



## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Abraham is a sculptor based in Saint Louis and proficient in stone, bronze, wood, and steel. He has been working professionally as an artist since he graduated from Arizona State University in 2004. His work is primarily figurative and when given the opportunity, tends toward rich symbolism and narrative storytelling. In many cases his work carries forward an “old-world” aesthetic that honors generations of artists who honed their skills and then handed down that knowledge and experience to the next generation to be improved upon. He is trying to use the best of our collective art history to give visual expression to thoughts and ideas he finds particularly valuable to a contemporary audience.

In much of his work, he starts with found objects, (stone or wood) and considers where it came from and its natural form. A sculpture with a narrative suggests itself as he peels back layers of unwanted stone and the sculpture’s conceptual significance emerges. In a recent body of work, he sculpted blocks of marble that were pulled out of a rubble pile after an historic building in St. Louis was controversially demolished or “deconstructed.” He discovered, in those blocks of marble, intriguing ways of drawing metaphors about the trajectory of art history and of modern Western Civilization. He sees the role of the contemporary artist as one who sifts through the rubble pile of the past century, examining the building blocks to find the ones with intrinsic value, and re-presenting to the public a vision of how these blocks can be used for a compelling future.

Many of his commissions have come about by someone saying, “Abe, we love your work, and we have this space here, what do you think would fit nicely?” This engages a process of asking about what is important to the client, making sketches, and generating proposals based on the feedback. And so, the final piece is generally rather site specific and purpose specific. One will see in his work an attentiveness toward meeting the purposes and goals of the patron.