

“ART-bots”
Artfully Recycled Treasures
by
Carla Moss-2016

Many years ago, I began my professional art career creating detailed sculptures of wildlife, historical renderings of people, and small children. I cast them in bronze—all sizes—tiny 2" wood ducks to a public Art Project at Glacier Park International Airport of a pair of Bald Eagles, soaring wing tip to wing tip and over 17 feet tall. I have been awarded a several public art projects as well as private collections, special commissions in the U.S. and other parts of the world. Being written up in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in the West were just a few of the many honors I've received, including "Artist of the Year" in my city. Several of my collectors are well known in the U.S. and the world. Several private shows and public events have helped me become a dedicated and successful artist. I am so proud of the opportunity that my sculptures have given me throughout my long art career.

Now, my creative journey continues with a new and equally passionate line of sculptures. After 30 years of creating representational sculptures, and coming to understand balance, detail, and beauty in bronze, I felt I needed to go even further by pushing my love of bright colors and whimsy to new heights. I love 3 dimensional sculptures and I wanted to put all that I knew and loved from my past into a new category of creativity. My fresh and extremely unusually "fun" creations are called **ART-bots**; Artfully Recycled Treasures...not real robots but "bots" none the less.

All my past experiences, travels, training, and knowledge of one medium has led to this fun, new, and very successful adventure in a very unique way. In this new pursuit, I'm building a collection of new ideas to interpret animals and people. These **ART-bots** are carefully constructed around a collection of work that shouts "fantasy pieces!", "humorous", and "so clever!" I make all my great sculptures from vintage pieces I've collected and from dozens of found items. These are often created with a special person in mind that I've known. The "Gone Fishin'" sculpture is a humorous take on my Dad who loved to fish and relax a bit after a hectic day at the office AND then getting all 5 rambunctious kids to behave!

This new body of **ART-bots** is very consistent yet much more colorful than my former, more traditional bronzes, but not any less remarkable or creative. These **ART-bots** are not, and can't be categorized as "editions", as are most sculptures in cast bronze. These remarkably unique pieces are "one-of-a-kind" art masterpieces and can't be duplicated. They are thoughtfully constructed with nuts and bolts and glue, using amazingly clever, old, whimsical found objects that consist of carefully assembled vintage parts, antique items, and recycled computer parts. Some of the odd parts and pieces I've had around for years

and now they have found a real purpose! Some little piece might have been found on the sidewalk or in an old jewelry box and NOW I can use it on an **ART**-bot.

My **ART**-bots take weeks of thought, planning, sketching. Each tiny detail that goes into each sculpture is carefully thought out and planned. It could be tedious if it was not so much fun, but can sometimes be frustrating when I'm looking for just the right item that fits. The joy of "the hunt", this is, finding just the right part or a neat trinket gives the sculpture its look of individuality. People are fascinated in these details and, as they carefully look into an **ART**-bot's construction, they can often be heard saying "Ahhhh! Remarkable!"

After a few juried shows, I've found that the public--and lots of children-- is greatly interested in looking for tiny items hidden in the **ART**-bots. They love the humorous and somewhat "Steampunk" approach to the 3D characters and quirky subjects that come from somewhere deep in my world of my comedic and humorous imagination. Children, especially, love to touch and look for things within the sculptures. I've written up a check list that gives them a chance to find little items that are in the **ART**-bots construction. Do they recognize these pieces in my de-construction of a computer part or in the re-construction of a lamp?

All of the **ART**-bot characters have names and a purpose! Each one has a story to tell. With each work sold, I include a "**Certificate of Authenticity**" and each charming sculpture is "one-of-a-kind", never to be replicated again. Each is copyrighted.

My philosophy is simple: "Create art for people and their environment". I am so excited to have begun this new, unique path in my long and successful career! I love to make people smile when they discover these very unique and appealing sculptures called **ART**-bots!

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