

MUSEINGS

January - February 2008

Here's news from Kevin Caron. Feel free to forward this email newsletter to your friends and other art lovers. If you don't want to receive these emails, unsubscribe instructions are below. But read on, and maybe you'll change your mind....

■ [What's New?](#)

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WHAT'S NEW?

Three new commissions - including a large public piece ... new pieces featured on the updated site ... and a striking new tool are all part of this issue.

On the Boards

The new year has gotten off to a grand start for Kevin. After completing the "top secret" piece [Vignette](#) (more on that in a moment), Kevin received three commissions in January.

One was awarded by the city of Chandler, Arizona, to **create a piece for the new \$12.6 million [Tumbleweed Recreation Center](#)**. The Chandler arts committee has selected a location just inside the front entrance for the work. "I'm gratified to create a truly special piece for the center and the people of Chandler," says Kevin. He's currently working on some designs, one of which will then be approved by the Chandler arts committee and the Chandler city council before creation.



*The new \$12.6 million
Chandler Tumbleweed
Recreation Center Hall*



*Rendering for the
kinetic sculpture
[Isadora](#)*

The second commission is a **charming piece dubbed Isadora**, also known as "the Dancing Lady," for the Ring family of Scottsdale. Named after the woman whom some call the mother of modern dance, Isadora is a kinetic piece that will be "dressed" in bright powder-coated colors. See the beginnings of Ms. Isadora on the [In the Works page](#).

The third commission is **a fountain called RainHarp**. Jim and Karen Onken of Phoenix, Arizona, wanted something to make their dining room courtyard more interesting and intimate, and RainHarp fits that bill! Kevin is looking forward to getting started on it soon.

One other commission is already completed, but couldn't be mentioned until after its new owner learned about it. Friends and family members got together to give someone who has everything a truly special gift for a big birthday. The result is the piece [Vignette](#), which awaits final installation in the Paradise Valley, Arizona, back yard of owner Leah Hoffman once the yard has been renovated.

And there's no forgetting the [Mighty Owl Oak](#), the piece Kevin created with the students of Litchfield Park Elementary School. The tree, with its 1,000 copper leaves, got installed over the winter holiday, and according to Lisa Pavlet, the project coordinator, the students, teachers, staff and parents were entranced when they returned in January. Read more about the reaction on the page dedicated to the [Mighty Owl Oak](#).



*The [Mighty Owl Oak](#),
installed at Litchfield Park
Elementary School*

Back at the Site ...

Speaking of Kevin's Web site, it has several new pieces on it as well as photos and information about what he's working on now. New sections for Architectural Details and Nature have been added, too.

It's all part of a major site overhaul planned for this year that will display information better and make it easier to update the site. That allows Kevin to spend more time in the studio, which is always good! As usual, when the new site is ready, you'll be the first to know about it.

Sharing Sculpting

Kevin hosted the **Arizona Artists Guild Sculpture Group** at his studio on the evening of Tuesday, January 29, to talk about what he does and how he does it. "Every artist does some things differently," observes Kevin. "So it's helpful for us to share our approaches with each other." Kevin talked about the piece Möbius, everything from how the commission came about to actually creating the sculpture.

Once again, Kevin and his lovely assistant, Mary, also had the pleasure of speaking to students in the **Arizona State University Design Rhetoric course**. Instructor Jim Veihdeffer helps his students focus on the presentation side of a creative life. He likes having his students hear from a real, working artist on what life is like and how presentation skills make a difference in it.

WHAT'S THAT?

So often, people see something in Kevin's arsenal and say - well, you know. "What's That?" focuses on a subject that is dear to many peoples' hearts: tools.

Striking Steel

Once again, the creation of [Möbius](#) (which you can see standing up on the [In the Works page](#)) sent Kevin in search of tools that could help him achieve the look he wanted.

Part of the challenge has been the need to stretch the metal in some areas and shrink it in others. "The slapper, English wheel and various shaping hammers helped me get the gross curves I wanted, but they left marks," says Kevin.

When he saw that Harbor Freight had a sale on **planishing hammers**, he quickly decided to give one a try.

This airpowered metalworking tool is used for smoothing sheet metal, but Kevin has also found that it can do some shaping. (Someday he may also invest in an air hammer, a similar yet more robust tool intended for shaping.)

Kevin simply hooks up the hammer to the air compressor for power, and uses the foot pedal to control it.

"I was thrilled with the way the planishing hammer took out the



*A planishing
hammer*

grooves and bumps that the shaping tools had caused," Kevin says. "The only real downside is that it is so loud, it could wake the dead."

To learn more about [the planishing hammer, click here](#).

If you'd like to know more about a specific tool, let us know - we might have an answer. Email us at info@kevincaron.com

WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS?

If you've been looking for a way to make life more joyful and peaceful for yourself or a friend, a sculpture, fountain or garden bell might just be the answer. Besides, you have an "in" - you know the artist! And it's easy: just email us at info@kevincaron.com or call 602-952-8767.

Mention this newsletter for a complimentary visit to your home or office by Kevin, for free insights on how to create a space that fulfills your dreams.

For more frequent news, sights and sounds, keep an eye on Kevin's Web site at www.kevincaron.com, which we update often.

If you enjoyed this issue of MUSEINGS, or you know someone who is looking for a special piece for home, work or as a gift for that person who has everything, please forward it to your lucky friend!

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