

Courtney Renee Scruggs

Artist Statement

As a human and an artist, my intention is to continually combat our perception of the natural world as something to conquer when in reality, we all succumb to decay. My work is an example of what happens when we let go of our innate sense of eternal life and begin to understand that everything ends in decomposition and inside that truth, we are all equal. Our mortality knows no race, religion, gender or genetic makeup. Overall, I make my work to be an even-keeled leveling of light and dark; life and death. I am heavily influenced by my connection to my community and the immense depth of inspiration drawn from sailing and the ocean as a Coast Guard licensed sea captain. While the decay of many of my nautically inspired bronze sculptures are brutal, there is something beautiful about the growth that occurs in the face of our humanity.

Biography

Courtney Scruggs is a graduate from the University of California, Santa Cruz where she focused primarily on bronze casting. Although she started out as a painter, she learned several types of printmaking, pastel drawing, watercolors, ceramics, sculpting, woodworking, fabrication, welding, bronze casting, and both abstract and commercial photography. She is influenced by her connection to her community and the immense depth of inspiration drawn from sailing and the ocean. She worked on commissions and was recognized for her work by Sean Monaghan, a professor at UCSC, who hired her immediately upon graduating to assist at his foundry, Bronze Works. Today, Courtney continues to work for Sean at his foundry in Santa Cruz as well as her own bronze work and jewelry in her workshop in Davenport, CA.