



**dreams
in
bronze**

About Us:

- We Pour Lost Wax Bronze. **Since** 1968.
- **Family** Owned, third generation.
- Totally **Vertical**.
- Made by **Catholics**



Dear Friends :

For centuries honest women and men have understood the need to pay homage to the ideas, events, and individuals that have forged their history and that of their community.

Along with architecture, sculpture has been the main expression of religious and civic monumental art for centuries; it was the driving force of European civilization. Even today, although continuously evolving, sculpture is by far the leading method of expressing and commemorating historical figures and events.

First of all, Our goal is to sculpt the finest, most lifelike and traditional , sculptures, so that people can experience the love, joy and compassion that they offer, and we accomplish it through a hand-crafted bronze work.

The detail that we accomplish in each of them takes a lengthy amount of time, which is why each one is unique, and why only a handful at a time are created. Each is made to the highest standard achievable using the traditional “Lost Wax Casting Method”,

Another reason is that they are unique gift and also a legacy for a loved one, family member, friend, institution, organization ,community or church. There is no better way to express your appreciation for that special person or organization in your life.

All original features are retained and captured from the molding process.

If you kindly take a close look to this book you will recognize our fine detailing which is the result of a method called chasing the wax. Here, we, re-detail the features by hand, making each piece completely individual and original.

Also, kindly observe that using the finest Bronze ingot accentuates and brings the character to life and their facial features in a way that no other material can.

It takes months to complete each piece, but it will last for generations. Most bronzes are dated hundreds and even thousands of years ago, bronze is the only alloy that survives such long periods of time.

This is not simply an art work, It is much more than that, and It will bring to you as much happiness, pleasure and peace as it took us to create.

It yields a wonderful, and calming power... a warm, presence.

Own A Piece of History, make your bronze dream come true.
Ricardo Flores-Kastanis
Founder.



HOW WE MAKE A BRONZE DREAM COME TRUE...

They are an exceptional tribute to our faith, our ideas or people we are proud of. From ancient times, bronze sculpture has been used as a means of paying tribute and showing respect.

Our Process: Every piece we create is made using the ancient lost wax process of molten bronze casting. This more than 5000-year-old casting method is a lengthy progression of steps that requires a great deal of attention.

The end result is a finished piece that is unsurpassed in detail, quality, and beauty. , we have elected to use the lost wax process over other casting methods as it allows us to customize each sculpture with your specific preference and impressive detail.

The following steps and photos outline the progression of the lost wax process. 10 areas and 42 steps ,each step handmade by skilled women and men.



1

The first step is to create an original piece using either clay or wax.

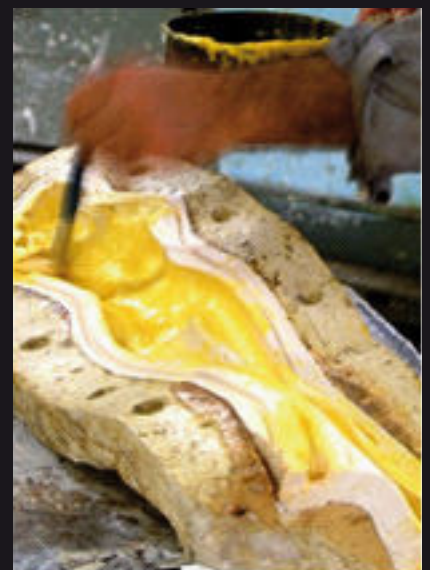
2

A rubber mold and an outer mother mold that holds the shape is then made of the original work. Rubber is the chosen material, because it is able to capture all the intricate details of the original, allowing for a true reproduction.



3

Hot wax is then poured or brushed into the mold. Once the hot wax has hardened, it is removed, and the wax replica of the original is revealed. Wax rods, called gates, are applied to the wax replica. This allows for the wax to be removed and creates an even flow of molten metal. Funnels, called sprues, are attached to collect the molten bronze and allow gases of air to escape. After the original wax is removed from the rubber mold, the replica is hand detailed to match the original.



4

The wax reproduction, once gated, is coated with numerous layers of a ceramic material over the next several days or weeks depending upon the size of the piece. This produces a stable mold over the wax and it is cured for over 48 hours



5

Once the ceramic is cured it is placed in a burnout oven, which melts all the wax within the ceramic shell. This step leaves an empty shell, thus the term "Lost Wax". After all the wax has been removed from the ceramic, the empty shell is placed in a kiln for firing.

6

Molten bronze is then poured into the ceramic shell or mold at a temperature of 2100 degrees Fahrenheit. The molten bronze takes the place of where the wax once was.



7

After the bronze has cooled and solidified, the ceramic shell is broken off to reveal the actual bronze piece. The sprues and gates, which also were bronzed during the process, are cut out and discarded. The bronze piece is then sandblasted to remove any traces of ceramic shell that have not been chipped away, leaving a nice smooth, clean surface.



8

The raw casted pieces are now welded together. Any imperfections are erased through welding, grinding, and polishing, so that the bronze piece looks like the original work of art created in the first step.



After the bronze piece has been welded together and the metal work is complete, it is sandblasted one last time, making the entire surface a uniform texture.

9

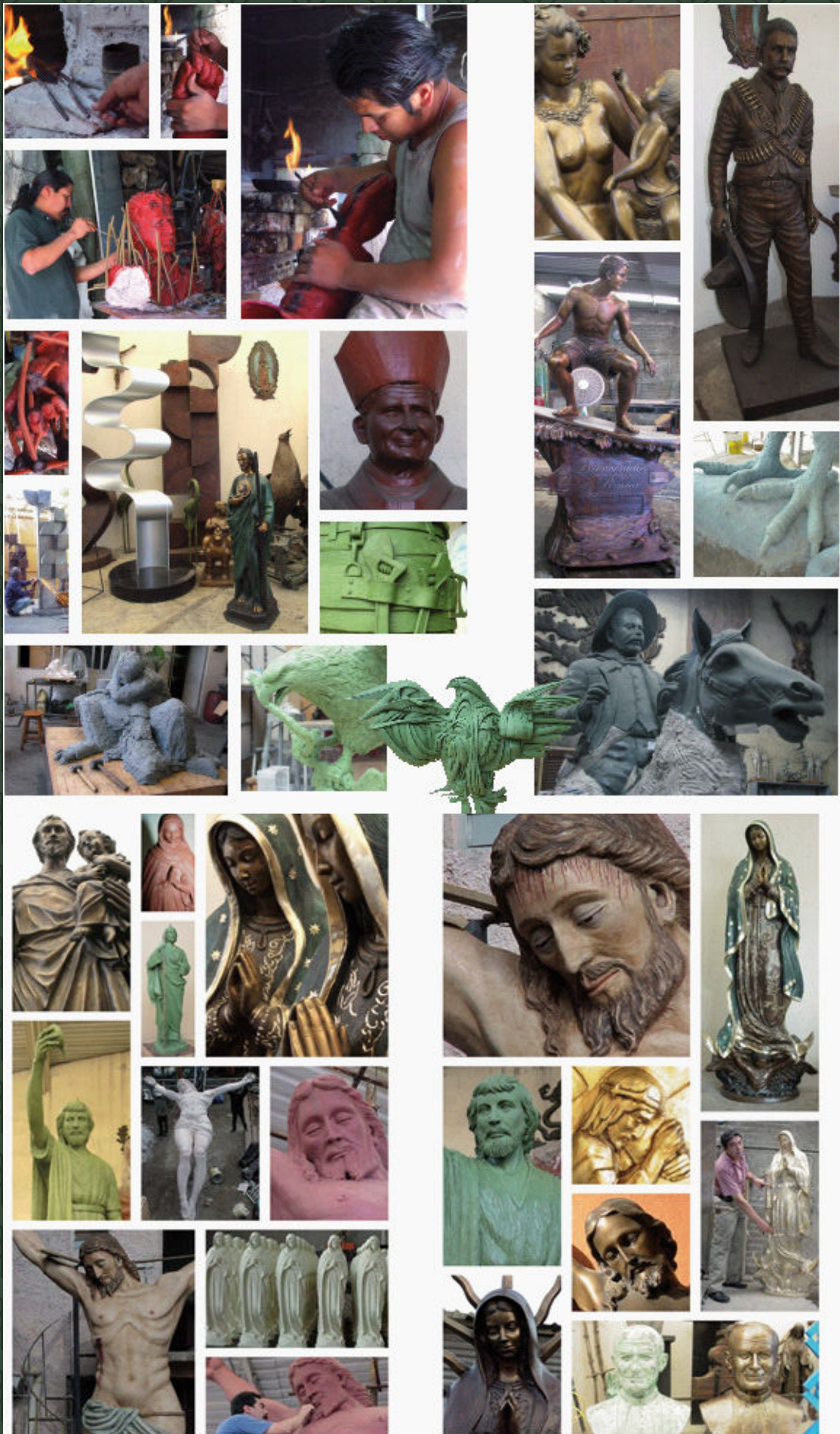


10

The sculpture is now heated to a high temperature and treated with a variety of chemicals to give the sculpture the desired color. Once the patina is complete and the statue is still warm, a hot wax is brushed on, which protects the bronze sculpture from natural elements such as air, moisture, etc.

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF OUR DETAIL





SAN JUAN DIEGO

STANDING AT THE
SITE OF THE 5th
APPARITION
12 FEET TALL



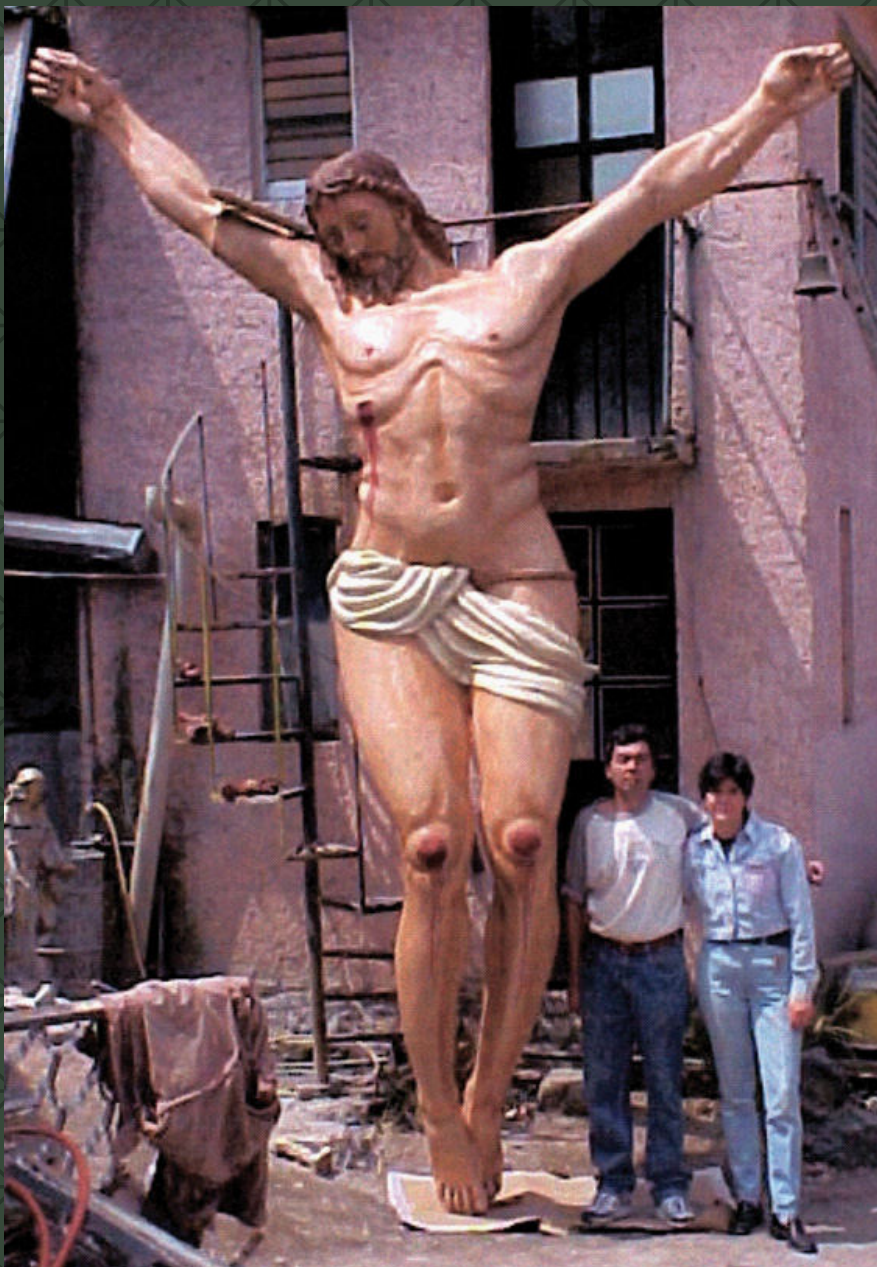
PUERTO RICO Our Lord Jesus

10 feet Tall standing in
El Dorado , Puerto Rico
We have over 30 sta-
tues made by us stan-
ding on the Island



CRISTO DE CHILAPA

**21 Feet High
Guerrero , Mexico
Stands Inside the Chilapa
Parish**

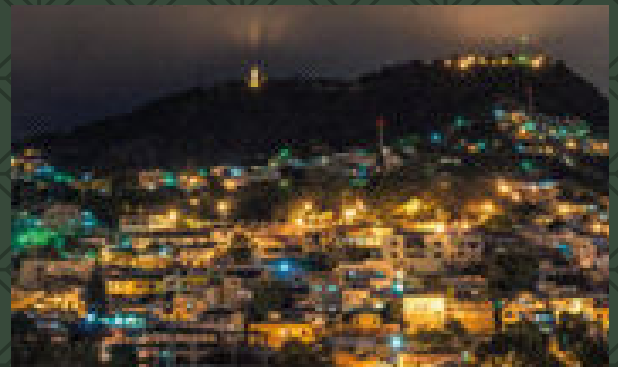


Cristo del Picacho

**100 Feet High
Tegucigalpa , Honduras
Stands towering above
the capital of Honduras**



**WEIGHT: 2.500 TONS
32 METERS , 100 FEET HIGH
DEDICATED IN 1997
SCULPTOR:
Mario Zamora Alcántara
AMPLIFICATION AND
GLASS FIBER MOLD
MADE BY US.**



Saint John Paul II

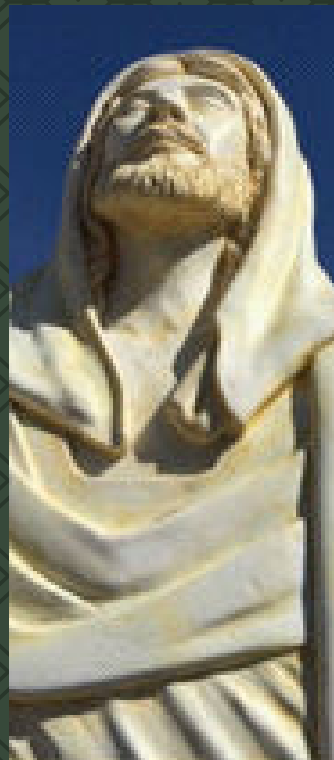
9 Feet tall, Border between
El Paso Texas and
Santa Teresa New Mexico



SOME MORE EXAMPLES



OUR LADY OF KIHÉBO



OUR LADY OF



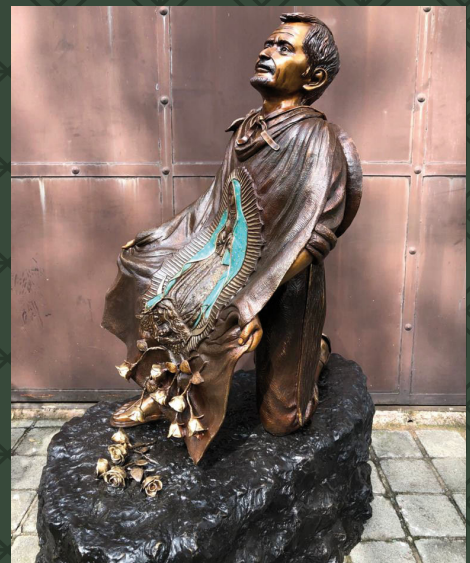
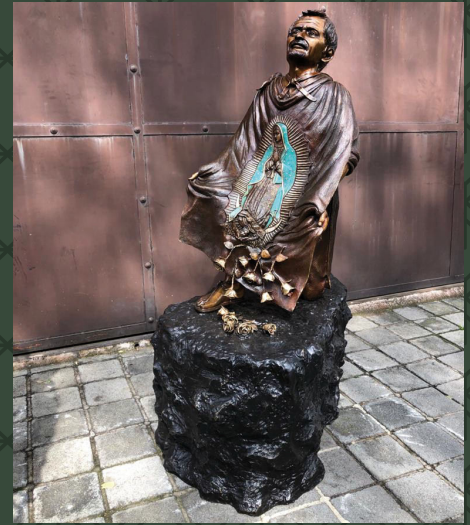
**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
HOOBS, NEW MEXICO. USA.**



GUADALUPE



**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
TOGO, AFRICA.**



ALL ORIGINAL PLACQUES , THE MICHAEL O NEIL © COLLECTION
ALL APPARRITIONS WE CAN PERSONALIZE CASE BY CASE



St. Catherine Labouré experienced two apparitions of the Virgin Mary and received the design for the Miraculous Medal in her Paris convent.



OUR LADY OF THE MIRACOLOUS MEDAL



OUR LADY OF FATIMA



While tending sheep, Lucia de Santos and her two cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, reported six visions of the "Queen of the Rosary".



At the Grotto of Massabielle, the Virgin showed herself 18 times to St. Bernadette Soubirous as "the Immaculate Conception".



OUR LADY OF LOURDES



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



The Virgin Mary proclaimed herself "The Mother of the true God who gives life" and left her image upon the tilma of St. Juan Diego.



During a pouring rain, the Virgin Mary, Joseph, John the Evangelist and a lamb on a plain altar were seen in a bright light by 15 people.



OUR LADY OF KNOCK



OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP



the Virgin Mary appeared as the Queen of Heaven to Adele Brise, a 28-year-old Belgian immigrant living in Northeast Wisconsin.

ALL ORIGINAL PLACQUES , THE MICHAEL O NEIL © COLLECTION

ALL APPARITIONS WE CAN PERSONALIZE CASE BY CASE



The Virgin Mary came 33 times to the playground of a convent school to five children as the "Mother of God, Queen of Heaven".



OUR LADY OF BEAURAING



OUR LADY OF BANNEUX



In a garden behind the family cottage, the Virgin Mary appeared to Mariette Beco (11) eight times as the "Virgin of the Poor".



Six thousand feet up in the French Alps, the weeping Virgin Mary appeared one to shepherds Maximin (11) and Melanie (14).



OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE



OUR LADY OF KIBEHO



Alphonsine (17), Nathalie (20), and Marie Claire (21) experienced visions of the "Mother of the Word" over an eight year period.



During the Franco-Prussian War, Mary appeared once as "Our Lady of Hope" on a farm to four students at the nearby convent school.



OUR LADY OF PONTMAIN

COMPRESSED MARBLE METAL PLATED OF BLESSED MICHAEL McGIVNEY



MEASUREMENTS
10" x 10"

HAND PAINTED FIBER GLASS OF BLESSED MICHAEL McGIVNEY



MEASUREMENTS
18" In Tall
11" Wide
8" Deep



MONUMENTAL PLACQUES 12 feet by 26 feet



STATIONS OF THE CROSS



HOMAGE



HOMAGE



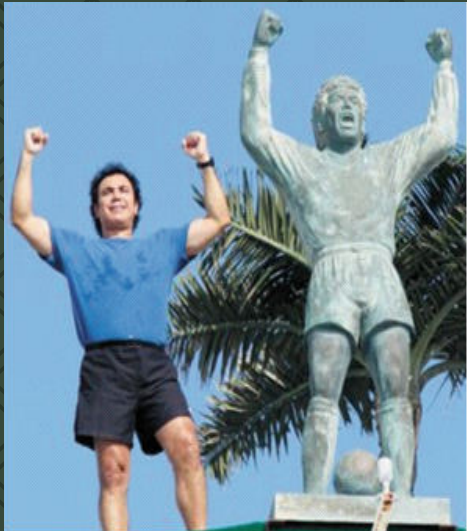
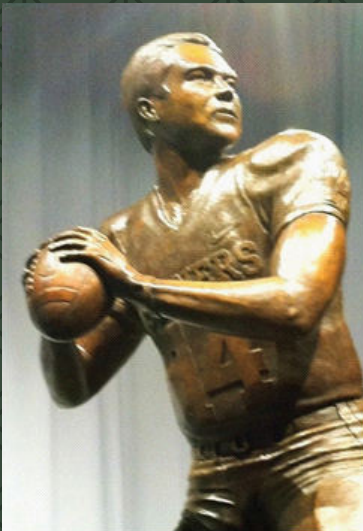
DIVERSE EXAMPLES OF OUR WORKS



Real Size Statues for KIZANIA© LEONARDO DA VINCI, MARTIN LUTHER KING, FLORENCE NIGHINGALE, DIAN FOSSEY, TERESA DE CALCUTTA, CRISTOPHER COLLUMBUS, PELE, CHAPLIN, MOTZART, SOR JUANA INES DE LA CRUZ, NELSON MANDELA and GUTENBERG. (As children) as seen In Mexico City and 10 Amusement Parks all over the world. KIZANIA IS A GLOBAL FAMILY INDOOR AMUSEMENT PARK

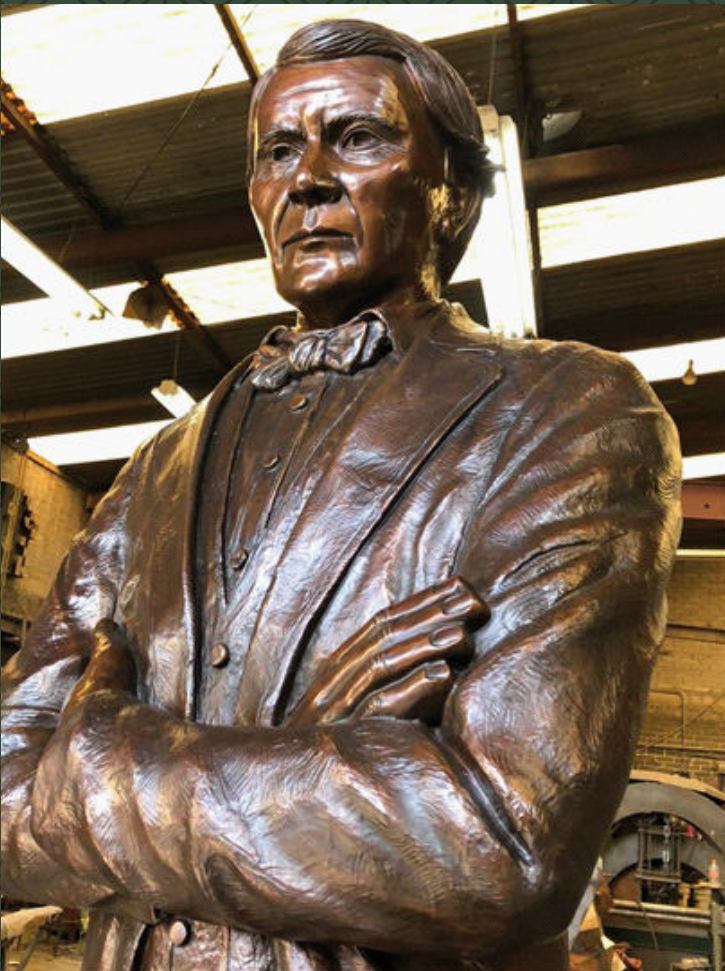


SOME EXAMPLES OF SPORTS



CREATING TEXAN LANDMARKS

**FIRST AND ONLY STATUE OF
COLLIN MCKINNEY IN US HISTORY
(9 FEET).**



CREATING TEXAS LANDMARKS



**ADELFA CALLEJO , ONLY
STATUE OF A LATINO
WOMAN IN DALLAS AND
ONE OF THE ONLY ONES
OF WOMEN IN TEXAS.
(WE HELPED BREAK
THE “BRONZE CEILING”)**



ANIMALS

11 FOOT LONG TIGER

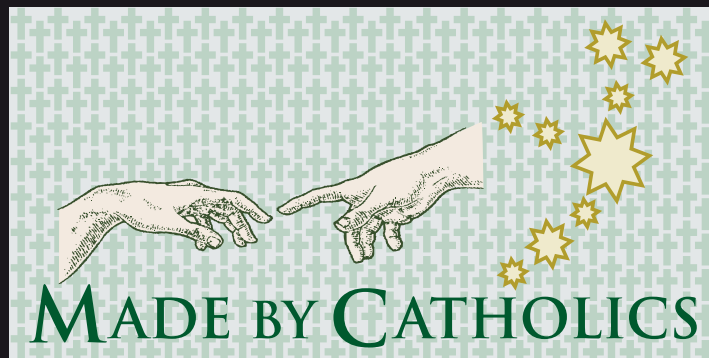


12 FOOT HIGH HORSE



FABRICATED STEEL (STAINLESS, CORTEN or CARBON)





Ricardo Flores Kastanis



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Ricardo.Flores.K@me.com



<http://fb.com/Ourladyofguadalupe.us>

SCAN TO VIST



www.madebycatholics.com



www.dreamsinbronze.com



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