SCOTIANIRONWORKS.COM
2024-2025
ARTIST AND BLACKSMITH : SCOTT HAMLIN : PROPRIETOR : SCOTIAN IRONWORKS : NEW ROSS, NOVA SCOTIA, B0J 2M0
C.: 1-902-279-1446
P.: 1-902-689-2470
E.: INFO@SCOTIANIRONWORKS.COM

SCOTT HAMLIN

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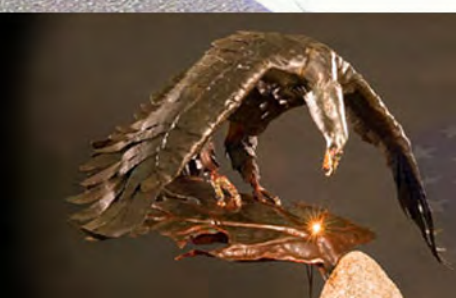
Artist CV
Publications/Media
Awards & Experience

The Journey

CREATING THE EAGLE

"The Master of the Skies"

HONOUR FOR THE FIRST NATION'S COMMUNITIES

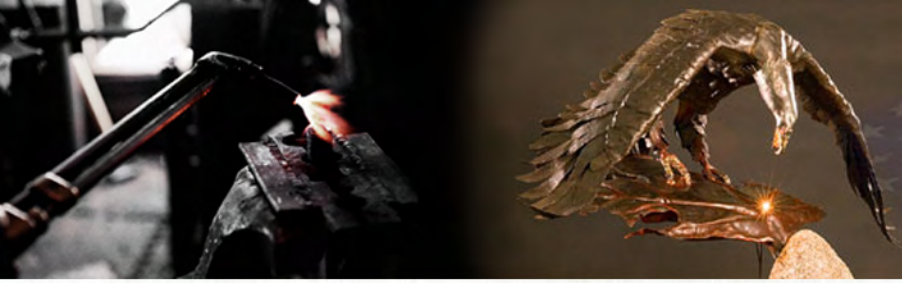


EAGLE WATCH

Evolution and concept

Drawings and Photographs

Expressions of Interest & Purchase



Scott Hamlin owner/artist of Scotian Ironworks

Home: 902-689-2470 | Cell: 902-279-1446

4843 Hwy.12, New Ross N.S B0J 2M0

website: scotianironworks.com

facebook: Scotian Ironworks

email: info@scotianironworks.com

Artist Bio

Scott Hamlin is an artist /blacksmith living and working in the community of New Ross for more than 40 years. He has created and operated the business Scotian Ironworks for more than 30 years. Scott produces custom ironworks such as railings, wine racks, wood holders, wildlife and nautical theme designs, furniture and candelabras. He creates one-of-a-kind pieces that often reflect themes of nature, family history or can be spiritual or whimsical. The scope of his work ranges from client to client.

Scott was introduced to blacksmithing when he was employed at Ross Farm Museum in the late 1980s. In 1990 he apprenticed for six months with six experienced master blacksmiths to develop and hone his skills. Since then, he has been building his business and skill level, constantly evolving and growing his artistic abilities.

Scott has also been very passionate about promoting the growth of blacksmithing. He was a founding director of the Maritime Blacksmithing Association in 2003 and continues his involvement. He has demonstrated at many MBA events over the years, sharing his skills and love of this historic trade. Scott has also welcomed several school groups to his shops to learn about blacksmithing and has visited schools to talk about blacksmithing. Scott has hosted

an “Open Shop” event during the New Ross Christmas Festival for the last 20+ years. Over the years, Scott has been generously creating and donating ironwork pieces for charities and fundraising efforts for organizations such as UNICEF, Hope for Wildlife, Ross Farm Museum Learning Centre project, NRRDS silent auction, Easter Seals, and many other local events and charities.

Scott has been incorporating the themes of heritage and nature into many of his custom orders for years and in many different ways. Clients want to see these unique personal and/or shared symbols integrated into their ironwork pieces, making them even more unique and meaningful. Examples of this are; Fleur-de-lis, provincial flowers, family and provincial crests, mi’kmaq art, and dozens of wildlife, nautical and nature scenes.

Artist CV

Art Shows Attended

"Dal AC Fine Art and Fine Craft Show" March 2013,2014,2015

"Divinitus Inspirata" Aug. 2010 Art show and gala hosted by Brian Gazely and Joseph Landry. Alderney Landing Gallery.

"Take Another Heat" 2005 Mary Black Gallery

"Bho'n Teallach: From the Forge" 2004 Helen Creighton House. Art Show hosted by the newly formed Maritime Blacksmith Association. Scott is a founding member.

"Art of Worship: The Vision and Craft of Contemporary Nova Scotian Artists" 2002 Mary Black Gallery. Art Exhibit of featured artists from a book of the same name.

Jost Winery:Scott Hamlin 1993 Solo art show at Jost Winery in Malagash, N.S

Publications/ Media

Featured in 27 local and provincial newspaper articles and magazines such as Saltscapes.

"Handcrafted" mini series. Scott was one of the featured artists in the mini-series "Handcrafted"

"What Once Was Lost: The Blacksmith's Art in Nova Scotia" book. 2020

"Fire and Steel" Saltscapes Magazine, Vol.19 No.4, September 2018

"New Cross Stands on East Dalhousie Church Peak" Lunenburg County Progress Bulletin, June 11,2014

" Strike While the Fire's Hot" Lunenburg County Progress Bulletin, July 11,2012

"Eureka!" The Clipper, March, 2010

"Artist Forges New Life After Crash" South Shore Bureau, May 2006

"Blacksmith's Eagle Ready to Soar" The Chester Clipper, April, 2006

"Making Spirits Bright" Chronicle Herald, Dec.2005

"In Praise of Art" Chronicle Herald, 2002

" New Ross Man Helps Found New Blacksmith's

Association" Bridgewater Bulletin, Feb.2004

"The Art of Worship: The Vision and Craft of Nova Scotian Artists" book 2001

"New Ross Artist's Calling Unveiled at Mary E. Black Gallery Exhibit", The Clipper News, Jan. 2002

"Reputation of New Ross Iron Artist Grows Around Province", Bridgewater Bulletin, June 1999

" Hammering Away at History", Chronicle Herald, Oct 1999

"A Tool of the Lord" Christian Week, March 1996

" New Ross Blacksmith Turns the Plain into the Ornate" The Progress Enterprise, Dec.1991

"The Amethyst Review" Vol.8 No.1 2000

Awards

"Best Artisanal Retailer" The Municipality of Chester April 2017

"Jerry Levy Memorial Award" Maritime Blacksmith Association, July 2016

Prior public art experience:

Current: Chester Trail Art archway. Sponsored by the Municipality of Chester

"Donor Tree" in Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens.

Artistic "Dolphin" bike racks for the City of Halifax

Railings for the Oxford Baptist Church

Light fixtures for St. John Anglican Church, Port Williams

Cross for Soul's Harbour Rescue Mission

Herons at George Dumont Hospital, Moncton N.B

Artistic bench for the Town of Kentville "Our Canada"

Eagle Sculpture at Halifax Seaport Market

The Journey to Creating the Eagle Sculpture

This large and impressive eagle is the "signature" piece of a life-long career of master blacksmith, Scott Hamlin. When he first envisioned creating a sculpture of this majestic and spiritual bird of prey, at that point in his career he simply did not have the skill set to make such a project. With the eagle in mind, he started to angle his commission work to teach himself the techniques and tools required, one step at a time. The first related project came along shortly after the original conception of the idea. It was a Great Blue Heron. It took about three years to finish.

Scott had to imagine and then build specialized tools all through the eagle's creation. The drawings, sketches and process, all developed, modified and grew over time, years in fact.

Various visual aids such as pictures, paintings and stuffed models were utilized for inspiration and direction in the design of the piece. For example, a stuffed eagle, provided by Acadia University, became one of the three dimensional pieces which inspired Scott.

Several months later the first stage in the actual building of the project began - the head! Scott recalls this stage of the design critical in importance as the Eagle's expression had to be just right. The eyes were skilfully created by a glass artist.

The eagle's powerful beak became a great focal point. Scott took numerous measurements from the model which resulted in the precise recreation of detail.
An iron construct of the body was formed.
The wing design began to take shape.
Feather after iron feather was crafted and carefully inserted into the piece. Clearly, a process that took many years to complete, with skills being honed and tools being created along the way, resulting in this impressive piece which definitely makes an impression that will be unique to every individual who views it.

" The Master of the Skies"

The majestic eagle holds a place of great esteem and honour for First Nation's Communities. It embodies exceptional courage, strength and vision. As the creature that can soar the highest, it is considered to be closest to the Creator and can cross the veil between the physical and spiritual worlds. The eagle and the eagle feather are a highly significant part of sacred ceremonies. It is a messenger for prayers. Eagle feathers are given to people who exemplify the qualities of knowledge, wisdom, focus strength, peace and leadership. Receiving one is a great honour.

Contact Scott today:

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