

## ***Sculpting the Figure through Gesture***

### **2013 Sisko Gallery Sculpture Workshop**

Artists, throughout history, have expressed their own point view through the sculptural depiction of the human figure, yet often this expression is defined as much by the methods that the artist employed in the production of their sculpture as by the ideas that motivate them. Methods carry ideas.

In this three day workshop, John Sisko teaches a method for developing sculpture which is based on the idea of gesture—as in gesture drawing. The objective of the class is to introduce a small set of very specific strategies for sculpting the figure, and this small set of strategies is a framework for continued study. The broad idea is to combine gesture with blocking in a way that allows the student to work quickly while maintaining a structure, and so open avenues of complex expressions in three dimensions.

We will be working from the figure. We will focus primarily on the gesture drawing as both a rapid form of drawing and as a component and tool in composition. The class will begin with rapid drawings and build toward more sustained drawings and one 1/2 life-size sculpture. It is not an objective of this course to create beautiful sculptures during the class, but to provide the student with a strategy and a framework that the student can build from. It will, however, be very possible to have a finished sculpture at the end of the three days.

Gesture is also a springboard to abstraction, and the torso, being a fragment of the body will allow flexibility and interpretation.

John Sisko serves on the editorial board of *Sculpture Review Magazine*, and a nationally published writer on the topic of sculpture; his most recent article is "Breaking, Altering and Censoring Sculpture," in the current issue of *Sculpture Review* magazine.

Sisko is an elected fellow and board member of the National Sculpture Society, and he exhibits nationally, and he has completed many private and public commissions. The most recent being the Shrine for Pope John XXIII at St James Cathedral in Seattle, WA.