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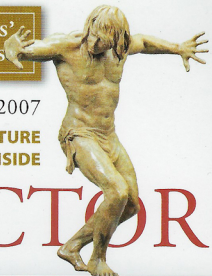
art

PREVIEWS OF MAINSTREAM ARTISTS'
UPCOMING SHOWS COAST TO COAST

JUNE 2007

MONTHLY SCULPTURE
SECTION INSIDE

COLLECTOR



UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 15 works on show

June 1–30, 2007

Ragir Art

3587 Oceanview Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90066

(310) 390-5919

SHOW LOCATION LOS ANGELES, CA

TANYA RAGIR

Sculpting from the inside

Tanya Ragir can switch from bronze to resin to ceramic in her new sculpture work just as fast as she can move from creating personal intimate portraits to making large, universal comments on beauty.

"There's two major areas I focus on and both come from a real reverence for beauty," Ragir says. "The first is very much about the person I am working with. I try to capture their essence and really get to the core of their beauty and personality. The other pieces come from a love of form and making the connection between the human form and the landscape."

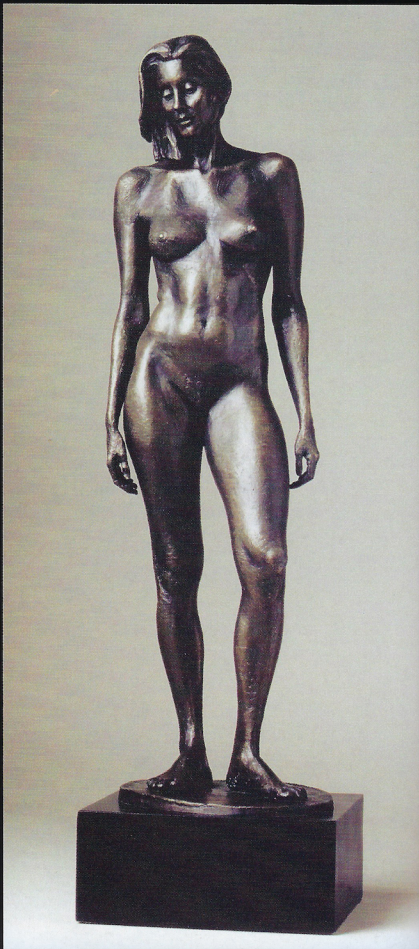
It is important for Ragir to find subjects with whom she can form a connection, making the sculpting process more personal and subjective. She believes she always falls in love with her sitters, a byproduct of revealing their personalities.

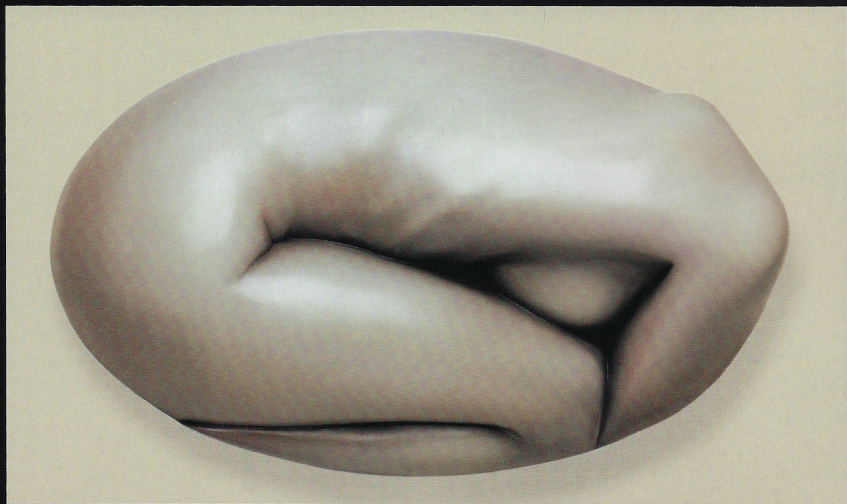
"In the more personal work, I want to get to their essence," says Ragir. "I used to pose them and look at them as form, but now I'm interested in that person and don't want them to pose; I'm more interested in how they stand in space, how they look in their own bodies. The people I work with always tell me they come out of this with the feeling of being beautiful because any notions of self-criticism go away once they are loved with artistic eyes."

In her larger work based on form, Ragir enjoys relating the human body to a landscape by focusing on the subtle folds and crevices.

"With the landscape work, I try and take the self out entirely and view the figure as allegory for all form," she says. "It's like

DANIELLE II, BRONZE, 32 x 8 x 6"





FORTUNE COOKIE, PAINTED RESIN, 17 x 26 x 5"



CURVE, BRONZE, 18 x 13 x 8"


O'Keeffe who saw everything as organic, sexual and sensual. I see landforms as soft with sensual forms, and the details of the folds in the body are exactly the same thing and beautiful the same way. I love how a fold comes from an unseen source, emerges and then disappears."

Ragir has found that as she gets older, her ideas and conceptions about beauty constantly evolve.

"My relationship and aesthetic about beauty have changed," says Ragir. "I now see beauty as an authenticity and find there is incredible beauty in experience. These are really life-sized sculptures of women I love and they are getting more personal."

As a woman who sculpts women, Ragir's self-awareness enhances the creation process.

"They are my own species, so I find myself sculpting from the inside out," she says. "I enjoy working with dancers because they have an understanding of form and movement, and when I see other woman's beauty I understand that and relate to it as one of the same. My subjects are women, mostly friends, from ages 16 to 75. And the most successful pieces I've ever done observe the person as they are with themselves. When they let me see that, it is a real honor." ●

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to 
www.americanartcollector.com

Price Range Indicator

Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator shows what you can expect to pay for this artist's work.

	Small	Medium	Large
	2007 \$2,000	\$10,000-\$15,000	\$25,000-\$30,000