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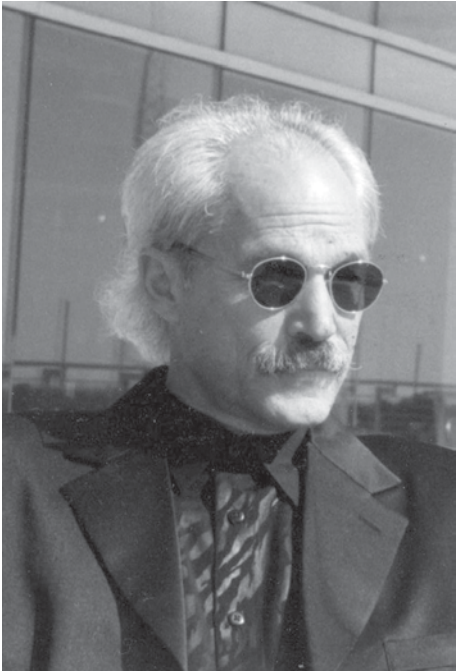
**BRYAN WHEATON**  
Cell: (305) 942-6325  
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*Mastercard & Visa Accepted*



You know you’re in the Keys when.....

- The only shoes you own are different varieties of flip flops.
- You have driven at least one Keys Cruiser.
- You’re constantly passed by vehicles with out of state license tags.
- There are only 3 levels of sobriety: sober (morning), stoned (afternoon) and smashed (anytime).
- You’ve gone through crib-death (an all-nighter at the Caribbean Club), and though you swear you won’t again, it just keeps happening.
- Your land is worth more than your house.
- Someone asks, “Where is Iz-luh-more-a-day?”
- You only put on sun block when you are on a boat because otherwise you are always in the shade.
- Every bartender knows you and what you drink.
- You know everyone everywhere you go and you’ve known them for 3 generations.
- You and your grocery store cashier are on a first name basis.
- You party with your car salesman, doctor and housekeeper at the same place.
- In order for it to be bad weather, it’s got to be a category 3 or higher.
- In some way or another your income depends on tourism.
- You can get anywhere by boat but you have to drive an hour to get to a mall.



David Keator

The Art Box Artist of the Month is David Keator. Here is his story in his own words:

Oftentimes I am faced with the question of how to explain my artwork and why do I paint the way I do.

From early childhood in the sandbox, I have always had some type of drawing instrument or tool in my hand. This obsessive need to “create” continued into my years as a student at the Kansas City Art Institute, where I received a BFA degree in ceramics with a minor in hot glass. Then graduate studies at the NY State college of Ceramics at Alfred U. for an MFA degree with main emphasis on ceramics and printmaking.

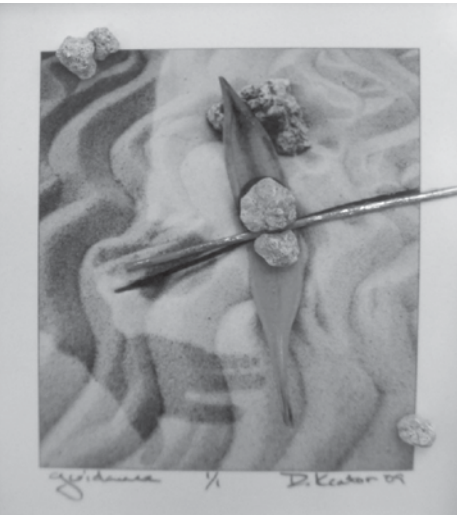
My primary concentration was in the areas of three dimensional objects and the expression of form and structure. From ceramic pottery and sculpture and later furniture-making and design, my main concentration was with form, function and creating something that exhilarated and exalted the human spirit. As a professor of fine art for many years my intent was to encourage students to investigate everything they did in a unique way and with an inquisitive mind. This attitude kept me both fresh, vital and constantly invigorated.

Art Box Artist of the Month: David Keator

For the next 20 years or so I worked as an Interior Designer, which became my passion later in life. Designing came was intuitive for to me. Designing was like taking a large compartmentalized blank canvas. Then take the situation and begin to paint it with colors, furniture, artwork and artifacts, collectables, carpet, wall coverings etc. These provided me with texture, shapes, and forms that would



Stop by and see some of David Keator’s amazing pieces at the Art Box.



eventually become the palette.

Seven years ago, I moved to Key Largo to help my father. I left behind a 2,000 sq. ft. studio and all the tools that a woodworker/ furniture designer could ever dream of.

Being a creative person, I turned to my music but still felt a void. I needed to create something as “Artist.” I began to fabricate small vignette studies and mythological storytelling pieces from objects that I would pick up on my many journeys and walks. These were actually miniature sculptures that were very personal metaphorical pieces that explained some forgotten feeling towards events in my personal life. Then I found working on such a small scale restricted primarily because of the intricacy. I found myself working with tweezers to glue and hold things in place.

From this grew taking photographs during the course of attending events and perceiving things I saw in nature. They would eventually be reworked and modified through the use of the computer. With a workable print, I began to alter them through the use of colored pencils,



paint, gold leafing and the addition of 3-dimensional found objects, thus creating reliefs as a collage of sorts.

It was at this time I really began to explore paints and all the possibilities that they presented. This, along with my need to make touchable, tactile surfaces offered me the opportunity to explore further the of possibilities that were presented to me by both by the materials and technologies. Paint became my new fascina-

tion and “creative outlet.”

My paintings are non-representational. They are a search for the impression or expression of objects or subjects in a spontaneously responsive manner.

Life goes on with titles such as...Fireflies, Evening Frolic, Tears of Morning Thunder, Cartwheels and Moonbeams, Shadow Dancing, Disappearing Waters and Poem of a Solitary Symphony. All painted to let the imagination drift and see what it wants to see.

