

HILLS SOUTH

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Living & Lifestyle

Meet Your Neighbor Dorit Schwartz!



...continued

meet your Neighbor

Meet Dorit Schwartz!

Art Enables the Human Spirit to Express

Most of us have a solid appreciation for nature and all its beauties but lack a deeper relation to the positive affects it can offer. Eagle Hills resident, Dorit Schwartz, is using her passion for nature to bring the outside world into people's homes. Dorit is a sculptor by trade, but she is not your average artist. Enveloped by the synergistic connection to nature, she takes natural elements and turns them into brilliant works of art. "I always wanted nature to be part of my life," she says. "I'm bringing nature into the house."

Shwartz was born and raised in Israel and began studying art as a teenager. She moved to Los Angeles at the age of 17 where she began working in private studios to further develop her passion. She initially sculpted clay but her passion for art temporarily went into remission after a California earthquake destroyed the majority of her collection. Two years after the earthquake in 1995, she moved to Las Vegas with her husband, Ronnie, a real estate developer. She initially opened a fashion boutique but her heart wasn't fully invested in the business; her passion was with art.

At the onset of her career, Schwartz primarily used alabaster marble in her sculptures, complimenting the stone with Makha driftwood from Thailand. She crafted the marble to mirror the image of the wood and put the two halves together. About two years ago, Schwartz began placing crystals inside the reclaimed found wood and since created "The Light Within" collection. The culmination of the piece transpires at her home, where she tackles a handful of pieces at a time, switching from one to the other depending on her mood. Each piece is given a name such as "Core" and "Unison." The finished product is truly magnificent and brought to life by its own spotlight. Her largest piece stands about 4 feet wide by 6 feet tall.

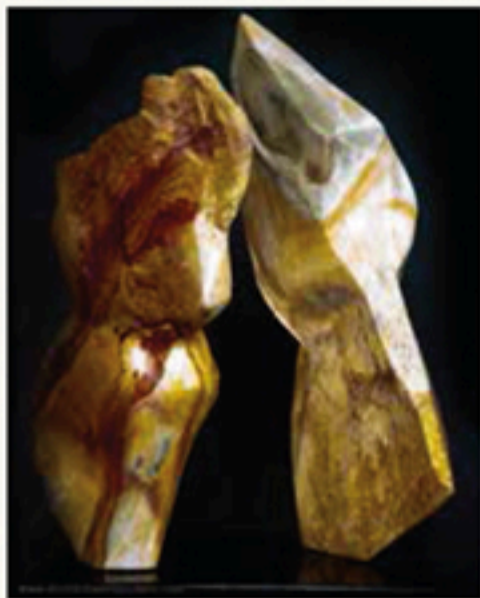
Selected from more than 700 applicants to be one of the 12 featured artists among the Mission Federal Art Walk's 350 artist



participants, Dorit's work was featured as part of the 30th anniversary of Southern California's largest fine arts festival earlier this year. Schwartz was also chosen to create the 2014 sculpture, of a mother and child titled "Celebration of Life," to support the fundraising efforts of the local St. Jude Children's Research Hospital chapter in the fight against childhood cancer and other deadly diseases. Schwartz's sculpture was recreated in fiberglass to stand 5 feet tall, then duplicated and painted by 10 artists. The sculptures were auctioned off in May during the black tie gala honoring St. Jude: An Affair of the Art, with the proceeds going to St. Jude.

Sculpting isn't the only thing Dorit is passionate about. Like many other successful people, positive attributes often stem from family awareness. "I'm a wife, mother, sculptor, and charity volunteer," she says. "I juggle everything much like the stone, which is symbolic of cohesiveness, harmony, and reconciliation with oneself. That is how I live my life."

To see more of Dorit's sculptures, please visit www.doritschwartzsculptor.com.



"Unity"



"Core"



"Letting Go"



"Safety Nest"

"As a fundamental element of the universe, I believe that stone represents cohesiveness and harmony."

ARTIST STATEMENT

Art is a bridge to the human spirit. My sculptural work exists to evoke feelings, to awaken people and to dive straight into the depths of human strength and fragility. My creative process represents my uncommon appreciation for the organic beauty found in nature. My works of art create expressive forms that explore sensuality, inviting people in, magnetically drawing them to touch the sculptures. As our senses of sight and touch are closely associated, I integrate different elements into my sculptures, as they never before have been combined. I revel in working with such rare mediums as cork, raw stone, and driftwood. Not only do I showcase the materials' natural value, I also create new forms of art by fusing parts that enhance each other's beauty. The finished works then inspire the observer to journey from element to element, eventually taking in the entire piece as whole - interpreting and deciphering their own meanings as his or her personal reactions and feelings combine with the art.

As a stone sculptor, I am drawn towards organic shapes and textures naturally occurring in the environment. The synergy between stone, various other mediums, and the artist dictates the visual form that ultimately emerges. Last year's collection has been developed exclusively in alabaster and wood. The combined mediums represent balance and harmony in nature. I specialize in utilizing the stones' features. For me, it is a way of celebrating the beauty of seeming imperfections. The nature of each stone adds gravitas, durability and power, while the translucency of alabaster offers vigor and delicacy to my sculptures.

As a fundamental element of the universe, I believe that stone represents cohesiveness and harmony. It serves as the foundation for my particular creative process. Most recently, I have been inspired by personal travels to the Far East - where I admired each culture's reverence for nature and family. Evolving from an intense need to communicate the joy and beauty of living, my art has led me throughout life. I strive to remain open to it in all forms. I allow myself to be the vessel through which creativity flows. I shall continue to utilize my experiences to develop myself wholeheartedly as an artist, a professional, and a woman. This ongoing growth influences my talents and creations. My sculptures reflect this path I am on - they journey to accomplish balance in life. Through my artwork I find myself revealing my past experiences, present beliefs and future aspirations.

Yours,
Dorit Schwartz

Get to know your neighbors better by having your family featured in the next available issue! Email us at kristin.altieri@n2pub.com.