



Best Visual Artist

1. **Jud Turner** <http://judturner.com>

2. (tie): **Claire Flint** www.claireflint.com; and **Jamie Burress**

While Jud Turner's sculpture is varied in form, he consistently uses found objects (plastic bones, BRING scraps, model parts) and welded steel to create sculptures with organic beauty that may take the form of fossils, skeletons that are the bicycle they are riding, or a ring of skulls that gaze eternally into each other's soporific consciousness. Beyond the gorgeous craftsmanship are deeper meanings that reveal themselves specifically in the material he uses: Mountain bike treads become the repetitive shapes of spinal columns, a head is formed from empty psychotherapy drug capsules, lenses reflect and distort your own personal point of view. Turner is also the artist behind BRING Recycling Center's Chapel of Second Chances, which creates a backdrop of religious solidarity for weddings or vow renewals in the middle of a recycling center. Turner creates beauty from tools with the potential to maim — grinders, saws and torches that eat metal and spit fire. That sense of irony and metaphorical essence may be the best representation of Eugene's split personalities that we've yet come across.