



RICHARD MACDONALD

DRAGONRIDGE WEBSITE CONTENT



ABOUT THE ARTIST



RICHARD MACDONALD

b. 1946

Richard MacDonald was born in California and has spent more than 30 years creating sculptures that capture the beauty, romance and essence of the human spirit in motion. With inspiration ranging from live models in the Royal Ballet School, Olympic Games, U.S Open and Cirque du Soleil, his body of work stands apart as distinctive and unique.

As a true visionary, he has synthesized modernist principles with the timeless human desire to create imaginative metaphors of the human psyche through representation of the body. Whether as a public monument or treasured in private collections, each bronze by Richard MacDonald is part of an enduring legacy that brings figurative sculpture into the 21st century.



ABOUT THE SCULPTURES



DOVES

Bronze, Half Life

Doves, which was inspired by a romantic pas de deux in a Russian ballet, showcases Richard MacDonald's virtuosity with the compositional baroque spiral, and highlights the contrast between the male and female form. Swooping with bird-like grace and freedom the ballerina is held aloft by her partner, and the faces of both reflect their bond of love and trust. Movement, passion, and an almost musical sensibility, come together in this piece celebrating romantic love. Doves is one of Richard MacDonald's early explorations of the dynamic created by bringing a male and female figure together in one composition.





AURORA SI

Bronze, Third Life

Throughout his career, Richard MacDonald has drawn inspiration from the world of mythology. Aurora, one of Mr. MacDonald's most recent creations, is a captivating representation of the Roman goddess of the Dawn, suspended in a position of protection and benediction above the world. Modeled by world-renowned aerialist Christine Van Loo, Aurora clearly references her classical lineage; the piece is rooted in figurative realism but retains an aura of modernity. Mr. MacDonald's famed illusion of suspension works its magic, and the figure appears to levitate, supported by the billowing folds of crimson cloth that flow from her arms.





JOIE DE VIVRE

Bronze, Half Life

This truly iconic piece sprang to life early in Richard MacDonald's career, and it encapsulates so many of the themes he is known for as an artist: it celebrates the joyful side of human nature, delighting in a mysterious, musical rhythm that brings three alluring characters to life. The crouching Piper pulls us into the magic she weaves with her musical notes, the Trumpeter heralds a triumphant message with as the unseen breeze ruffles her skirt and hair, and the masculine figure of the Flutist balances the trio with his dancing form. The unity of the composition and the uplifting sense of pure joy that it conveys are a masterful achievement of figurative sculpture.





NIGHTFALL

Bronze, Half Life

Draped and exuding an air of mystery and other-worldly beauty, Nightfall is a goddess stepping forward, holding the sphere representing the day in one hand, while the sphere representing night is cast behind her: future and past, day and night, she glides ahead on a shape that recalls the sickle sliver of the moon. Cool, dark, enigmatic and seemingly all-knowing, this figure is a paragon of feminine grace and strength.



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