

From the Hand of Man



Doug Souza was born in 1948 and grew-up on a dairy farm outside Woodland, California. He has been making art, in some form or another, all his life.

He assumes it all stems from growing up in a natural setting with country and animals around him. Doug's mother always made sure he had quality art materials. When she passed away, when Doug was ten, his grandmother stepped-in and continued feeding his growth as an artist.

When he was eleven years old, he won an art competition sponsored by the local newspaper. It was a big deal to him because it was open to all ages. It was a pencil drawing of George Washington.

As a youngster, growing up six miles from town, Doug loved bicycles, as they were his only way of getting around. He got his first two motorcycles on his twelfth birthday, two old army surplus Harley Davidson's that cemented his love of two wheels.

Doug was spared from a lot of work on the ranch because he showed some baseball talent at a young age and was allowed to spend time in town for practice and games. This love for baseball also contributed to his development as an artist. The first painting Doug ever sold was to the wife of his boyhood hero, Willie Mays. It was in 1965 and really gave him the confidence to continue developing his art.

Doug was honored to be selected as the guest artist at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show at Madison Square Garden, in New York City, in 2010.

Recently, Doug's work has been selected for inclusion in the 2021 Artists Magazine's "Strokes of Genius 13: The Best of Drawing." A special edition of the magazine will be on newsstands in November.

He doesn't often enter art competitions because, being an ex-baseball player, he says he knows what competition is, and "Art is not a competition." Doug believes art is a form of expression and communication through one's own creativity.

As the title above states, Doug really appreciates artwork and handcrafts made by creative minds and busy hands. He says, "Things designed by computer and built by machines are really precise and useful, but things made FROM THE HAND OF MAN have a soul and will exude that soul forever."

Doug lives with his wife, Maggie, in Yuba City, California, under the Pacific Flyway and close to the subject matter he tends to return to most often, the wildlife in the many refuges located in the Sacramento Valley in Northern California.