

THE *Roberts* COLLECTION ART SALE

Artist's Bio

Marine woodcarver

Dennis Drechsler is a professional woodcarver specializing in whales, sharks and dolphins. A professional carver for the past 20 years, Dennis has established a reputation as one of Canada's foremost marine woodcarvers.

Largely self taught, his skill of capturing form and motion in his carvings comes from an ability to keenly observe and note nature's design and bring it out in the wood.

These marine carvings are all original pieces of art and start out as square blocks of basswood. Patterns are drawn on the wood and the rough shapes are cut out on a bandsaw. Then, using specialized woodcarving tools, the shapes are refined and painted with acrylic paints. The bases are handcrafted from black walnut and are signed individually for each carving. Each sculpture is unique and has its own serial number. This number, accompanied by the artist's signature, is displayed on the carving's base.

Dennis has won numerous awards and ribbons for his realistic portrayals of Cetaceans. "I compete in many of the woodcarving competitions through the Pacific Northwest, both in Canada and the US. And to date I have won seven "Best of Show" awards. In April 2000, I competed at the World Championship Woodcarving Competition in Ocean City, Maryland and my carving of a Gray Whale, mother and calf was selected as the show winner for Aquatic Vertebrates".

He is also a qualified carving judge and serves as a major judge for woodcarving competitions throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Dennis and his wife Barbara live in Victoria, British Columbia.