



Janne J. Butler

Born and raised close to nature in a farming community in the English Lake District, I now reside in Scottsdale, Arizona USA a major center of the Arabian horse world. My passion in life is to create the finest Arabian horse bronze sculpture for my clients around the world.

I came to my sculpting career later in life than most artists and purely by chance. While working for Border Fine Arts, an international figurine company as a painter, and raising my children alone, I returned to Art College to pursue a career in textile design. Due to circumstances beyond my control I was unable to further my chosen

path. Instead I was given the opportunity to work in the origination studio of the figurine company, where I initially started to sculpt by texturing clays that had been produced by Master Sculptors. I then moved on to undertake my own work for the company. During this phase of my career I undertook several specialized projects including origination work for Walt Disney, Schmidt and Enesco. I also completed a number of realistic portrait sculptures, from 12 inches high to a 9 foot high figure of the Lord Mayor of London which was a central feature at the annual Lord Mayor's Procession. To me there are no boundaries, I have always believed that anyone can do

BRONZE SCULPTOR



ARABIAN DREAM



HARMONY





anything they want, if they want to hard enough. I am entirely self-taught, learning by my powers of observation, not having had formal education in sculpting or anatomy either equine or human.

Soon after meeting my present husband Ray and his two children, I took the opportunity to start manufacturing my own sculptures, the earlier pieces came from my surroundings in the English countryside... busts of a Border collie and Swaledale Ram, Blue Faced Leicester sheep and a sculpture of my Father who had died 15 years previously... holding a lamb, which led to a portrait commission. But it was Ray's daughter that reawakened in me the passion for horses that I had experienced as a child, and through her influence I discovered the ethereal qualities of the Arabian horse.

It was through my Arabian horse sculptures that I came to the U.S.A. I have sculpted many different breeds, everything from Shetlands to Shires, but I find the Arabian is the perfect artist's horse. I use many different points of reference when creating a piece, but there is nothing quite like running my hands over a beautiful horse. Arabians have elegance, an ethereal quality that no other horse possesses. Capturing their movement whether walking, trotting or racing, produces sculptures of dynamic detailed realism. Regardless of size or subject matter, the largest or smallest receive the same attention to detail that has become my trademark. Unlike many artists who produce drawings or a marquette I work in a different way, through emotion, once a basic idea is formed in my mind, as I am working, the piece has to "feel" right as regards balance, attitude, composition etc. I have to feel the spirit of the sculpture as it grows, it has taken me many years to realise this process cannot be forced. Having decided at one time to give up the idea of sculpting my husband Ray insisted we paid a visit to a very famous sculptress Josephina

de Vascellos who persuaded me to carry on, she was very encouraging saying "I had no right to waste my God given talent". On a visit home to England a few years ago Josephina, my mentor, then aged 99 years was sculpting in my old studio in the farmhouse where we had lived. I was honoured when she asked me to critique her work; it was as though life had turned a full circle.

During my career I have sold sculptures into 29 countries and my work can be found in many eminent private collections, including two equine and a canine sculpture that are in the personal collection of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

I also enjoy creating trophies for many different organizations my favourite being the Egyptian Event Trophy 1997 for the Pyramid Society, Lexington, Kentucky.

When I started producing my sculptures I worked in cold cast porcelain personally hand painting each piece, now I enjoy working in bronze preferring the strength of the metal and the challenge of bringing it to life. I like to keep my work exclusive, with most of my sculptures being collector's editions limited to only 7 worldwide.

The first sculpture I had cast into bronze, "Out of the Desert", was a 28inch/71 cm pyramid with 4 triangular inset sides with high relief depictions of the history of the Arabian horse, after being sculpted in England it was shipped in the clay to the USA. While it was on display at Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show, Dr Fadhli, an eminent bronze sculptor, informed me it was extremely large for a first bronze. One of this limited edition sold in Albuquerque in 2000, was resold in 2007 to Mystica Arabians in Australia for a record price.

My commissioned work has gone all over the world, from Australia to Zimbabwe, and every piece of artwork and client has left a wonderful, lasting memory. My clients

BRONZE SCULPTOR



become friends and an important part of the J. Anne Butler family', which brings Ray and I so much joy. The motivation behind a recent life-size filly foal project was the initial client's tragic loss of her barns and most of her Arabians in a catastrophic California bush fire. "She's My Girl" is so named as everyone can see their own foal in the spirit of the sculpture, which signifies new birth and life, especially for my client. I have enjoyed the appreciation of a sculpture called "The Treasure", which came about as a result of finding some old photographs from when Major and Mrs. Maxwell won the Princess Muna Saddle of Honour at Malvern, England. Limited to seven bronzes, each sculpture is complete with individual hand-painted saddlery, in a very highly detailed style.

No matter what the subject matter, whether figurative, equine, wildlife or abstract, I pride myself in being able to achieve the highest of standards possible. I have a wish list of work that I would love to create, including a completely traditional nomadic Bedouin scene consisting of several larger than life-size animal and figurative bronze sculptures. To achieve this Ray and I would both like to travel more, especially to the Middle East, to absorb the art and culture there. We firmly believe that to experience the history and traditions surrounding the Arabian horse in its natural environment would benefit the work I want to do.

Sculpting is my life; I strive to create the finest art I possibly can, so regardless of anything else I will probably be playing with my clay until my last breath. □

J. Anne Butler
 33632 Paint Your Wagon Trail,
 Cave Creek, AZ 85331
www.jannebutler.com
 ph. +1 480 513 8937
 +1 970 531 6918



SHE'S MY GIRL

I have numerous magazine and newspaper features to my credit plus several television appearances. BBC and ITV, in Europe, plus Channels 3 and 12, in the USA have all showcased my life and work.

My sculptures and original paintings are currently to be found in the following countries England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Eire, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, Qatar, Bahrain, USA, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Jordan, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Argentina and Austria.

My artwork is represented in the following collections worldwide:

HM Queen Elizabeth II and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh
 Sarah, Duchess of York
 Mr. & Mrs. C. Watts (Rolling Stones Rock Group), U.K.
 Mrs. Lisa Niemi and the late Mr. Patrick Swayze, USA
 Ms. Bo Derek, USA

BRONZE SCULPTOR



BLACK STALLION



BUT MA MA LOOK!



CONQUISTADOR



HORSE POWER



MASHAY AL-LAH

Mr. Alkazeimi, Kuwait
Sheik Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Thani, Qatar
Um Qarm Arabians, England & Qatar
Breeders Cup, CA., USA 1998
Barclays Bank plc., Gt. Britain
Carlisle City Council, U.K.
Arabian Horse Society of Gt. Britain
Towerlands International Arabian Horse
Association, England.
Egyptian Arabian Event Trophies 1998,
Lexington, KY., USA
Region 7, IAHA Trophies 1998 to 2004
Swedish Arabian Horse Society
Norwegian Arabian Horse Association
Qatar International Desert Marathon
Fell Pony Society, Gt. Britain
Harare Sheepdog Trials, Zimbabwe
The Horse Racing Club, Buenos Aires,
Argentina.



THE TREASURE



SEASONS



OUT OF THE DESERT FIRST BRONZE



PYRAMID SOCIETY TROPHY

Bronze Sculptor