

Aden Mcleod - Sculptor

History

Born in Texas (1950), of Scottish and Cherokee descent, Aden McLeod has captured the likeness of world figures, historical identities and outback characters with his distinctive style. During a 35 year odyssey Aden has explored over 80 countries, interpreting their cultures in his work and sharing his holistic approach to sculpture with local communities. Working with breathtaking speed and startling intensity, Aden's deft hands pummel and manipulate the clay to portray features rich in emotion, texture, dimension and movement. The finished work is a stunning combination of light reflective burnished and patina bronze. A flamboyant performance artist, Aden delights in taking his art to the people and has mesmerised audiences worldwide with his ability to intuitively reveal the spirit and likeness of his subjects. He also revels in the opportunity and freedom to create purely imaginative works with compelling and provocative results. The expressions of his sculptures seem to beg the statement, 'Please hear what I am not saying...'

Recent Works

- 2009 "Artistico" Sculpture demonstration and exhibition, Cairns Botanic Gardens
- 'Spirit of the Sea', Devonport, Tasmania - Installation of an imposing 15 foot bronze figure coming up out of the sea, trident thrust above his head, water streaming down his body, erected at the mouth of the Mersey River.
- Donated a life size figure of a child to the Make a Wish Foundation in Devonport to raffle and raise funds.
- 2007 *Functional Art Series* - exploring a new medium, timber, Aden has individually designed a unique range of furniture and functional art using recycled, salvaged and specialised timbers.
- 2006 *Sculpture, Portrait & Landscape Prize*, Wilston School Art Show, Brisbane.
- 2004 *Deloraine Craft Fair, Tasmania* sponsored by the Rotary Club of Deloraine.
- 2003 *Resident Artist Live Internet Sculpture Broadcast* during three months as artist-in-residence at Eltham College Aden created many works of art, actively involving students in the creative process which was broadcast live on the internet through the Eltham College website.
- 2003 *Water Spirits in the Outback* bronze sculpture of five life-size children playing in a corrugated water tank next to a windmill. Two of the sculptures are piped with water to enact splashing.
- 2003 *Port Douglas Carnivale, Port Douglas, Queensland*
- 2002 *Mooloolaba Carnival of Arts*
- 2002 *Bishop Arthur Malcolm* bronze bust of Australia's first indigenous bishop.

- *2002 Year of the Outback* officially endorsed by 2002 Year of the Outback committee, Aden toured nationally sculpting the people of the outback in over 22 towns, communities and stations. The national tour was launched in January when Aden sculpted a bust of Ernie Dingo.
- *2001 Nelson Mandela, London, UK* commissioned by the Volunteer Services Organisation, the bust was auctioned to raise funds for AIDS/HIV programs in South Africa.
- *2000 Sailor of Vilamoura, Marina de Vilamoura, Portugal* life-size bronze of a sailor standing at the helm to celebrate the Marina's 25th anniversary. Cast on site using a mobile foundry.
- *2000 H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, London, UK* with the Queen Mothers permission Aden sculpted a life-size figure of H.M. live in Trafalgar Square on her 100th birthday.
- *2000 Bath Millennium Fete, Bath, UK* commissioned by the Charter Trustees of Bath to create a life-size clay image of two of the city's famous residents.
- *2000 Tamworth Country Music Festival, Tamworth, Australia* life-size sculpture of country music legend, Smoky Dawson. The clay sculpture was fired at the Gunnedah Brickworks. Also sculpted music artists Adam Brand, Lee Kernaghan and Tom Swartzell, and Australian line dancing champions Julie Talbot and Gordon Elliott.
- *1999 Woodford Folk Festival, Woodford, Australia* commissioned to sculpt a life-size figure of festival organiser Des Ritchie and Cape York Aboriginal elder Peter Costello.
- *1999 Sheraton Hotel, Algarve, Portugal* commissioned to sculpt eight terracotta busts of Portugals illustrious navigators.
- *1997 Ocean Care Day, Sydney, Australia* commissioned by the Manly Council Environment Centre Aden used 1000 kilos of clay to sculpt a 6-foot face and 10-foot high hand of a man coming up out of the sand. Sculpted in public on Ocean Beach, Manly, the event was sponsored by Blackmore's Health Products to raise awareness of environmental care.
- *1997 Symphony on the Sand, Sydney, Australia* commissioned by Warringah Council for sculpture demonstrations. Sculpted musician James Morrisson as he performed on stage.

Selected Exhibitions

- *2009 Taste of the Tablelands Exhibition, Atherton, Queensland*
- *2007 Art Expo "100 Years of Art", McLeod Sculpture Studio & Gallery, Devonport, Tasmania*
- *2006 Wilston School Art Show, Brisbane*
- *Art Expo '06, McLeod Sculpture Studio & Gallery, Tasmania*
- *2005 Art Expo, McLeod Sculpture Studio, Devonport, Tasmania*
- *2004 Art Expo 2004, McLeod Sculpture Studio, Devonport, Tasmania*
- *Living Artist's Week, McLeod Sculpture Studio, Devonport, Tasmania*
- *2003 'MasterWorks', Montsalvat, Melbourne, Australia*

- *2002 Hart Gallery, Mooloolaba, Australia*
- *'Billycans', Outback Regional Gallery, Winton (national touring exhibition)*
- *Creative Art Centre, Hyatt Regency Coolum, Australia*
- *2001 Café Lounge, London, UK*
- *Talens Zout Concours, Knokke-Heist, Belgium*
- *Pousada dos Lois, Evora, Portugal*
- *Clube Nautica, Marina de Vilamoura, Portugal*
- *2000 International Fiera Milano, Milan, Italy*
- *1999 Fatasil '99, Lagoa, Portugal*
- *16th Ovibeja, Beja, Portugal*
- *1998 Fiera da Artensenato, Povoia de Varzim, Portugal*
- *Sala de Expositoes da A.D.P.M., Mertola, Portugal*
- *Palacio do Pomarao, Pomarao, Portugal*

Teaching / Residencies

- *2009 Two one day workshops, Go Troppo Arts Festival, Port Douglas*
- *2006 Sculpture Workshop, McLeod Sculpture Studio, Devonport, Tasmania*
- *Tas Potters Society, Hobart, Tasmania*
- *Fintona Girls School, Melbourne*
- *2005 Sculpture Workshop, McLeod Sculpture Studio, Devonport, Tasmania*
- *2004 Fintona College, Melbourne*
- *Methodist Ladies College, Melbourne*
- *Chinchilla State School, Queensland*
- *2003 Artist-in-Residence, Eltham College of Education, Melbourne*
- *2002 Winton Creative Arts, Winton, Australia*
- *2002 Artist-in-Residence, Outback Regional Gallery, Waltzing Matilda Centre, Winton*
- *2003 Manyallaluk Cultural Centre, Manyallaluk, NT*
- *2002 Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education, Tennant Creek, NT*
- *2002 Northern Territory University, Tennant Creek, NT*
- *2002 Creative Arts Centre, Hyatt Regency Coolum, Qld*
- *2002 Guyala Arts and Crafts, Yarrabah, Qld*
- *2001 Teaching CD-ROM "Learning to Let Go an introduction to portrait sculpture"*
- *2000 Isle of Rassay Outdoor Education Centre, Isle of Rassay, Scotland*
- *2000 Creative Art Centre, Hyatt Regency Coolum, Qld*
- *2000 Teaching Tour, Inner City Youth Centres, Birmingham, UK*
- *1999 Artist-in-Residence, Hotel RIU Canela, Spain; Hotel Quinta da Lago, Marinotel, and Montechorro Beach Club, Portugal*
- *1998 'Temos Ferias' a multi lingual children's holiday camp, Portugal*

Previous Works

- *Aden has restored old sculptures, monuments and buildings, working on all types of stone including marble, sandstone, limestone and granite..*
- *Musical Talents: sings and plays guitar, mandolin, flute, violin and banjo.*

Aspirations

- *Create over 100 life-size sculptures in bronze depicting the cultural evolution of Australian people.*
- *Finish writing a book titled "Please hear what I'm not saying..."*