



THE DESERT INSPIRED ART OF

# EDWIN BOGUCKI

Edwin Bogucki could easily be thought of as one of the last of the great Animaliers. His work has a classic style and technique, reminiscent of the old masters. However, Bogucki used an insightful and bold approach to his subjects previously unseen in the genre. Imagining himself as the subject, rather than a mere observer, gave him an unprecedented understanding of motion and expression. Every piece is a reflection of the unique spirit of the artist that fearlessly followed his creative instincts toward the sublime.





WAR HORSE,  
1975, 19 H x 12 L x 12 W





ABOVE: EGYPTIAN STALLION PERPETUAL TROPHY, 1983, 24 H x 22.5 L x 10 W  
RIGHT: EGYPTIAN STALLION SMALL TROPHY, 1983, 8 H x 7 L x 3 W

At the age of two, Bogucki's lifelong fascination with horses was sparked by a chance encounter with a group of escaped circus horses that stopped to graze on his family's lawn. The thrill he experienced that day stayed with him throughout his life and he devoted himself to capturing that feeling of wonder in his work so that others could also experience and enjoy it. Horses would continue to influence Bogucki's life in ways he never could have predicted, including the day he saw the young woman that would eventually become his wife riding her horse. Their loving partnership would last for more than 68 years.

Bogucki saw his first Arabian horse in 1954 while he and his wife were living in Baltimore, Maryland. One day, they attended a horse show being held across the street from their home. Ed would later recall that afternoon with fondness, "The most beautiful horse I had ever seen was standing, tied to a tree, and I thought, that's a lot of horse there." It turned out to be the influential Arabian stallion, Indraff, from Bazy Tankersley's nearby Al-Marah Farm. Eager to learn more, the couple went to visit soon after. Surrounded by so many beautiful horses, Bogucki found himself completely mesmerized. He was surprised when the farm's trainer handed him the lead rope for a stallion, "That horse literally led me back to the barn. The artist in me had taken over. I was staring at that deep, dark, eye and I darn near got myself killed when we reached the stall door and there wasn't enough room for both of us to go through!" For Bogucki, it was an epiphany, "The impact this animal had on me, was one I'll never forget... Who wouldn't be captivated by a horse that was bred by the Pharaohs and Solomon himself? You can't deny beauty. When you take a horse that was carefully bred for centuries and put it beside another breed that has existed for only 300 years, or less,

there is no comparison. . . The Arabian horse is beautiful from his skin on the outside to his very soul on the inside."

When Bogucki returned to Wisconsin, he began making a name for himself as an equine portrait artist. He spent the next several years creating commissioned pastel and oil paintings of Saddlebreds and Thoroughbreds. While those breeds appealed to him in their own unique ways, he never forgot the spark he felt from those first encounters with Arabians. He decided to research and produce Arabian themed art to be exhibited and sold through galleries that carried his work. Arabian horse owners and admirers took notice and Ed Bogucki suddenly found his work in high demand with an entirely new group of collectors. While his paintings were very popular, he had finally found patrons that would give him the opportunity to stretch his wings as a sculptor, a discipline that he truly loved. Until that point, Bogucki had only produced 4 works in bronze. He quickly found his niche as one of the most versatile artists of the time.

Bogucki traded one of his prized paintings for his first Arabian horse. To finally have a quality Arabian, steps from his studio door was a dream come true. Eventually, the artist acquired more Arabians, including an Egyptian-bred mare, Binis Tara, who produced an exquisite colt by El Mareekh, they named Cairo Mareekh. This intelligent, complex, and expressive stallion became the artist's favorite muse. Cairo and Ed shared an unusually strong bond, that lasted for all 32 years of the stallion's life. This growing connection with Egyptian Arabians led Bogucki to an obsession that would consume more than a year of his life and culminated with the creation of his greatest masterpiece, Tutankhamen: Pharaoh of Egypt.





Bogucki debuted his newly completed sculpture in 1980 at the U.S. National Arabian Horse Championships. Breathtaking in both size and detail, the sculpture, depicting the young king, lion hunting from a chariot, was an instant sensation. Accurate to the smallest details, the ¼ scale bronze includes precise replicas of items from Tutankhamen's tomb, hand carved and sculpted by Bogucki after tireless research and the help of several expert Egyptologists and museums. One of the many groundbreaking aspects of the piece is how the artist reassembled these miniaturized versions of the many artifacts exhumed from the dripping piles of gelatinized leather that had once been actual harnesses used with



TUTANKHAMEN, PHAROAH OF EGYPT,  
1980, 31 H x 60 L x 32 W



the royal chariots. The pieces came together elegantly, a combination of cast and hand-wrought metal transformed into functional three-dimensional harnesses for the team of fiery bronze stallions. Beneath the trappings of these meticulous recreations, Bogucki's lifelike figures appear particularly rampant and wild.

In 1981, the Tutankhamen bronze was exhibited during the Pyramid Society's second annual Egyptian Event show and the long and happy relationship between Edwin Bogucki and the

Pyramid Society began. In 1983, Bogucki was commissioned to sculpt the Pyramid Society Perpetual Trophy. Intended to portray the ideal Egyptian horse, the ¼ scale bronze took shape with the artist's own stallion as the inspiration. A smaller, trophy version, was also made and awarded annually to the Egyptian Event futurity class winners. For many years, Bogucki donated his artwork for Pyramid Society fundraising auctions and provided highly sought after trophies.

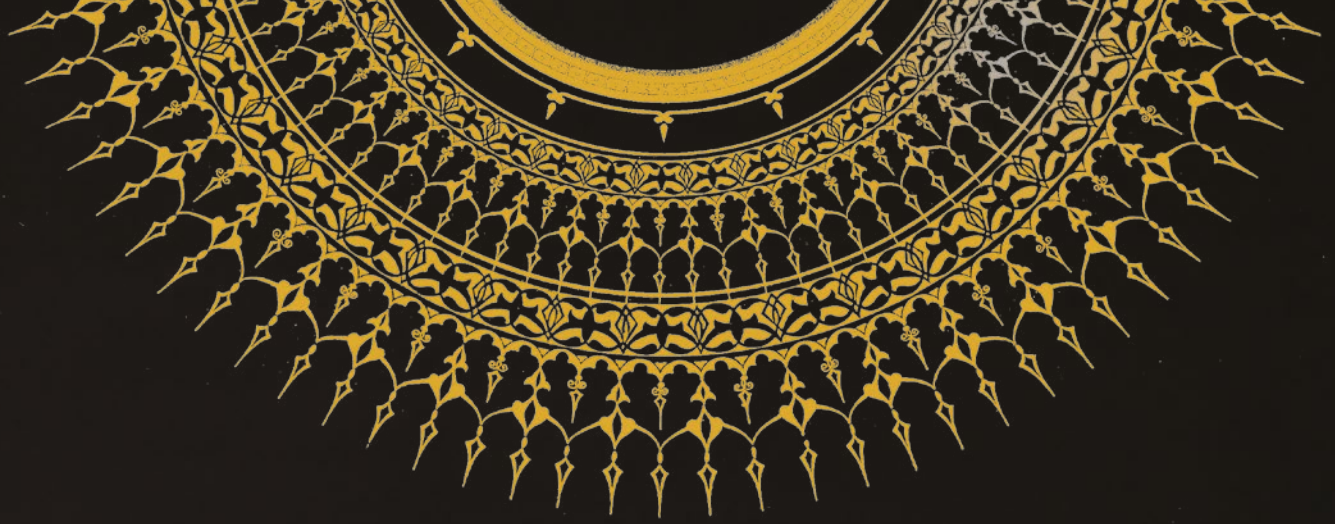






MORAFIC, 1984, 29 H x 32 L x 11.75 W  
Limited edition available.





Arabian owners were drawn to Bogucki's unmatched ability to portray the unique qualities of their horses and commissioned him to sculpt some of the most important stallions and mares of the breed including the legendary Egyptian stallion Morafic.





As with his masterpiece, Tutankhamen: Pharaoh of Egypt, Bogucki continued to create sculptures inspired by his beloved muse, the Egyptian stallion, Cairo Mareekh. Among some of his most compelling Egyptian and desert-themed works are Bedouin, War Horse, Egyptian Filly, and the Egyptian stallion Rameses Fayek.

Over the course of his more than 60-year professional career, Bogucki established himself as not only a superior artist, but also as an unassuming and quietly intriguing personality. During any public exhibition of his work, he could be found standing near one of his beloved works, a hand resting lightly against a bronze tail or leg, surrounded by a group of people, leaning in close to hear his soft voice, mesmerized as he spoke about art and life. Anyone who ever met Ed Bogucki would likely have as much to say about the kind of man he was as they would about the monumental talent he possessed as an artist

In Bogucki's later years, a trust was established to protect and preserve his artistic legacy. This includes the curation of the extensive collection of his art in the Bogucki estate, as well as the concerted effort of his daughters, Sheri and Kathi, to complete as many of his existing limited editions as possible while the molds are still viable. Although Edwin Bogucki passed away in 2021, Bogucki Studio remains an active atelier through the skilled hands of his daughters who were instructed in his precise process by the artist himself. By faithfully honoring their father's tradition of mold making, wax working, grinding, and patination being done in-house, they will ensure that the remaining body of work is produced to the same high standards Edwin Bogucki always demanded of himself.

EGYPTIAN FILLY, 1978, 5.75 H x 8.5 L x 9 W



RAMSES FAYEK, 1980, 20 H x 27 L x 7.5 W





BEDOUIN, 1981, 31 H x 29.5. L x 16.5 W





*"Each piece of my work is a part of me. I am making a record of my life.  
These are the only things of me that I can leave behind . . .  
They will speak for me." ~ Edwin Bogucki*

## COMING SOON...

A limited edition book depicting the life and work of  
Edwin A. Bogucki.

Over 400 full-color pages filled with magnificent art  
and the incredible story of the man who created it.

The launch date will be announced in 2024.  
For updates, follow us on Facebook: Bogucki Studios





*Booucki*

