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NEWS FROM ARTIST KEVIN CARON

MUSEINGS

July - August 2009

Here's news from Kevin Caron. Feel free to forward this email newsletter to your friends and other art lovers.

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WHAT'S NEW?

In this issue, you'll read about Kevin's Excellent Adventure, an upcoming solo show, Kevin in print, what's going on in the studio and how Kevin keeps his cool. Read on!

Finding Inspiration on an Excellent Cross-Country Adventure

Sometimes you have to get some distance to see something clearly. That's just what Kevin did for three weeks at the end of June and beginning of July, taking a **7,600-mile motorcycle trip** through 18 states and two countries.

"A lot of my inspiration comes from nature," Kevin explains. "Riding on my motorcycle not only lets me get out into the countryside, it also allows me to puzzle things through in the back of my mind while the front of my mind is watching the road. I began doing this while driving an 18-wheeler, and somehow it works for me."



Kevin took this shot of a dish and a mover at the Very Large Array

You can [see stills from Kevin's trip](#) - in which he visited the DIA Beacon museum and Storm King Art Center's amazing sculptures in New York, Niagara Falls (mecca for a guy who makes fountains) in New York and Canada, Mt. Rushmore and Crazy Horse in South Dakota, as well as a nascent Cape Cod art, science and education center - in the [Photo Gallery](#).

[Two videos](#) from the trip are already available, and more are coming soon. You can also [see a beautiful "tintype"](#) by photographer [Bill Westheimer](#). Westheimer made the collodion print on aluminum when Kevin visited his studio in New Jersey.

"It was an incredible trip," Kevin says. "I'm ready to take another soon!"

Time for 'Free Play'

What the heck - use a crayon to mark **Thursday, October 15** and **Saturday, October 17** on your calendar. Those are the receptions for **"Free Play,"**

Kevin's upcoming show. "I have a lot of fun creating my work," Kevin says. "And I love to see people smile or laugh when they look at and play with it."

You can do just that at the opening ArtWalk reception on Thursday evening and two days later on Saturday. Of course, Kevin is attending both receptions and will be unveiling some new pieces. Come and join us for hors d'oeuvres, wine and a great cause -10% of all proceeds from the entire show, running through November 7, will be donated to Free Arts of Arizona.



Free Arts of Arizona helps abused, homeless and at-risk children

Free Arts of Arizona is a nonprofit organization that sparks the creative spirit of abused, homeless and at-risk children through the power of artistic expression. Since 1993, Free Arts has touched the lives of nearly 60,000 children living in more than 100 group homes, residential treatment centers and shelters in Maricopa County. The organization helps children express emotions through the creative arts. Free Arts ambassadors will be at both receptions to answer any questions you might have. To learn more now, please visit www.freeartsaz.org or call 602-258-8100.

Of course, you'll be hearing more about the show, which will be held at Pearson & Company in Scottsdale, but get out that glitter pen and **mark your calendar now** for the **Thursday night event, October 15, or the Saturday, October 17, daytime event.** For more information, contact us at info@kevincar.com 602-952-8767.

In the Press: Going Underground

Kevin's comments about simplicity and creativity and a photo of his piece the [Genome Project](#) are slated for the next issue of the [Underground Art School Magazine](#). "Your work is OUTSTANDING!" said publisher Racheal Anilyse in her acceptance letter. *Underground Art School* is a quarterly print and PDF magazine devoted to advocating the work of art students, graduates, and creative professionals.

In the Studio: The Genome Project Swings Away, After Escher and Crowned Begin to Take Shape

Kevin's latest kinetic piece, the [Genome Project](#), came together beautifully. "I love the shadows it casts as it rotates," Kevin observes. You can [see the sculpture "dance" with its shadow](#) in one of Kevin's latest videos.

Kevin is now working on two other sculptures. "I usually like to work on more than one piece at a time," he explains. "That way I can let something percolate in my mind on one piece while I work on another." Both of the current pieces have working titles, which only sometimes end up as their official moniker.

Inspired by the Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher, [After Escher](#) is a bit of a departure for Kevin. The grid shaped into a [möbius strip](#) has been a true challenge. He created a jig to assemble the 2" and 6" pieces that make up the grid.

You can see him twisting the piece using his slip roll in his **latest video** - [check it out in the Videos section by clicking here.](#)



After Escher's grid

Crowned takes the ball-and-pipe construction Kevin used for Genome Project in another direction. You can see both pieces in the [In the Works](#) section of the Web site.

WHAT'S THAT?

Usually we focus on some of the cool tools that Kevin uses in his work, but in this issue, we're covering something truly cool

Hi, Ho Silver!

When you have an outdoor studio, wear long pants and steel-toed boots, and work with fire where summer temperatures regularly top 110 degrees, heat is an issue. Kevin uses a large, portable "swamp cooler" (in which a fan blows over moving water), but, of course, you can't have a breeze aimed on you when you're welding.

This year, Kevin began investigating ways to keep the studio at least a little cooler. He focused on the high ceiling in the main work area, looking for ways to keep the heat from coming through the roof. After considering blanket insulation and Styrofoam panels, he began looking into **radiant barriers**.



Radiant barriers, which reflect the heat back through the roof, come as small reflective chips, reflective foil (much like the space blankets that became popular in the 1960s) and radiant-barrier paint.

The chips, which are usually blown into an attic, were impractical for Kevin's open-roofed studio. The barrier was intriguing, but more expensive than the paint, especially when a vendor made Kevin an offer he couldn't refuse. "He offered to apply the paint for 10% over cost, then install the foil at cost if I wasn't happy," Kevin says.

In June, the insulation company came in and, well, painted the ceiling silver. "It just looks like paint," Kevin admits. This paint, though, has reflective material in it.

And when Kevin got out his temperature gun, which he usually uses for checking the surface temperature of a sculpture before applying a finish, and "shot" the ceiling where the paint had been applied, then compared it to an unpainted section, the temperature differential was fifteen degrees.

"That doesn't sound like much, but when it drops the temperature under 100 degrees, it's noticeable," Kevin says. The question is whether it's cool enough, but Kevin says he'll give the radiant-barrier paint a try. "We certainly have enough summer left to give it a good test."

If you'd like to know more about a specific tool or process, let us know. Email us at info@kevincaron.com

WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS?

Looking for a way to **make life more joyful and peaceful** for yourself or a friend who seems to have everything? 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.

Kevin is glad to provide a free consultation about your needs or, if you prefer, you are welcome to visit his Phoenix studio. Just email info@kevincaron.com or call 602-952-8767 - we'd love to see you!

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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