

# BEAUTY OF FORM

A COMPREHENSIVE  
GUIDE TO  
COLLECTING  
THE BEST  
IN SCULPTURE  
TODAY



# A MATTER OF FORM

Top sculptors in today's art market share their inspirations and insights into their latest works.

Sculpture truly occupies a room, not just wall space, and forces viewers to engage with the artistry of the piece from all possible angles. Some of the best traditional sculptors working today have made this ancient art form a force to be reckoned with while also providing collectors with a body of work encompassing a vast array of styles, materials and subject matter.

Art expert Richard West wrote that the “vibrant and growing body of sculpture today is attracting more and more attention from savvy collectors. Admirers of sculpture no longer have to wonder if they can find an outstanding piece for their collection. Now the question is: which one to choose?”

From wildlife to figurative, to even abstract work, sculpture continues to be an integral part of any art collection, adding depth and tangibility to indoor and outdoor display spaces.

“I feel very blessed to have been given the ability to sculpt the human form that portrays a message that can evoke a passionate response from the viewer, it is a precious gift, of which I am eternally grateful,” says sculptor **Marsha Gertenbach**. “The desire I have with the forms I create is to continue studying the

many emotions of mankind and capture the spirit of them in my work that would touch the viewer to their very soul.”

Gertenbach's sculpture titled *Soaring* was created shortly after her husband passed away.

“I was inspired to express what I imagined was his experience after leaving this life. My sculpture depicts a figure *Soaring* away from the earth as she reaches out for the heavens, she takes one last glance back and carries deep in her soul all the memories of her life and the loved one's she leaves behind,” says Gertenbach.

**Darlis Lamb's** bronzes are defined by elegant form, classical expression and sensitive design, whether the subject is a fruit or vegetable or an intimate moment in the journey of the human spirit.

“I have my story in creating these sculptures, and collectors have theirs,” says Lamb. “When I am privileged to hear a collector's story, it connects with mine in poetic and poignant ways I could never have imagined.”

The bronzes in Lamb's *Zen* series share common themes of serenity and simplicity.

Martine Bertin-Peterson, owner of The Peterson-Cody Gallery, says Lamb's sculptures are widely sought after in the gallery.

“The serenity, pleasing shapes, life-like appearances and exquisite patinas of Darlis Lamb's bronzes always stop collectors in their tracks,” says Bertin-Peterson.

**Leon Richman** has made the physical interpretation of the human spirit his hallmark, not settling for a simple duplication of a posing body, but instilling his sculptures with the same passion he feels in their creation.

“Leon Richman's sculptures have been a particular favorite with our gallery patrons,” says Jacqueline Schaar, owner of Schaar Galleries in Laguna Beach, California, which represents Richman. “While they may show the elegant lines of his compositions, a personal visit reveals how very realistic Richman's sculptures are. Only in person can one appreciate Richman's remarkable understanding of the human figure and his amazingly intricate attention to detail.”

**Jim Rennert** hopes his recent sculptures serve as a reflection of our times, imbued with hope, optimism and humor.

“My piece *Insight*, for me, symbolizes the positive outcomes of uphill climbs. Through opposition, we often achieve far greater insight than we ever would have gained at ground level,” says Rennert.

For **Christopher Gowell**, sculpting



**Darlis Lamb**, *Seven Asian Persimmons (French Lesson 15)*, bronze, ed. of 15, 4 x 29 x 8", The Peterson-Cody Gallery



**Leon Richman**, *Spring's Renewal*, bronze, ed. of 9, 37 x 26 x 25", Schaar Galleries

the nude is the only art form that has held her interest consistently over the years.

"Sculpting the nude is such a beautiful, sensual experience, one that has held my interest for over 40 years. I fall in love with sensuous curves, taught muscles and tendons, and bony protuberances," says Gowell. "No matter how much I think

I know, I discover aspects of the figure that confound and intrigue, a constant and exquisite journey of exploration."

"Christopher Gowell brings an element of sophistication, grace and style to our gallery. I always use her work in our exhibits; I think it gives it a little something extra," says Steve

Bowersock, owner of Bowersock Gallery of Provincetown, Massachusetts, which represents Gowell's work.

Available at 101/exhibit in Miami, Florida, **Curtis K. LaFollette's** current body of work began in 1989 when he deconstructed the teapot.

"This was in response to my