

## Get to Know the Artists in *Color*: Stan Welsh

Several of the *Art in the Arboretum: Color* participants shared their personal histories and thoughts on art and being an artist by responding to the following questions.

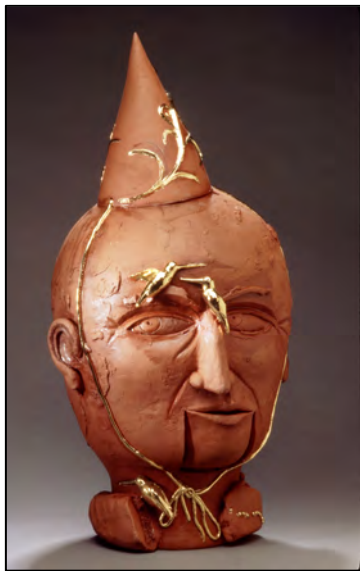


Stan Welsh was born and raised in Southern California in the town of Claremont, 30 minutes east of Los Angeles. He currently has a home and studio on three acres of property in the coastal mountains of Santa Cruz. For the past 32 years, Welsh has been a professor at San Jose State University in the School of Art and Art History. Welsh was honored with art grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, and the Arts Council Silicon Valley 2005 Fellowship Award. His work is in the permanent collections of the Arizona State University Art Museum Ceramic Research Center, the Oakland Museum in California, the San Jose Museum in California, the Santa Cruz Museum in California, and the Daum Museum in Missouri.

***Who has been a primary influence on your work and why?*** Franz Xaver Messerschmidt, 18th century Baroque sculptor.

***What adjectives best describe you as an artist/person?*** Physical, expressive, and spontaneous.

***What adjectives best describe your work?*** Expressive, humorous, and direct.



***If you had a personal philosophy/motto, what would it be?*** First thought, best thought. Sometimes you gotta go north to get south.

***What might surprise someone about you/your work?*** I'm as passionate about surfing as I am about my art. I taught sculpture at San Jose State University for 32 years.

***What are your thoughts on the Color Exhibit (an integration of the beauty of nature with the beauty of sculpture)?*** The work in the garden looks wonderful, I think Susana Arias did a great job selecting and placing the work. I never thought of my work as being "Garden Art"; when I mentioned this to Arias, she replied that "Your work will not be garden art, it will be art in the garden." I was pleased with the installation and surprised that the work looks good in an outdoor garden setting.

View more of Welsh's art at [www.stanwelsh.com](http://www.stanwelsh.com)