

An Ornamental *Metalsmith* Bill Roberts

~Bill Roberts

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Artist's Statement

The creative process, for me, is as much about the journey and discoveries as it is about the destination. I enjoy the learning, discovery, growth, unexpected surprises, the WONDER of creation.

Fluidity seems to be a recurring theme in my work. I LOVE the flow of line and the interplay with negative space.

I create . . . therefore I AM.



Maquette of *Nurture*; Forged Aluminum;
19" x 10" x 6"

My name is Bill Roberts . . . I own and operate Custom Design Metal Arts in Ocala, Florida. I've been doing decorative metalwork for over 25 years. I started this metalsmithing journey in 1984 as a jeweler and caster, producing one of a kind pieces using the lost wax casting process.

Finding myself drawn to other metals and with a jeweler's eye for detail, I began my apprenticeship with Klahm and Sons in 1989, where I was introduced to larger scale ornamental metalwork. This was a company that specialized in architectural metalwork of the highest quality. Here, I was introduced to a wide variety of metals, including aluminum, steels (stainless, mild, and damascus), brass, bronze, and copper.

That experience has allowed me to broaden my artistic horizons to include not only fine jewelry in gold and sterling but also what I like to refer to as "house jewelry"—entry gates, railings, doors, lighting, furniture, and sculpture. Of late, the majority of my work has fallen in the architectural ornamental metal category. I specialize in hand forged or custom cast, one of a kind and limited edition designs. I enjoy working with original designs of my own as well as collaborating with clients.

I'm an ornamental metalsmith. ⇨



Flutterby; Forged Aluminum and Copper;
48" x 36" x 9"



Bill Buhler
Festival, 2013
Forged aluminum and copper
on a base of granite

Festival; Forged Aluminum and Copper, Granite Base;
40" x 27" x 15"