

NADIA UTTO

Florida Resident since 1989 (30 years)

After living in Europe, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Missouri, New York and Massachusetts.



Three generations of my extended family were affected by the arc of this century's cultural upheavals, resulting in transformations from aristocratic heritage - into European refugees and then as immigrants starting again throughout the world. In the face of all those cultural changes and sense-of-place, each relative was consistently anchored by treasured experiences in nature and took great care in passing on that important sense of honoring and remaining connected to the grandness of nature.

This has strongly influenced my own artistic work - which concentrates on metaphorically presenting these themes of 'form & function in nature' and 'pattern & purpose in culture'.

The sculptural structures generally mimic both the scientific process of taking geological core-samples along with the principles of archeological excavation. They tend to consider the concepts of the path an individual has taken, the direction civilization is going and join these narratives within the context of a particular place in nature throughout time.

MAKING WAVES

- a mixed media site-specific installation
Fiberglass / Acrylic Paint

These pieces reflect my life-long fascination with all things wave. The real ones are beautiful, never the same twice and mesmerizing. Cultural idioms abound from the natural phenomenon too – ‘ride a wave’ / ‘catch the next wave’ / ‘comes in waves’...
‘To make waves’ – is to cause disruption by doing things a different way. As a sculptor/muralist - here are some wave paintings that come off the wall!

OCEAN HEAVEN

- from the ‘*Slice of Life*’ Series
Sand & Shells/ Cast Polymer / Concrete / Wood / Wheels

Like Haiku poetry – which speaks to the 3 elements of perception, place & passage of time in a specific rhythm format...
Each sculpture in this series adheres to a ‘piece-of-cake’ form for its observations on the temporal qualities of humanity & nature...
Some reflect on urban circumstance, while this one captures a moment and geological slice of ocean.
Three of these life-long sculpture series that explore the powerfully intertwined dynamics of cultural and natural influences are on display here.

FLORIDA CHAIR

- from the ‘*Eco Chair*’ Series
Living Plants / Polymer Modified Cement / EPS Foam / PVC Piping / Metal

This piece and its regional plantings is inspired by one of nature’s most splendid and diverse ecosystems – the tropics. Its microcosm environment is designed to be a refreshing and relaxing mini-vacation indoors or outdoors.
This chair series is referenced in an Australian PhD Thesis on “Biophilia and Emotional Criteria in Furniture Design”.