

Jeffrey Hull's art will be shown at his gallery, Jeffrey Hull Gallery.

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There will be some live events outside, though attendance will be limited. Friday afternoon, painter Hazel Schlesinger will paint in the sculpture garden in front of Northwest by Northwest Gallery. Don Stastny and sculptor Ivan McLean will be in attendance to talk to visitors on Saturday and Sunday.

Icefire Glassworks

Kingwell is looking forward to glassblowing with his friend and fellow glass artist Mark Gordon in front of a small audience. Gordon has traditionally led the live glassblowing session, while Kingwell assists.

"It's just been a joy being able to blow glass with Mark again. We have very few opportunities to work together again and it's always a joy when he, (artist) Suzanne (Kindland) and I can be in the same hot shop."

Gordon will also participate in a Q&A about his newest collection of glass-blowing works. The pieces were created by carving into the surface of the glass to achieve different textures and reveal layers.

Kingwell promises new collections that will inspire one to think, he said. Many of the artists he represents, including himself, honed and created new works from a different perspective during the pandemic.

"The work is still going to be brand new and fresh — a continuance of birth of new work," Kingwell said. "We didn't want to see the annual festival fade away because of those limitations. So we've learned to adapt to it. And of course, one of the adaptations the artists made staying home throughout this last year was to make new work."



Bronze sculptures made by Georgia Gerber will be shown at Northwest By Northwest Gallery.

Northwest by Northwest Gallery

Northwest by Northwest Gallery has participated in the festival since its beginning. The gallery, which is commemorating its 34th year, will feature its largest collection of bronze sculptures yet. The sculptures were created by artist Georgia Gerber. Her latest collection, "Otter Sphere," will be featured alongside her collections "Owl on Stone" and "Kingfisher."

Gerber has been represented by Northwest by Northwest Gallery for more than a decade. She treasures her relationship with gallery owners Joyce Lincoln and Bob Necker.

Gerber primarily works with bronze to construct her interactive sculptures. Her husband contributes to her sculpture work by putting it through a temperature-induced chemical process called a patina to achieve a greenish color, she said.

"Otter Sphere" is one of her many collections that involve otters. However, Gerber said this particular series has been one of her favorite directions she has discovered.

"I love pushing the forms a little bit and working with shape and line," Gerber said. "The otter is an animal that I feel gives me a lot of room to play around with that kind of form and still capture their expressions."

Gerber is no stranger to making sculptures depicting wildlife. Animals have inspired her artwork for years since her youth.

"I always had animals — they were my buddies and friends, and I always watched them and studied them," Gerber said. "What I love about sculpting them is being able to finally express something that I knew from my path from being around the animals — and just having them connect with you through the clay."

One of Gerber's most recognized pieces includes "Rachel the Pig" in front of Seattle's Pike Place Market. Others are scattered around Pacific Northwest landmarks.

Though Gerber works and lives in her foundry in Whidbey Island, Washington, she has continuously showcased her work at the festival.

"It's such a great weekend to see a lot of art and a lot of different directions that people approach their work, especially checking out the gallery owners that are so friendly and sharing about each of the artists whether the artist can be there or not," Gerber said.