

Gallery

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Featured Artist of the Week

Molly Potter

The intriguing, mixed-media works of Molly Potter are filled with symbolic meaning. "Secrets" is a head and shoulders with three small compartments, a Plexiglas door, keys and locked lips. "The eyes are closed in a way to indicate shame or contemplation," Potter says. "In the back, there's an egg that has hatched, and something is allowed to escape. The piece represents clandestine memories."

Potter has a thing for creating hairless human heads. It's phrenology with a twist. "They all show regions of the brain," she says. "They're a study of words, phrases, feelings and contradictions. The words provide a glimpse of that person's thought process."

In another work, "Time for Me To Fly," Potter placed a propeller on the figure's head and attached a vial of nitroglycerine. "It indicates a drug to facilitate leaving the body," the Fort Lauderdale resident, who is represented by RaZoo Gallery there, explains. "There's a music box visible from the front and an old skeleton key."

"Molly Potter's sculptures are literally head and shoulders above the rest."

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The work is about escape, whether in the mind, in dreams or physically. It's necessary to let the mind wander, to leave the to-do list for a while."

She began this series of figurative sculptures two years ago. "I like to juxtapose the human form with machines," says Potter, whose artistry was on display in the recent *Tri-County Exhibition* sponsored by the Broward Art Guild at ArtServe in Fort Lauderdale. "I see them as bigger and stronger than we are, yet they're enabling and also destructive."

She understands and accepts the fact that her work isn't for everyone, including "Graduation," an anti-conformity sculptural piece about entering the workforce. "Nobody's work is like mine," Potter says. "It's not pretty and not for the masses, because it's not whimsical or cute. You have to study it."

— Candice Russell



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www.mollys-studio.com.