

OUR ART OUR REGION OUR TIME

Jewell

22 x 9 x 7 inches

Catalpa wood, bronze and copper coated steel wire

\$1750

John Sewell

www.johncsewell.com



Bio

After a brief career as a mechanical engineer, John had a mind opening experience while living in a remote primitive culture where artistic expression was a part of everyday life. On returning to the States, he began to design and produce sculpture in wood, entering his works into the art market as a full time sculptor in 1970. In 1972, he moved to Arkansas, where he learned the identity and characteristics of local hardwoods. It was then that he began to develop his new sculptural form of freeform hardwood vessels. With the lack of an adequately developed art market for Arkansas artists at that time, he then developed a landscape gardening business, employing a pallet of colorful flowers and intriguing plant forms as his medium. His sculpture thus became distinctly feminine in nature reflecting the botanical forms with which he had worked. They often exhibit a posture and attitude that portrays emotion. Emphasizing form and the suggestion of life and movement are also some of John's primary objectives.

Recognition for John's work and efforts has come through awards, publications, and a number of public sculpture installations, including in Benson Sculpture Garden, and the McWhinney-Haun Sculpture Park, both in Loveland, Colorado, Memphis Botanical Gardens(TN), St. Louis University (MO), Fountain Hills City Community Center (AZ), and the Tyson Foods Corporate Arts Collection (AR).

Artist Statement

Using North American hardwoods, I carve one piece sculptural vessels. I carve them to a uniform thickness throughout. A lathe is not used in any part of the process. After or is carved out and roughly finished, I burn it's surface and then sandblast away the charred material. This leaves a dark surface textured to the pattern of the wood grain. The exterior is then sanded to a fine surface. A clear finish is then applied in multiple coats to both the interior and exterior. This finish is hand rubbed between coats to produce a somewhat low sheen very smooth final surface.