

BIOGRAPHY

Barbara Sorensen's large scale sculptural installations have long been inspired by nature, geological formations, the classical elements of art, and the diverse materiality of our ever-changing environment. Expanding on this foundation, her recent work includes a focus on the energy and dynamism of the environment through the creation of vessels and wall sculptures constructed of metal and resins, as well as experimental use of new and unexpected materials and textures, often interconnected, and chromatically bold. The new series emerges from early inspiration but with a renewed focus and interest in the relationships between human and landscape.

"Sorensen's ultimate subject is growth and change. Characteristics of both the physical world that surrounds us and the interior landscape we carry inside, movement and energy are the essence of life. Sorensen's works breathe with this truth and in turn, convey it to us." Eleanor Heartney, Art Critic, Art in America.

Most recently, Sorensen exhibited at the Mennello Museum of American Art in a sculpture exhibit with Debra Butterfield and Alyca Aycock. A catalogue of her new work in aluminum, *Ripples*, and her iconic clay installation, *Chalice Forest*, accompanied the exhibit. Following her solo exhibition, *Topographies*, at the Orlando Museum of Art, she finished a two-year tour of her work in seven museums and galleries across the nation. It included collaborative work with audio, video and dance productions. A comprehensive catalogue with essays by Eleanor Heartney and Barbara Bloemink accompanied the exhibition.

Sorensen's work is in numerous museums, corporate and private collections. Among them are the Everson Museum of Art, Cornell Museum of Fine Art, San Angelo Museum of Fine Art, American Museum of Ceramic Art, Flint Institute of Arts, Newark Museum, Racine Art Museum, Mennello Museum of American Art, Florida State Capitol Art Collection, Orlando International Airport, Town of Snowmass Village, City of Orlando, City of Winter Park, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, SunTrust Bank, Darden Restaurant Corporation, Neiman Marcus Corporation, The United Company, The White House Collection, Washington, D.C., Stetson University and the University of Central Florida.

Sorensen's recent museum and one-person shows have been at Walker Gallery (Denver), Cornell Fine Arts Museum (Florida), Quintenz Gallery and David Floria (Aspen), Kouros Gallery (New York), 212 Gallery (Aspen), Elaine Baker Gallery (Boca Raton), Millenia Gallery (Orlando), Polk Museum of Art (Lakeland), Museum of Florida Art (DeLand) and Manchester Craftsmen's Guild (Pittsburgh); her work has been showcased at the Aspen Art Museum, Mennello Museum of American Art, Forre Gallery (Aspen), Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Museum of Fine Arts in St Petersburg, and the Time Warner Building (New York).

Sorensen's work has been published widely in periodicals, texts and monographs including: Barbara Sorensen: Mennello Museum of American Art, (2017), Barbara Sorensen: Topographies (2010), Picturing Florida: From the First Coast to the Space Coast (2008), Finding Balance with curator James Surls (2006), Ceramics in the Environment by Janet Mansfield (2005), The Craft and Art of Clay, 3rd Ed., by Susan Peterson (cover image), (1999) and Architectural Ceramics by Peter King, (cover image), (1999).

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