



# *Sculptures*

## ***Water ~ Source of Life***

### **Artist Interpretation:**

The water cycle rejuvenates the earth. An explosion of life springs forth. From the life-giving water, a fountain of fish, plants, insects, birds and trees erupts. Ever watchful, human eyes protect this valuable resource.



## ***Water ~ Sculptor of Land***

### **Artist Interpretation:**

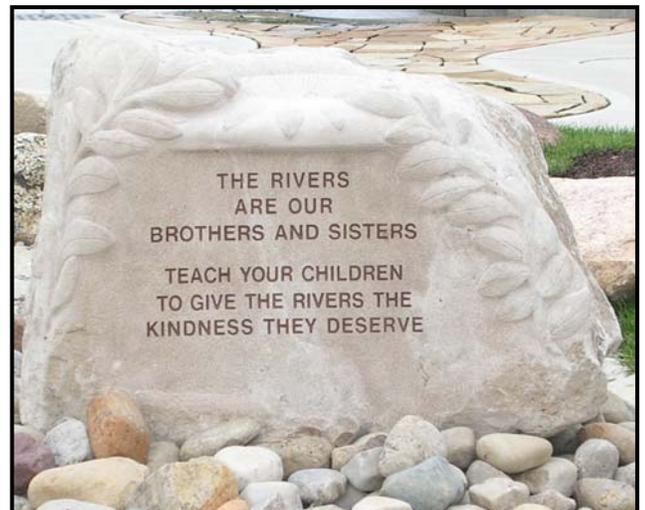
The fountain is created by the core sample of limestone erupting from the earth, bringing with it a fossil history laid down over millions of years. The recycled limestone core is a metaphor for the cyclical nature of water and its power to transform the earth, lying down layer after layer of sediment. The terra cotta is a metaphor for the fragile gifts the earth provides. These two naturally occurring materials, limestone and terra cotta, are being "recycled" into a utilitarian work of art. The Circular design of the sculpture invites the viewer to explore the power of water through fossils and time.



## ***Water ~ Gift of Earth***

### **Artist Interpretation:**

The large stone represents the earth as the source of water. Water is a gift of the earth. It is our responsibility to pass this message on to future generations. The fountain is inscribed with the following words: "The rivers are our brothers and sisters. Teach your children to give the rivers the kindness they deserve."



# Meet the Artists

## ***Karen Heyl***

A native of Cincinnati, Karen has been a stone sculptor for 20 years. After marrying and starting a family, she entered the Cincinnati Art Academy with the intent of becoming a painter. Once introduced to stone as an art medium, Karen was hooked and began her career as a stone sculptor. Today, Karen completes her work at her studio in the Pendleton Art Center in the Over-the-Rhine area in Cincinnati.

Bas-relief sculptures carved in Indiana limestone is the work for which Karen is best known. Examples of her work can be found throughout the Cincinnati area and the United States. Locally, her most well-known work is "Creation Wall" at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Montgomery. Her work is also featured at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, where you can find her "Flight to Freedom" relief carving.

Nature-related subject matter is a motif that has inspired her work for many years. Using Old World stone carving techniques, Karen combines these simplified sensual forms with a variety of textural surfaces to create a contemporary design.



## ***Allan Nairn***

Allan Nairn was born and educated in London, England. His strong Scottish heritage drew him to the highlands of Scotland in 1972, where he founded the Glenmoriston Pottery in an abandoned blacksmiths Smithy on the shores of Loch Ness. Emigrating to America in 1983, Allan settled in Cincinnati, where he became a partner in the Spring Street Pottery with Michael Frasca and Richard Aerni. He later co-founded the Final Design Studio with ceramic artist, Jamie Fine. Today, Allan works in his own studio at the Pendleton Art Center in the Over-the-Rhine area in Cincinnati. He is married to the batik artist, Arnelle Dow.

Allan's passion for gardens has inspired him to create a wide range of garden-related ceramics. He uses Terra-Cotta clay, which in Italian means "Baked Earth". Terra-Cotta is a richly colored, deep reddish brown clay with a strong historical connection. Whether it's the everyday functional flower pot, dramatic figurines in ancient Rome, spice jars from the Middle East or classic amphora style oil vessels from Greece, for Allan, Terra-Cotta has a timeless quality.

Allan employs a variety of techniques when creating his work. Forms are either thrown on a potter's wheel or made with slabs of clay. Relief tiles and plaques are individually hand-pressed into plaster molds from originals, which Allan designs and creates. Colored slips and stains are applied both by hand and airbrushed. Sgraffito is the technique used to carve designs and patterns into the clay after the color is applied. These techniques ensure that each piece Allan produces is one-of-a-kind.

