

Stewart Wong dba Purple Moon Design

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ARTIST STATEMENT

I am intrigued and influenced by different cultures and civilizations – especially cultural artifacts that evoke spirituality. Innate curiosity drives my exploration of the world and is the force behind my creativity. Nature captivates me and influences my work. My art explores the convergence of these perspectives. I seek an inherent design from the structure and mechanics of the natural and contrived environment – a way to express a comprehensible understanding of the world and the melding of the purpose, expression and meaning of all that exists. The results are sometimes surprising departures from ordinary interpretations of life experiences to more spiritual or fantastical representations.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am a studio artist, public artist and arts educator working in mixed media including ceramics, wood, metals, glass, concrete, natural and man-made fibers. With twenty years experience in commissioned and public art work, I have developed strong capabilities in art design and fabrication as well as project delivery management.

- Delivers diversity in design and material selection providing environment appropriate and provocative solutions.
- Demonstrates appreciation for individual backgrounds and perspectives.
- Positively interacts with community panels to develop public art requirements and designs.
- Leads collaboration with artists and other subcontractors to design, fabricate and install commissioned art.
- Experience coordinating with architects and engineers to acquire city permits and Historical and Preservation Association approval.
- Produces conceptual drawings, technical designs and specifications to communicate project direction.
- Educates grade level students in visual arts.

JURIED, SOLO & GROUP EXHIBITS

Reaching Beyond: Northwest Designer Craftsmen at 60 (2014-2015)

Juried exhibit. Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA

Facets of Life (2013-2014)

Group exhibit. Ethnic Heritage Gallery. Municipal Bldg. Seattle, WA

Teapots on the Edge (2013),

Group exhibit. Bellevue College Gallery, Bellevue, WA

Looking Forward, Glancing Back: Northwest Designer Craftsman at 50 (2004-2006)

Juried exhibit.

- Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA
- Contemporary Crafts Museum, Portland, OR
- Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center, Wenatchee, WA
- Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, WA

Transitions and Transformation (2004)

Group exhibit. City Space Gallery, Seattle, WA

Seattle Art Museum Pacific Northwest Arts Council (2000)

Artist's Open Studio and Garden Tour, Seattle, WA

Diversity: The True Colors of Art, 8th Annual Edwin T. Pratt Exhibit (1999)

Group exhibit. Center on Contemporary Arts (COCA), Seattle, WA

"Spirit Lamps" (1997)

From Here to There, Bumbershoot Juried Exhibit of Conceptual Public Art, Seattle, WA

Conceptual work designed as an ephemeral installation. Lashed bamboo towers illuminated within by fuel or candles. Visitors place lighted candles and incense inside lamps bringing light into our world to guide ancestral spirits back to Earth.

“Species, Specimen, Spectacle” (1996)

Beyond the Rock Garden Juried Exhibit, Wing Luke Asian Museum, Seattle, WA

A mixed-media assemblage inspired by my childhood curiosity of the possibilities of nature, and represents nature put into captivity to be analyzed. Cage constructed from wooden produce crates and wire mesh with contents of paper sculptures, plant pods and dried chicken feet.

Cornish College Alumni Show (1995, 1996)

Group Exhibits.

Harvard House, Seattle, WA

Seafirst Gallery, Seattle, WA

Furniture & Light Exhibit (1992)

Juried, Honorable Mention. Cornish College Seattle, WA

Tea table, fabricated from Birdseye maple veneer, maple, porcelain.

Table Lamp + Chair (1991)

Juried, Honorable Mention.

American Institute of Architects, Institute of Business Designers & Oregon School of Arts & Crafts, Portland, OR

Floor screen, fabricated out of wood and paper with surface treatments.

Northwest Airlines (1991)

Solo exhibit. Reservations Lobby, Sea-Tac, WA

Mahlum Architects (1990)

Solo exhibit. Seattle, WA

Furniture + Lighting Exhibition (1989)

Group exhibit. Cornish College, Seattle, WA

Heights Court Building Six Artist Show (1988)

Group exhibit. Seattle, WA

Restoration of a Soul (1988)

Solo Exhibit. Seattle, WA

COMMISSIONS ♦ INSTALLATIONS ♦ PROPOSALS

Wing Luke Asian Museum Community Hall (Dedicated May 2008)

Permanent installation commissioned by the museum, Seattle, WA

Dottie Harper Park (June 2007)

Ritual Dressing of Nature – An ephemeral installation by invitation, Burien, WA

Fire Station 10 (March 2006)

Finalist Proposal, Seattle, WA

Sammamish Park-and-Ride (Dedicated March 2006)

Permanent installation commissioned by Sound Transit Regional Express, Seattle, WA

Homer Harris Park (Dedicated 2005)

Permanent installation commissioned by Seattle Parks Foundation, Seattle, WA

(Assisted lead artist Monad Elohim.)

“Our Heritage, Our Journey, Our Dreams” (Dedicated 2001)

Permanent installation commissioned by the Wing Luke Asian Museum, Seattle, WA

Concrete relief, bronze sculpture, enameled steel panels, aluminum decorative brackets.

Collaboration with artist Ron Ho.

Icon Series: Panel I “Coexistence of Self & Nature” (permanent display, 1998)

Permanent display created for Legacy House at Village Square, Seattle, WA

Three dimensional mixed media assemblage.

Forte Design Systems (1998)

Redmond, WA

Gong stand, fabricated from peeled alder and rope.

Victoria Toy-Gibbs (1989)

Seattle, WA

Three dimensional mixed media assemblage.

PUBLIC ART ROSTERS

- Sound Transit Artist Roster (2002 – present)
- Seattle Fire Stations (2006 – 2008)
- Seattle Public Library Small Projects Roster (2002 – 2008)
- Emerging Public Artist Roster, City of Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs (2003 – 2005)

PUBLICATIONS

- Reaching Beyond: Northwest Designer Craftsmen at 60 (In Association with Whatcom Museum), p.88.
- Northwest Asian Weekly, Volume 27 Number 23 May 31 – June 6, 2008, p.1.
- Looking Forward Glancing Back, 2004 Northwest Designer Craftsman (University of Washington Press), p.75.
- American Craft Magazine, June/July 2003, p.30, Commissions: Wing Luke Museum.
- Beyond the Rock Garden Catalog, Wing Luke Museum, 1996.

ASSOCIATIONS ♦ COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES ♦ WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- **Wing Luke Asian Museum**, Seattle, WA – Arts instructor, Various Workshops (2006 – present)
- **Artscool**, Seattle, WA – Arts instructor, after school art program (2004 – present)
- **Wing Luke Art Auction**, Seattle, WA – Art Donation (2003 – present)
- **Northwest Designer Craftsman**, Seattle, WA – Professional Artist Organization (2002 – present)
- **Across the Spectrum Exhibit (Wing Luke)**, Seattle, WA – Community advisory committee (2009)
- **Bellevue Arts Museum**, Bellevue, WA – Arts instructor, Paper Weaving Workshop (2006)
- **International District Urban Design Plan**, Seattle, WA – Community advisory group (2002)
- **Pratt Fine Arts Center**, Seattle, WA – Presenter, “ Milestone” Workshop (2002)
- **Girl Scouts of America**, Seattle, WA – Visiting Artist, Origami Workshop (1999)
- **Eagle Hardware & Garden**, Seattle, WA – Instructor, Tiling Workshop (1994-1999)
- **Boise Public Schools**, Boise, ID – Visiting Artist, Origami Workshop (1992)

EDUCATION

Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, WA – Bachelor of Fine Arts

Continuing education includes:

- Seward Park Clay Studio, Seattle, WA (2002 - 2013)
- Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle, WA (1994 - 2004)
- University of Washington, Seattle, WA (1984)
- Artisan School of Design, Honolulu, HI (1982)
- Workshops: Photoshop (2006), Paper sculpting (1998), Auto Cad (1994), Paper Making (1993)