

Renee Rouillier

The forms of my sculpture are often figurative or abstract figurative incorporating influences from the natural world. References are drawn from past and present tribal cultures; cultures innately aware of the inter-relatedness of all life forms with their surroundings. Tribal art and artifacts, whether functional, ceremonial, or decorative, possess an unrivaled pureness that greatly affects my art.

We live in a culture of extremes: crime engulfs us; wealth and fame are sought, yet poverty prevails; life falls into a pyramid of importance; immediacy of accessibility is of prime concern, yet easily discarded; relationships are abundant, yet loneliness is all encompassing. The rapid advancement of technology has provided our society with immense benefits and luxuries, but there has been a price to pay. The more persistent personal and social distancing become, the more disconnected we become from our internal selves, others, and our surroundings.

The intent of my art is to address issues of contemporary society. Issues have included birth and death, transitions, individual and societal choices, accountability, human frailties and spirituality. My current body of work centers on two seemingly different, but connected veins of thought. One is society's quest for physical perfection and ideal beauty through the use of plastic surgery, which I view as contemporary body scarification and personal entrapment. The other is communication, how a slight movement or an angle of the head can elicit a feeling or convey a message.

It is vital that my work goes beyond appearance. Even though craftsmanship is of utmost concern, the most important factor of my art is to initially attract the viewer, prompting a question or disquieting concern. I want my art to elicit an unease, an emergence of old beliefs that need evaluation, a connection with issues that may be difficult but need addressing, or a new awareness.

Information On Images

- 1. *Close Connections***
Earthenware, oxides, underglazes, glazes
19" H x 8.5" W x 13.5"D

2. ***Silent Conversation***
Earthenware, oxides, terra sigillata
Overall Group: 30" H x 15.5"W x 11"D
 - Tallest: 30" H x 8" W x 4" D
 - Shortest: 24.5" H x 6" W x 3.5" D
3. **Opposites**
Earthenware, oxides, terra sigillata
17.5" H x 13" W x 8" D
4. **Inner Flight**
Earthenware, oxides, underglazes
21" H x 17" W x 9" D
5. **Side Show**
Earthenware, oxides, terra sigillata, underglazes
Group:
 - Tallest: 25.5" H x 10" W x 6" D
 - Smallest: 23" H x 8.5" W x 5" D
6. ***Burdens***
Earthenware, oxides, slips, glazes
Group of 11: Tallest: 31" H x 7" W x 4" D
7. **Frailties of Humanness**
Earthenware, oxides, glazes, metal
16" H x 11" W x 12" D
8. **Sustentation & Liabilities**
Earthenware, oxides, glazes, wire
22" H x 13" W x 7" D
9. **Oneness**
Clay, oxides, slips, woven wood
24" H x 12" W x 9" D
10. **Do you hear, do you hear, do you....**
Earthenware, oxides, terra sigillata, glazes, elastic
21" H x 5" W x 11" D