

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 14 works
July 1-17, 2011

McLARRY Fine Art
225 Canyon Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 988-1161

SHOW LOCATION SANTA FE, NM

TIM CHERRY

Essence of the animal

Putting the final touches on the pieces for his summer exhibition at McLarry Fine Art, Tim Cherry says, "I have been having big fun!"

We can now share in that fun.

Cherry's knowledge of the forms and masses of his animal subjects allows him to reduce the detail and to retain the essence of the otter, the buffalo, or the bear. "As you can see," he says, "the stone designs are quite stylized." In fact, the new stone pieces are far more stylized than his already stylized works in bronze.

One of the latest bronzes, *Long Hare*, is so sleek it could pass as a hood ornament on a classic Bugatti roadster. *Take Flight*, a 14-inch high bird in Colorado alabaster is reduced to its basic shape but seems to be

flying weightlessly through the air. His *Bison Medallions*, installed at the Jackson Hole, Wyoming, airport, simplifies the massive heads of the once ubiquitous beasts to an assemblage of circles that perfectly capture their majesty and power.

Cherry explains, "My sculptural approach involves the use of simplified shapes and lines to produce curvilinear forms. I enjoy orchestrating these elements into sculpture that is rhythmical, flowing and inviting to the touch. Capturing the grace and elegance of my subjects is a primary goal."

Cherry's knowledge of animal forms comes from years of experience watching and observing in the wilds of the Canadian Rockies since he was a teenager. An early

interest in taxidermy led him to work for a taxidermist in Maine for whom he sculpted the mannequins on which skins were to be formed. He had to know the musculature of the animals perfectly for the final work to appear lifelike. As in any art form, once he knew how to create with great accuracy, he could begin reducing and abstracting.

Simply Swan, a bronze in the exhibition, appears to be carved from stone with its pale patina and dark beak. The patina of the body is mottled enough to suggest feathers and more form than exists physically in the sculpted shape. Cherry comments, "With the smooth surfaces I have a large palette of options available, since my work leans toward a more contemporary style, I enjoy experimenting



Branch Bender, bronze, ed. of 18, 17 x 38 x 7"



Slippery Fish, bronze, ed. of 18, 14 x 11 x 9"



Fish Dish, bronze, ed. of 18, 33 x 12 x 5"



Wise Guy, bronze, ed. of 18, 15 x 6 x 4"



Tim Cherry in his studio pictured with *Stag Leap*, a clay work in progress.



Housesitter, bronze, ed. of 18, 15 x 5 x 4"

with colorful lively patinas. To me, color is an important part of the design."

Cherry is keenly aware of the playfulness of the animals he observes and sculpts. His work causes us to identify with the playfulness which, after all, is common to all us mammals. His sensuous sculpture "not only attracts the viewer's eye but also the viewer's hand." You may want to ask for permission to run your hands over the pieces at the gallery, but if you acquire one for your collection you can touch it to your heart's content and complete the process that Cherry began when he first observed the animals in the wild.

If you're not in the position to touch the pieces you still won't be able to resist laughing out loud at *Branch Bender*, a portly bear stretched precariously on a tree branch; or *Fish Dish*, an otter floating happily on its back with a fish living its last moments on the otter's chest.

The uniqueness of Cherry's sculpture makes it immediately recognizable. Yet, he acknowledges gracefully that his vision could not be realized without the help of other people.

"It takes a tremendous amount of teamwork, time and money to cast bronze," he professes. "I am extremely grateful for everyone involved with my artwork, their efforts means a great deal to me. As the saying goes, 'It takes a village to raise a child.' Well, I feel it takes a tribe to raise a sculptor! My family, friends, peers, foundry personnel, patineur, galleries and collectors—are all a part of that." 🍃

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to 
www.westernartcollector.com

Petite Possum,
Colorado alabaster,
3 x 7 x 4"

