Eric Higgs
Sculptor, "Passage"
Whitewing at Germann Estates
Bamford Realty

Eric Higgs is a nationally recognized sculptor, selected from 125 applicants to create a distinctive centerpiece sculpture for Bamford Realty's Whitewing at Germann Estates residential community in Gilbert, Ariz. He has produced a large signature sculpture called "Passage" for the new custom home development's courtyard entrance. The sculpture has been carved out of basalt and features carved columns that form a "passage" into a "stone forest" via a path through a specially landscaped park setting.

The St. Petersburg, Fla.-based artist creates large-scale sculptures in primary mediums of stone and fabricated metal. Working with basalt, an igneous rock that resulted from lava flows over 60 million years ago, is difficult because it is exceptionally hard, second only to diamonds. He finds sculpting with basalt rewarding because once through the rough brown and copper colored exterior, a black, smooth glasslike interior is revealed.

In the past, Higgs has been chosen for numerous public, private, and corporate commissions and has participated in solo and group shows throughout the U.S., France and Japan. Some of his significant public commissions and collections have been for the City of St. Petersburg, Fla., City of Coral Gables, Fla., Englewood Hospital, City of Sarasota, Fla., and the Charles Schwab Corporate Offices in Pleasanton, Calif. He has a sculpture in the permanent collection of the French national museum, Chateau Musee in Vallauris, France and most recently had a sculpture acquired by the Mitsui Corporation in Japan. He regularly collaborates with Kazutaka Uchida, a family friend of the internationally recognized Japanese sculptor Isamu Noguchi. Uchida, who has served as a professional artist mentor throughout Higgs' career, has been invited by Higgs to collaborate on a second smaller sculpture at the community park within Whitewing at Germann Estates.

Higgs' artwork has been recently showcased in the Fete Picasso in France, the Seiho Gallery in Tokyo, Espace Grand-Jean in France, Aqui Siam Ben Gallery in Vallauris, France, Rack and Hamper Gallery in New York and the Meguro Museum in Tokyo. He has taught stone carving in both the U.S. and France. He has been featured in numerous art magazines and daily newspapers, including *The San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Tampa Tribune,* the *St. Petersburg Times,* and *Senses Art & Culture* magazine. Higgs serves as a Director of The Arts Center in St. Petersburg, Fla. and is a member of numerous arts organizations.

Prior to embarking on his career as a sculptor, Higgs worked in the Silicon Valley high-tech industry for several years, during which he served as the Chief Information Officer of Citysearch in Los Angeles. He also was the founding Chief Operating Officer of Cerego a learning technology company based in Tokyo.

A native of Chapel Hill, N.C., Higgs received his bachelor's degree from William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., where he studied fine art and computer science. After working in Washington, D.C. for three years, he earned his master's degree in business administration from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, while also pursuing independent coursework through Stanford University's fine art department. For more information on Higgs and his artwork, visit www.erichiggs.com.

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