the Gift of Art



Less Than \$50

1. Cormac Robinson Wood/Resin Turned Pens
2. Donna Gordon blown glass paper weights
3. Tony Heslop functional pottery
4. Hulet Glass Sweet Confections
5. Dottie Boscamp hand-blown ornaments
6. Kerry Brooks coasters embellished with Crackled Glass



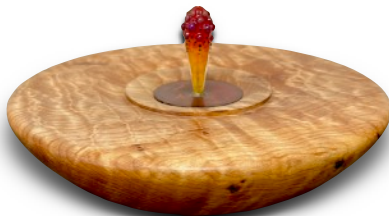
From \$50-\$100

1. Jewelry by Maria Battista, Diane Calkins, Elaine Coyne and Polish Amber
2. Fred Lunger miniature bronze
3. Donna Gordon blown glass
4. Tony Heslop raku pottery
5. Joseph Thomas Stone Plaque photography



From \$100-\$300

1. Paintings by a variety of artists, including George Bodde, Julie Kirkland, and Marlene Kort, Karen Storm, Ed McKay
2. Scott Huebner burl wood and resin spheres
3. Elaine Coyne Jewelry
4. Bob Smith Raku Pottery
5. Mark Harry turned wood vessels
6. Steve Coleman Kaleidoscope's



...when the budget allows a lot of giving!

1. Victor Chiarizia Blown Glass Vessels
2. Jerry Wedekind turned aspen burl vessels
3. Cheri Isgreen clay sculptures
4. Mark Harry Woodturnings
5. Paintings by Hunter-Wolff Gallery's dozen artists
6. Karen Pierce-Marc Jenesel raku glow pots
7. Dennis DeBon Glass Energy Webs





MORE HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS



Still Life
Justin Clements



Glass Energy Web
Dennis DeBon



Jewelry
Polish Amber



Hulet Glass
Sweet Confections



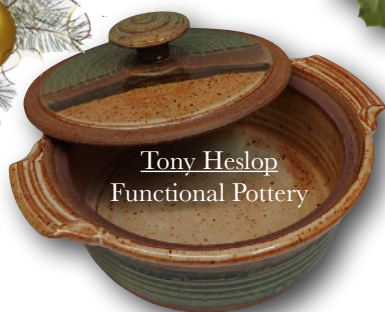
Jerry Wedekind
Aspen Burl Vessels



Ed McKay
Oil Paintings



Lorraine Watry
Watercolors



Tony Heslop
Functional Pottery

