

## BIOGRAPHY, KEVIN CARON

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Melding practical experience with a lively imagination, Kevin Caron creates sculptures that have been described as “fresh,” “lively” and “honest.” The fact that he became a sculptor at all, however, is in itself surprising.

Born in Connecticut on February 2, 1960, Caron moved to Arizona with his family in 1973. Six years in the U.S. Navy provided fundamental training in machine shops and aircraft maintenance yards in ports of call including Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean and Misawa, Japan. After his honorable discharge in 1983, Caron ran a foreign car repair shop. Between jobs, he built his own vehicle, using parts from various sources. Much to his customers’ satisfaction, such ingenuity was a hallmark of Caron’s endeavors – if anyone could fix it, he could, and he delighted in the challenge. This spectrum of constructive creativity has led him to familiarity with a broad variety of tools and resources.

It is no surprise, then, that his art career grew from a practical need. Eager to build a privacy screen to shield a work area from house view, Caron combed steelyards, catalogs, scrap piles and roadsides to find appropriate components. He finally found the perfect metal, virtually in his own backyard. When the screen – which eventually became the piece Floating Undulations – was complete, Caron began visualizing a fountain out of the same material. He saw it in his mind, and it had a name: Stretch. Other fountains, clever variations using the same intriguing found material, followed. Friends, neighbors and relatives began seeing Kevin’s work and telling others, and a career was born.

Caron’s fundamental foundation, fueled by his ingenious imagination, often makes obvious to him what others don’t yet see. Working with an uncanny sense of space and proportion, he is conscious of not only the visual impact of his pieces, but often, too, their sounds and textures. Several pieces at Camelot Therapeutic Horsemanship, Inc., which serves people with physical disabilities, have become favorites of staff, students and parents alike for their sensory gifts. Caron listens carefully while observing the materials, patrons and sites, honoring their very essence in his creations.

With more than 30 private and public commissions, Caron became a full-time artist in 2006. His work can be found across the country, including locations in California, New York, Texas and Ohio as well as Arizona. His piece Hands On for the city of Avondale, Arizona won the 2009 Best of the West Award for Arts & Culture from Westmarc, coalition of business, education and government leaders. His work also can be seen at Pearson & Company in Scottsdale, Arizona’s renowned art district; Wild Holly Gallery in Carefree, Arizona; Vision Gallery in Chandler, Arizona; and Aar River Gallery in Westminster, Colorado.

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