

LYNDA SMITH-BUGGE
LYNDA@SCULPTUREFORTHESOUL.COM
WWW.SCULPTUREFORTHESOUL.COM
703.201.4443

ARTIST STATEMENT

I craft local trees into works of art extending the life of the tree into sculpture. My *undressing of trees* reveals beauty and imperfections, bringing forth rough exteriors and exploring rich hidden interiors. I invite the viewer to witness the simple grace of lines, textures and rhythms created by the forces of nature. Existing scars add expression and history to each piece. Tree-wounds reveal character.

I enjoy commissions... providing beautiful works of art out of favorite and personally important trees. The chosen tree limb is sliced with a sawmill or bandsaw. Once the tree is opened, I let the natural lines guide me into a one-of-kind sculpture that is specific to this particular natural form. The greatest challenges are 1) how to “lift” and “contain” the natural form so that it is the central focus for the viewer; and, 2) how to connect/link the constructed geometric form and the organic shape. I often enlist an engineer to help me with these connections so that my abstract offers inspiration and meditation with uplifting forms. My *Sculpture for the Soul* unveils an ethereal world created through poetic imagination, an intuitive progression of my interpretive response.

Statements about my work include the following.

- *The intrinsic spirit of this wood art seems ancient & ritualistic* by Mark Jenkins from the Washington Post..
- *Subtle & understated craftsmanship brings out the beauty & soul of wood*, Margery Goldberg owner of Zenith Gallery, Washington, DC.
- *Manages to attain an uncanny harmony between raw & refined, primitive & transcendent, natural & fabricated*, David Fry / Woodturner & Author
- *Manipulates the wood with subtle prowess*, Myrtis Bedolla owner of Galerie Myrtis in Baltimore

Toby Stein author and Fellow of the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts states: *There is in the work both humility & courage—a stretching toward the sacred.* For the owner of the sculpture, I want the sculpture to beckon them into the beauty of nature and power of relationship and design of constructed and organic juxtapositions.