

PatiSTAJCAR

Denver, Colorado


Viewers of Pati Stajcar's sculpture might think they are looking at birds, animals and even vegetables. From Stajcar's perspective, the real subjects of her work are flow, balance and design. "These are the strengths of a sculpture no matter what it is," she says. "I've seen warthogs done so well that you think it is an absolutely beautiful piece, and it's because the flow, balance and design are there. If that weren't true, the warthog would look like a warthog."

Stajcar typically starts working in the abstract, then moves toward stylization or realism, depending on how far she wants to take a piece. An example is her cat series. *Möbius Morphus* is the cat in abstract standing on a three-surfaced Möbius,

which is a continuous single-sided shape that allows you to run your finger over the entire surface in one movement.

Triangulations is a stylization; it is obviously a cat, but a cat made out of triangles. Progress, the representation, is the cat looking like a cat. "They are all made in the same position, so I can put them all together to show people how to get from representational to stylization to abstract," says Stajcar.

Although she specializes in birds, Stajcar loves to capture the essence of any animal, whether it's the long musculature of a big cat or the intelligence in a wolf's eyes. But she also wants to give those who view her work just part of the story so that they can discover the rest of it on their own. "If people find something they like, then find something else, and then something else, maybe the piece becomes a classic and something that will enhance their lives for years. I think the person who buys or appreciates the art needs to put something of themselves into it," she says.

Touching the pieces is one way to do that and something Stajcar encourages. "I love to have people run their hands over my work. Then they feel what I do when I make it," she says. "If I ever have a show of my own, I'll put up a sign that says, 'Please touch everything.'" — K.E. 

Triangulations,
bronze,
25" high,
by Pati Stajcar



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