

PROFILE

Yves Goyatton

BY NICOMAVRIS

Fragment d'homme 2009

"If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful at all." – Michelangelo

While few artists are born, 35-year-old Yves Goyatton is one of them. Stumbling upon sculpting, Goyatton quickly recognized the art form for what it was—a lifelong passion. Born in Lyon, France, Goyatton now lives and works in the Monterey Bay area. He studied art at L'école de Condé for a year, before traveling to the U.S in the hopes of gaining a new perspective for his work.

In 1999, he began taking classes at El Camino College in Los Angeles, where he simultaneously learned from master mask maker, Jordu Shell. During his time spent in southern California, Goyatton was able to begin molding his knowledge and love of sculpture. He furthered his sculpting education at the Monterey Peninsula College, where he earned an Honors degree in his field. Premiering his work at the Carmel Art Festival, in 2007, Goyatton took "Best in Show". Since then, his unique work has been highly acclaimed and widely exhibited throughout California and his native France. His current body of work exhibits his intrigue with the unique qualities of the human body. Goyatton is exploring the combination of the abstract shapes of architectural landscapes with the human form.

Recently, we caught up with Goyatton at work in his studio on Cannery Row:

831: From where do you draw inspiration for your work?

YG: I am inspired by all the steps in which art is made and I am not afraid to face the difficulties the pro-

cess requires of me. It is in this space that I encounter and conquer challenges. From there, it is also possible to discover new points of departure for future artistic expeditions. It is a fusion of elements.

831: Can you explain how one of your works comes to life?

YG: I conceive my work primarily as abstract with anthropomorphic elements. I begin with an idea, but remain malleable to the end result. It is important to me that the piece reflects a refined aesthetic, which I can only describe when I am visually satisfied. This then becomes my new boundary for the next work: to exceed what I have done before without duplication. Liberating myself from attachment, I find the freedom to go anywhere. More specifically, the abstract liberates where the figurative constrains. The work sets up my boundaries and I push against them. This is our relationship.

831: How do you envision the reaction of the viewer to your work?

YG: I am interested in the correlation between humans and their environment, specifically between the natural form and the industrial landscape. My work references the integration of architecture with the natural environment. I want the viewer to have the freedom to be transported in his own personal perception and imagination, regardless of the artist's intentions.

Yves's current body of work represents what he calls his "fascination with the mystery of abstract shapes and their juxtaposition with human form". It can be viewed at Ventana Gallery and further information is available at yveSculptor.com.

