Stacked Series

2016-2018

Kenneth M. Thompson
Foreword

Kenneth M. Thompson: The Stacked Series

1970's.
A new batch of student arrivals was cluttering the cute college campus with piles of necessaries. I spotted a big kid with a large bundle of bold, hard edge paintings. That kid was Ken Thompson. Since that time, Kenneth M. Thompson has explored art mediums, techniques and invented new ones ranging from prints to monumental sculpture.

What you see on the Ella Sharp Museum campus with Ken's "Stacked Series" are four decades of achievement: design, planning, perseverance, and feisty endeavors leading a train of public artworks across the country. With the Stacked Series Ken invites you to explore all of the wonders of his work. Peruse each individual stack and find your imagination stimulated and your mind looking to the future. Visualize walking among these artworks in a roadside park, an open field, a dry desert or main street. Trust your imagination.

(Question:) are some of Ken's 70's canvases are still around? Yes.

Written by Thomas P. Rudd
Artist Statement
Kenneth M. Thompson

I have always had a fascination with buildings and bridges, as well as, the columns, posts, beams and arches that support them. I come to this world from a tradition of craftsmanship. I prefer to use materials that convey strength. I have always felt that good art should be well made and that there is no excuse for poor craftsmanship.

I see each sculpture as a ‘clean sheet of paper’ that presents new opportunities to discover solutions. Beyond content and suitability, my sculpture concentrates on the fundamental issues of form and how negative space defines it, as well as, the techniques employed to create it.
Stone Stack, Ode to Brancusi
Various granites

Stone Stack, Byzantine
Indiana Oolitic limestone and Tennessee marble
**Stone Stack, Spiral**  
various granites

**Plywood Stack**  
3/4" CDX plywood
Laminated Stack, Square
laminated Douglas fir

Laminated Stack, Triangle
laminated Douglas fir
Lincoln Log Stack, Spiral
- cedar fence posts

Steel Stack, Square
- steel
Steel Stack, 30 Degree Offset
steel

Steel Stack, Straight Offset
steel
Lincoln Log Stack, Spire
   cedar fence posts

Steel Stack, Triangle
   steel
Laminated Stack, Keystone
laminated Douglas fir

Steel Stack, Circle
steel
Stone Stack, Limestone
limestone

Lincoln Log Stack, Monument
cedar fence posts
Laminated Stack, Circle
laminated Douglas fir

Steel Stack, Pressed
steel
Column, Block and Base
aluminum, steel and granite

Marble Column, Block and Base
property of Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio
Concrete Columns
property of the City of Knoxville, TN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Material Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Column, Block and Base</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>aluminum, steel and granite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminated Stack, Circle</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>laminated Douglas fir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminated Stack, Square</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>laminated Douglas fir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminated Stack, Triangle</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>laminated Douglas fir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminated Stack, Keystone</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>laminated Douglas fir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Log Stack, Spiral</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>cedar fence posts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Log Stack, Monument</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td>cedar fence posts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Log Stack, Spire</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Stack, Circle</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Stack, Pressed</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Stack, Triangle</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Stack, Square</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Stack, Limestone</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>Indiana Oolitic Limestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Stack, Granite</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>various granites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Stack, Byzantine</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>Indiana Oolitic limestone and Tennessee marble</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Biography
Kenneth M. Thompson

Ken Thompson holds a Master of Liberal Studies in Sculpture from the University of Toledo and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and printmaking from Siena Heights College (University), Adrian, Michigan. Ken has been making sculpture since 1978 out of a former car dealership now turned studio in Blissfield, Michigan. From this facility, he and his assistants also operate Flatlanders Sculpture Supply & Art Galleries and the Midwest Sculpture Initiative. Ken is well versed in bronze casting and metal fabrication but prefers stone carving.

The major focus of Ken’s work since 1997 has been on large scale public sculpture with commissions such as Reclamation Archway for Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Detroit, the Peace Arch for the City of Toledo in honor of the veterans of the Vietnam War, the Korean War Memorial in Toledo, OH, the Centennial Arch in Sylvania, OH and the Community Arch in Canton, MI. Other large commissions include works at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, MI, Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, OH, Children’s Park in Toledo, OH, Copley Chapel at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, Corpus Christi University Parish in Toledo, OH, the LCVA Millennium Project in Adrian, MI, St. Patrick of Bryan, OH, Siena Heights University and the Dominican Motherhouse, both in Adrian, MI, the Ancient Order of Hibernian’s memorial to the Irish Potato Famine, the Port St. Lucie Arch at Florida Atlantic University, Port St. Lucie, FL and the Alumni Plaza, Corpus Christi University Parish, Toledo, OH, Sylvania, OH, Alma, MI, Jackson, MI, Bonita Springs, FL, Saline, MI, Bowling Green State University and Jackson College in Jackson, MI. All told, Ken has completed well over 50 large-scale public sculptures.

In addition to making large sculptures, Ken enjoys doing smaller scale work for gallery exhibitions. He has twenty-eight one-person shows and numerous group exhibitions. As well as, many awards to his credit; most recently receiving a Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Siena Heights University.