Duncan MacDiarmid Biography - 2019

“All of them (his sculptures) show a mastery of technique elevated by the artist’s pervasive authenticity…”

Mary Thomas, Art Critic, The Post-Gazette, Pittsburgh, PA

Duncan’s childhood was spent in Philadelphia where he later studied architecture and then received his Master of Fine Arts in sculpture from the University of Pennsylvania. Duncan works primarily as a figurative sculptor with a focus on portrait sculpture. He has created public and private sculptures for libraries, churches, and universities in bronze, terracotta and contemporary polymers.

His recent work has ventured into mixed media with sculptures that comment on human perceptions of the natural and manmade environment. In 2018 Duncan ran a funding campaign to construct a 22-foot-tall steel tree on wheels as a celebratory sculpture called the Firetree. When outfitted with wood and fireworks, this sculpture became a symbolic evening event celebrating the power of community engagement and creativity through the energy of firelight and sparkles emitted from the tree and its branches.