

Neil Grant,

Owner of Granty Art

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### **Artist statement**

Correctly rendered gestures, facial expressions and forms are a universal language that can be understood by all, and in mastering the techniques to produce them, my work becomes accessible to its audience. I work in clay because of the subtlety of expression that can be conveyed by a slight volume added to an eye or lip: a small upward curve of the lower eyelid transforms a forced smile into one of genuine joy. We are all expert in reading faces and gestures, and the ability to produce these in my art allows the viewer to connect with my work.

My art makes social commentary, often using humor, or alternatively invites the viewer to contemplate the piece's story by observing the subtleties of its realistically rendered physical form. In creating these pieces I'm influenced by protest artists such as Banksy, and master sculptors such as and Philippe Faraut, Bruno Luchessi and Beth Cavener Stichter.

Every day, I use the art of deliberate practice to challenge both my technical skills and the boundaries of my creativity. By pushing myself in this structured way, my work becomes artistically enriched and the piece becomes more engaging for the viewer.

### **Artist biography**

Neil Grant is an award-winning figurative sculptor who finished a twenty-year corporate career to dedicate himself to his craft. He lives in Cape Cod, Massachusetts where he sculpts out of his studio and teaches classes and workshops at art centers across the Cape. Neil is on the teaching faculty at Cotuit Center for the Arts and manages its Ceramics Program. He is also a member of the Center's Curatorial Committee.

Neil has studied under nationally recognized sculptors such as Philippe Faraut and Brian Booth Craig.

### **Education**

**2015 – Holmberg Arts Leadership Certificate-** a four-month program that develops leadership skills necessary to prepare the participants for prominent roles within arts organizations

### **Courses attended:**

Philippe Faraut – Figure Sculpting Course – 2016

Philippe Faraut – Advance Portrait Course – 2015

Brian Booth Craig – Sketching In Clay – 2015

Brian Booth Craig – Portrait Sculpture – 2014

Roberto Osti - Anatomy Of The Figure Drawing Workshop – 2013

Brian Booth Craig – Figure Sculpture – 2013

## **Exhibitions**

Escapees From A Little Black Book (solo exhibition), Cotuit Center for the Arts - 2018  
Winter Art Exhibit, Art Foundation of Cape Cod - 2018  
All New England Exhibit, Cape Cod Art Association – 2017  
Artist's Vision Exhibit, Cape Cod Art Association - 2017  
Winter Art Exhibit, Art Foundation of Cape Cod - 2017  
All New England Exhibit, Cape Cod Art Association – 2016  
Faculty Show, Falmouth Arts Center – 2016

## **Awards**

First place for sculpture, All New England Exhibit, Cape Cod Art Association – 2017  
Second place for sculpture, Artist's Vision Exhibition, Cape Cod Art Association, 2017  
Honorable mention, The National Exhibit, Cape Cod Art Association - 2017  
Most Creative Award, All New England Exhibit, Cape Cod Art Association – 2016

## **Courses/Workshops Taught**

Sculpting the Torso (10 weeks) – upcoming Feb 2018, Cotuit Center for the Arts - 2018  
Introduction to Figure Sculpting (10 weeks), Cotuit Center for the Arts - 2017  
Sculpting with a Slab Roller (10 weeks), Falmouth Arts Center -2017  
Sculpting Realistic Heads in Clay (2 day workshop), Cotuit Center for the Arts - 2017  
Portrait Sculpture series (26 weeks), Cotuit Center for the Arts - 2017  
Portrait Sculpture (10 weeks), Cotuit Center for the Arts – 2016  
Sculpting The Figure - Scenic City Clay Arts, Chattanooga, TN – 2 day workshop – 2015

## **Collections**

Private Collection, 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Royal Logistics Corp, UK  
Private Collection, Mr. Matthew McClelland, Tennessee  
Private Collection, Mr. Marcus McKamey, Georgia  
Private Collection, Ms. Cheryl O'Brien, Tennessee

## **Affiliations:**

National Sculpture Society: 2013 – present  
Falmouth Arts Guild, Massachusetts: 2016 – present  
Cotuit Center for the Arts – 2016 - present