

NANO LOPEZ

Nano's sculpture is an artful amalgam of the bright colors of a Colombian market place; animals precariously laden with Pre-Columbian and contemporary artifacts. When looking closer, his work invites us to observe the world more carefully and discover for ourselves the rich interconnection of life.

Nano Lopez is an artist gifted with the rare ability to see the world with exploration, wonder, and creativity. He is deeply fascinated by the mysteries of life and its inherent struggles. In his artistic process, Nano integrates organic textures and humanmade objects into his bronzes to create pieces of art that reflect the same depth and richness he sees in the world around him.



Although colorful and whimsical, Nano's work is anything but child's play and invites careful, sustained viewing. The rich and intricate textures and bright colors are subtly evocative of his native Colombia and of other Latin art, but his depth of understanding and free associations transcend culture and time. They describe a world beyond the borders of ordinary maps where an unfettered imagination allow nature, science, folklore and modern industrialism to exist seamlessly together.

Recognition for the artistic abilities of Nano Lopez came early in life in his native Bogota, Columbia, when he was awarded first place in a municipal school drawing contest. By the last few years of high school he was making serious copies of Michelangelo's sculptures.

In 1978, at the age of 23, Nano traveled to Spain and began working for the renowned sculptor Francisco Baron. While with Francisco, Nano carved marble, granite and fabricated steel, working with all three materials on a monumental scale. It was in Madrid that he began casting his own works in bronze and held his first solo artist show.

After two years, Nano made his way to France, where he continued to study and show his work. At the Superior National School of Beaux Arts in Paris, Nano focused his studies in new materials. In 1981, he returned to Bogota to build a studio and utilize the methods he had learned in Europe.

Nano relocated to the United States in 1983 and worked with Manuel Izquierdo, head of the sculpture department at the Pacific Northwest College of Art. He applied his skills in welding, tooling, and patinas at various bronze foundries in the Northwest. Since 1988, Nano has made a distinguished name for himself enlarging small maquette to monumental size sculptures; his enlarging work sought by artists and foundries alike.

The sculptural work of Nano continues to evolve, as he explores a variety of artistic directions. His spirited Nanimal sculptures are fanciful creatures that are a fascinating fusion of intricate details, rich textures, and surprising connections. The combination of his classical training and experimentation with materials has led to the production of avant-garde art, which combines powerful aesthetic considerations and rich textural surfaces. His contemporary sculpture is primarily figurative, and describes the essential in the human condition in a strong and emotionally charged way.

In 2001, Nano created a beautiful 8,000 sq. ft. studio for sculpture and finishing. An airy light-filled space consisting of 27-foot ceilings and landscaped with an attractive pond. He makes his home with his family, nearby his studio in Walla Walla, Washington.