

## PATI STAJCAR

Pati Stajcar sculpts many different animals—horses, peacocks, buffalo, wolves—but birds are her specialty. “I’ve always loved them, ever since I was a kid,” she says. “I guess it’s the freedom they represent. I think they’re all beautiful.” She has a special affection, though, for the eagles, hawks, owls, and falcons she works with as a volunteer at the Raptor Education Foundation in Aurora, CO. Stajcar spends time checking and weighing the birds, treating their injuries when necessary, and helping train them for programs at schools, festivals, and other events that the foundation sponsors to teach biodiversity and encourage the preservation of bird habitats. “Working with the raptors is entirely different from just watching them,” she says. “I get to learn about their social structure, about how smart they are.”

Stajcar’s subject is the natural world, but the qualities of flow and balance are her main concerns. Her work includes elements of both representation and

abstraction—a combination she

has achieved in a variety of media, ranging from wood to stone to bronze. “I get bored easily,” she jokes. “My favorite media is whatever I’m not working on at the time.” Stajcar started out working with wood; later she wanted to learn to sculpt stone, and in 1990 she began a two-year apprenticeship with sculptor Gerald Balciar. Today she herself teaches at the Art Students League of Denver. Her work has been included in the annual *Birds in Art* and *Society of Animal Artists* exhibitions. —KB

*Stajcar is represented by Saks Gallery, Denver, CO; Rio Street Gallery, Ruidoso, NM; Sculpture Works, Fort Worth, TX; and Lidee Corporate Art Concepts, Cincinnati, OH.*

RIGHT: HOUSE CALL [2000], BRONZE, 8 x 3½ x 2½, EDITION 18.

BELOW RIGHT: HEAVEN [1999], BRONZE, 6 x 7 x 3, EDITION 18.

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