

James G. Moore

EARLY IN HIS career, James G. Moore realized his sculpture was much like that of many other artists and that he needed to do something different. "I was looking for something that was more narrative," he says, "something that was outside of the box." Exploring the Asian aesthetic he'd been drawn to during a two-year Navy posting in Japan, Moore landed on the idea of temple bells. "I have always had an interest in music, and I collect traditional instruments from all around the world," he says. In 2003, Moore fashioned his first temple-bell sculpture called *DESERT SOLITUDE*. "People were drawn to it immediately," he says. Taking the bell idea further, Moore began integrating his love for the outdoors and wildlife into his work, developing the wildlife-adorned bells and vessels he has become known for. "I love doing birds," he says. "While I don't tend toward anthropomorphizing, there are things about birds that we see as reflections of ourselves."

Moore says he likes his art to be utilitarian, something that the viewer touches and interacts with. "My main desire is to express my love for God through making artwork—to create celebrations of the creation," he explains. "In making things about the things that I love, I have an opportunity to draw others to see beauty in the natural world."

—*Laura Rintala*



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAFE PARSONS

Serengeti Song, bronze, 84 x 48 x 24.



Brookie Vessel, bronze, 3 x 4 x 2.