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## Seed Sisters

Linda Ganstrom  
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**GRADUATE CATALOG  
MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE  
FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY  
HAYS, KANSAS  
1990**



Dr. Edward Hammond  
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Acting Chair, Department of Art  
Associate Professor of Art, Drawing

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Professor of Biology

To Sheldon, Landen, Tiara, my family and friends, whose love has made my life possible.

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

The love I've experienced in life has inspired me to explore the positive, creative power of woman. I see woman as a vessel. Within she holds her love, new life, and a host of ideas, emotions and dreams. The potential of women in today's American culture fascinates me. Women face a wide variety of life-choices. For many, these new opportunities in the work place have been accompanied by fresh dilemmas. How does one juggle family, work, spiritual, and personal responsibilities? Challenged, today's woman is pregnant with possibilities, full of new hope and new life. Yet she also has an eternal side, where she experiences feelings universal to all women through all time. She loves, bears children, protects, nurtures, works, and worships. She is at once new and ancient. She is a Seed-Sister.

Swelling with an optimistic potential, full of possibilities, my Seed-Sisters nearly burst with ripeness. Their pregnancy symbolizes the woman as vessel, holding her precious gift of life and the future. The seed-like form of the vessel erupts into a softly swaying feminine shape, its voluptuousness suggestive of fertility. Often headless, these figures focus on the universal, eternal female rather than concentrate on an individual's features and personality. Nurturing, sharing, and edifying their counterparts, these sisters grow and help each other explore their possibilities while passing their knowledge from one generation to the next. By working together, the sister becomes more than she was individually, evoking the larger potential of the group. Exploring relationships, herself, and her world, the Seed-Sister discovers life, in itself, is a most precious gift to be cherished and shared.

Materializing in both drawings and ceramics, the Seed-Sisters are formed of layers. Mixed media of pencil, ink, and prismacolors enhance the drawings. Handbuilt from slabs of white stoneware clay, the Seed-Sister sculptures are formed layer upon layer, paddling, scraping, and stretching, in much the same manner we form our own character, building upon layers of experience, knowledge, and perception. After a tall column is formed, the figure is magically revealed with a gentle push and pull modeling of the plastic clay. The Seed-Vessel base often serves as a canvas for carvings and a layering of images relating to the form. Daughters, mothers, lovers, and various other fantasy creatures revel here, giving insight into the feminine mind and spirit. A wide variety of firing techniques enrich the form's surfaces and enhance their emotional impact.

My Sisters tell a story of hope and of the positive, creative power of love.

Linda Ganstrom

This catalogue is submitted to the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts.

# CATALOG

## CERAMICS

1. SISTERS OF THE EARTH SERIES
2. SISTERS OF THE NIGHT SERIES
3. SISTERS OF LIFE SERIES
4. SISTERS OF LIGHT SERIES
5. SISTERS OF THE SKY SERIES
6. PORTRAIT SERIES

## DRAWINGS - INK, PENCIL, PRISMACOLORS

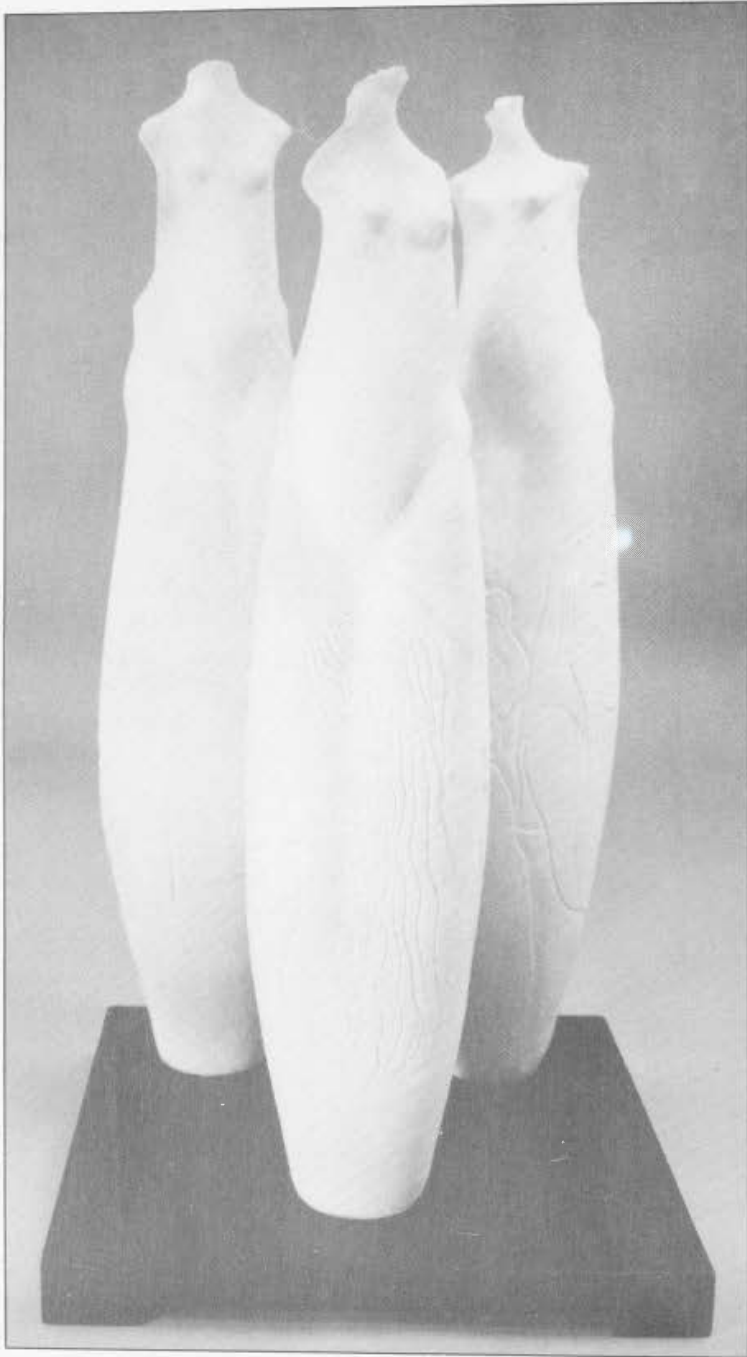
7. PROTECTION OF THE FOLIATED CROSS - 28" x 20"
8. PALENQUE PASSAGEWAY - GUARDIANS OF THE CROSS - 28" x 17"
9. EARTH MOTHER - THE BLESSING OF TLALOC ON THE FECUND EARTH - 28" x 22"
10. BINDING TIES - 28" x 12"
11. CROSSING OVER - 22" x 15"

## CHARCOAL DRAWINGS

12. PASSING DOWN THE SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE - GUARDIANS OF THE CHILD OF LIGHT - 24" x 18"
13. CONTEMPLATIONS OF THE CHILD OF LIGHT - 24" x 18"
14. LOVING WATCHERS - SUPPORTERS OF THE CHILD OF LIGHT - 24" x 18"
15. DARK CONTEMPLATION - 24" x 18"

## MIXED MEDIA

16. DREAM DAUGHTER OF THE FOLIATED CROSS - 6" x 4"
17. THE SCALES OF ACCOUNTABILITY - 4" x 6"
18. CREATIVE METAMORPHOSES REQUIRES CONTEMPLATION - 6" x 4"
19. LIFE STAGES - 4" x 6"



**THREE GENERATIONS - SISTERS IN TIME**  
41" x 22" x 22"  
Low Fired Clay



**PROTECTION OF THE FOLIATED CROSS**

28" x 20"

Ink, Pencil, Prismacolor



**PRAYER - SISTER OF THE EARTH**  
Front and Back View  
51" x 10" x 10"  
Low Fired Clay

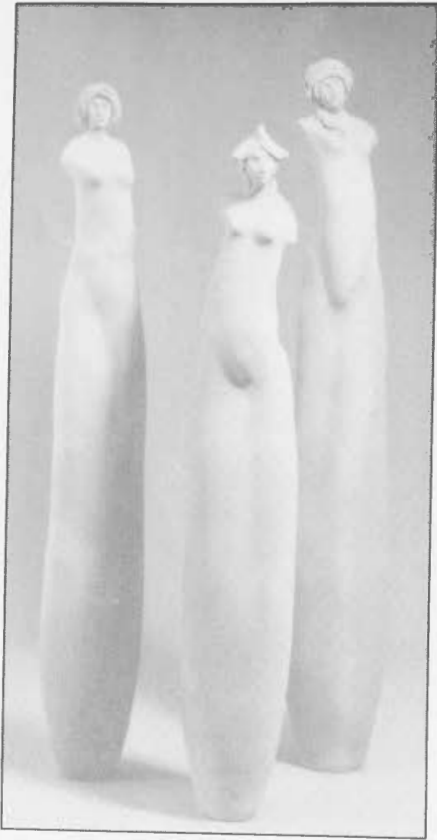


**PALENQUE PASSAGEWAY - GUARDIANS OF THE CROSS**

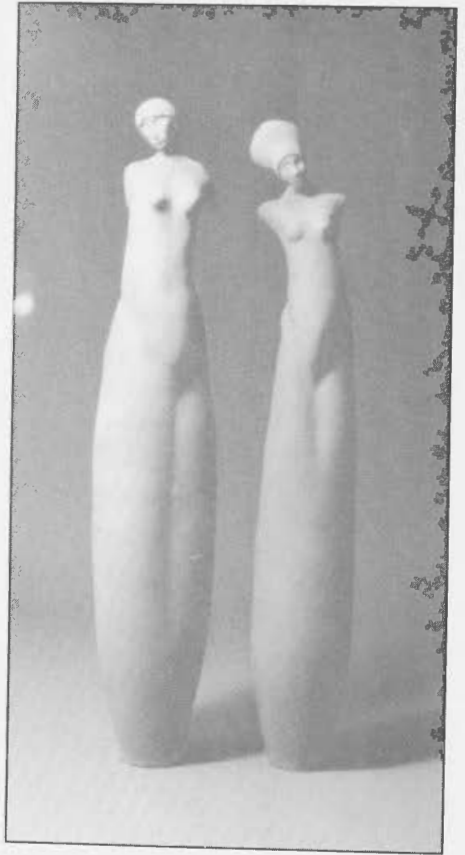
28" x 17"

Ink, Pencil, PrismaColor

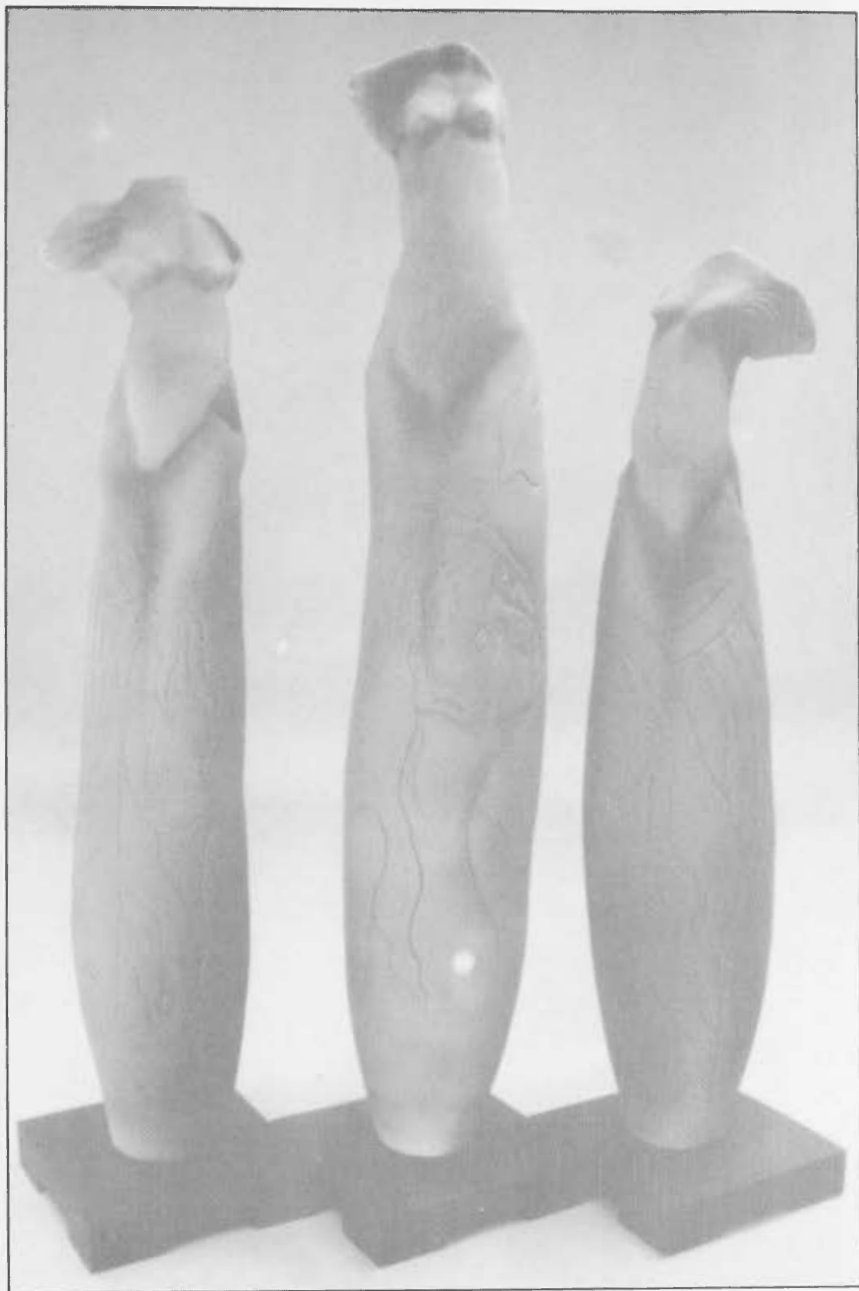




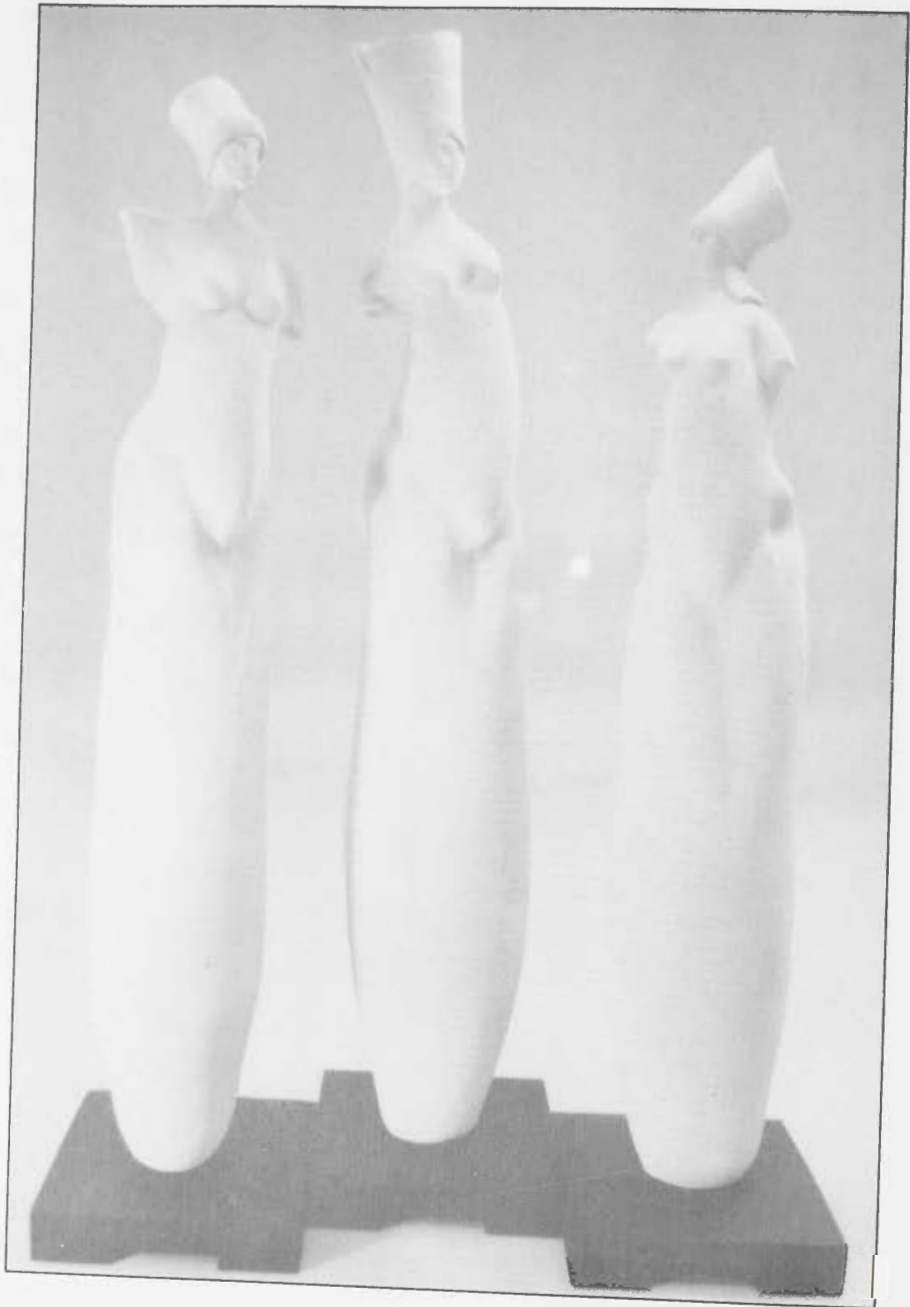
**DAUGHTERS OF MOSS AND FIRE - SISTERS OF LIFE**  
52" x 30" x 15"  
Low Fired Clay



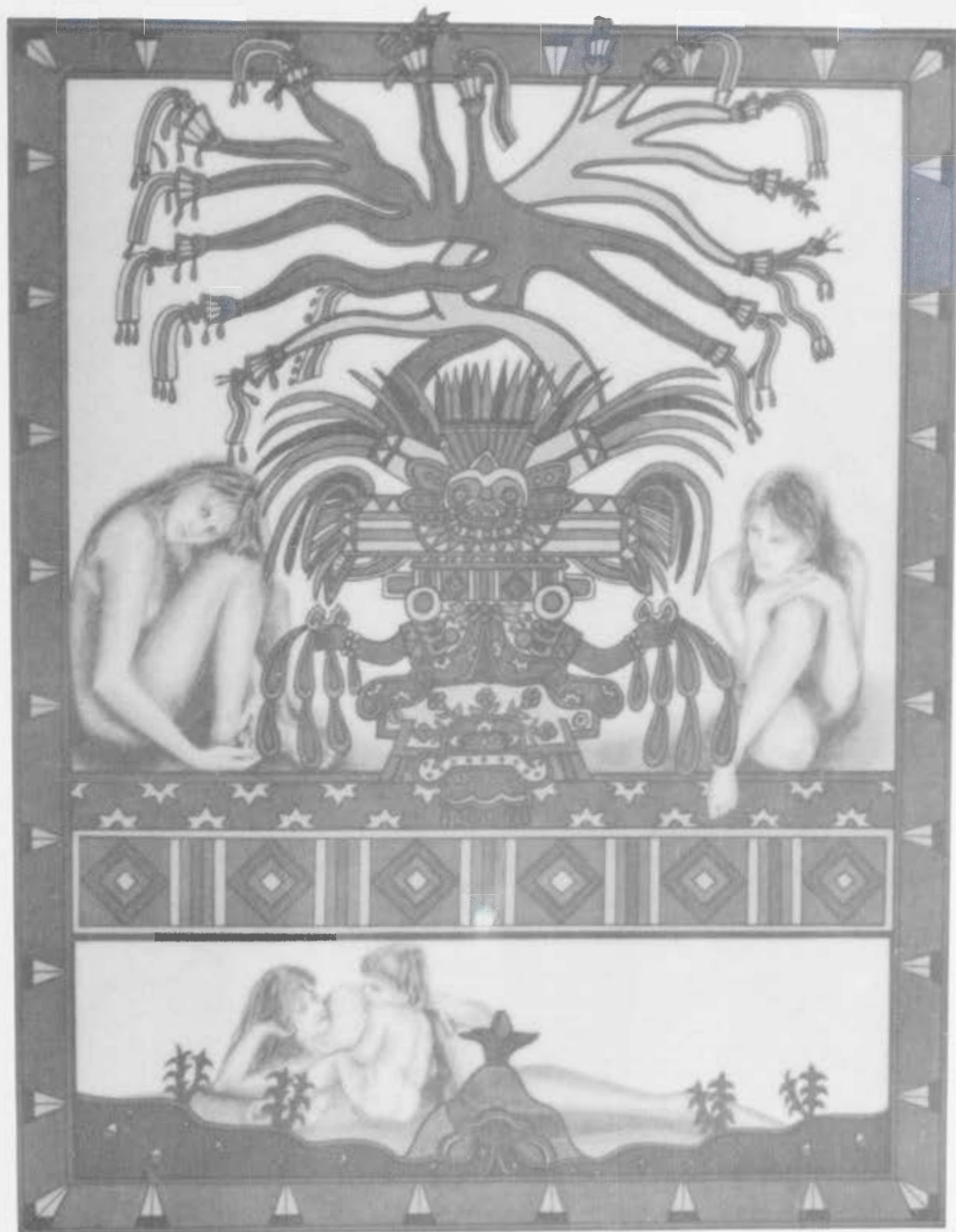
**SISTERS OF THE SKY**  
47" x 20" x 10"  
Low Fired Clay



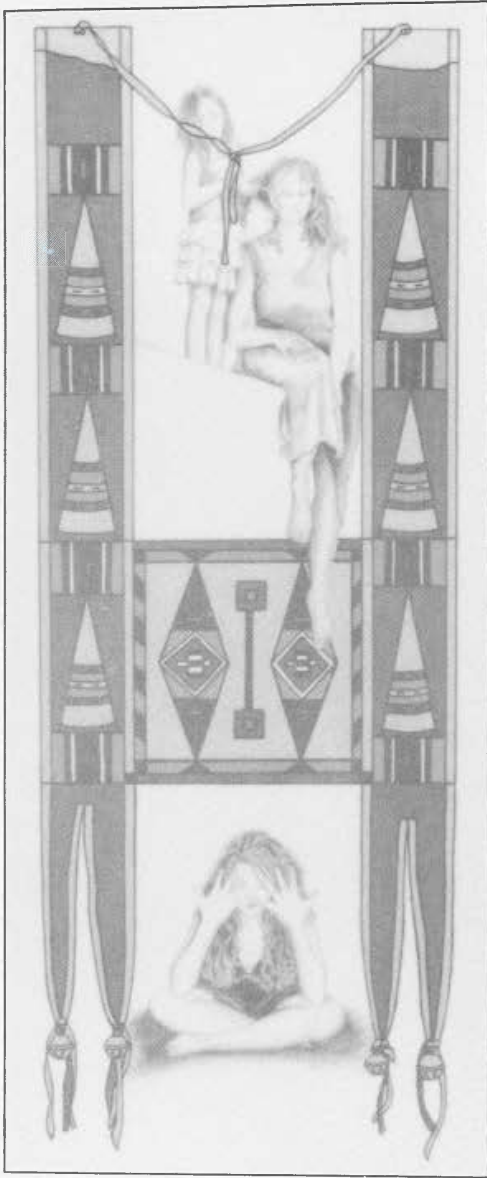
**DARK ANGELS - SISTERS OF THE NIGHT**  
52" x 20" x 20"  
Low Fired Clay



**DAUGHTERS OF PHARAOH - SISTERS OF THE SKY**  
50" x 12" x 20"  
Low Fired Clay



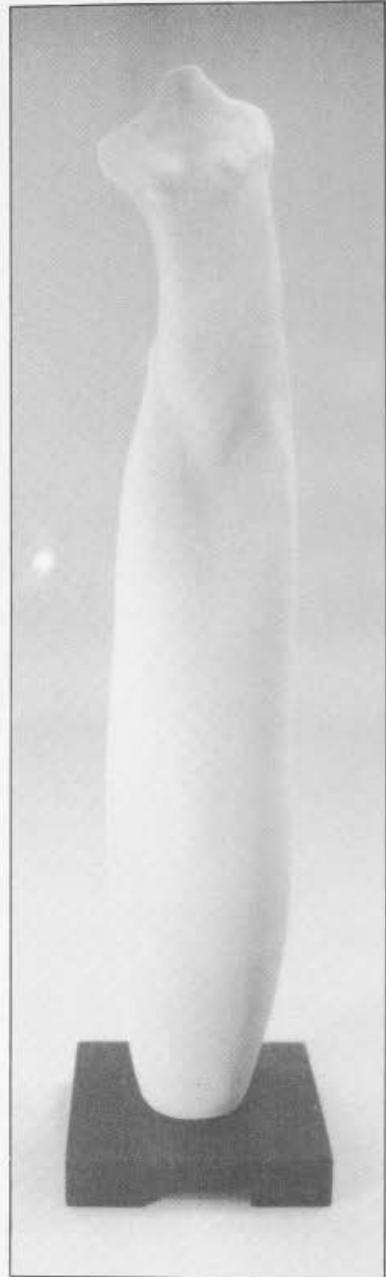
**EARTH MOTHER -  
THE BLESSING OF TLALOC ON THE FECUND EARTH**  
28" x 22"  
Ink, Pencil, Prismacolor



**BINDING TIES**

28" x 12"

Ink, Pencil, Prismacolor



**BLUE GESTURE - SISTER OF THE SKY**

45" x 10" x 10"

Low Fired Clay



**COMPASSION - SISTER OF THE NIGHT**  
40" x 10" x 10"  
Low Fired Clay



**CROSSING OVER**  
22" x 15"  
Ink, Pencil, Prismacolor

## EXHIBITION RECORD

- 1990 MFA Thesis Exhibition, Moss-Thorns Gallery, Hays, KS  
WomanArt, Kansas City, MO  
Russell Original Art Review, Russell, KS  
Lenexa National 3-Dimensional Art Show, Lenexa, KS  
Smoky Hills Art Exhibition, Hays, KS  
Pratt Community College Invitational Exhibit and Workshop, Pratt, KS  
Saint Mary's of the Plains Invitational Exhibit, Dodge City, KS  
Kansas State University Invitational Exhibit - Union Gallery, Manhattan, KS  
Kansas Painters West Traveling Exhibit, KS
- 1989 Lenexa National 3-Dimensional Art Show, Lenexa, KS  
Russell Original Art Review, Russell, KS  
Kansas Painters West Traveling Exhibit  
Highland Community College Invitational Exhibit and Workshop, Highland, KS  
Klay Concepts Invitational, Hays Arts Council, Hays, KS  
Ellinwood State Bank Invitational Exhibit, Ellinwood, KS  
Birger Sandzen Museum Invitational Exhibit, Lindshorg, K  
Christmas Exhibition, Hays, KS
- 1988 Smoky Hills Art Exhibition, Hays, KS  
Prairie Art Exhibition, Sterling, KS  
Art Inc. Exhibition, Great Bend, KS Award winner  
Seward County Community College Invitational Exhibit and Workshop, Liberal, KS  
Klay Concepts, Hays, KS  
Dodge City Community College Invitational Exhibit, Dodge City, KS
- 1987 Prairie Art Exhibition, Sterling, KS, First Place Award  
Professional Art Exhibition, Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, KS  
The Dodge City Area Arts Council Exhibit, Dodge City, KS  
Russell Original Art Review, Russell, KS  
McPherson College Invitational Exhibit, McPherson, KS  
Klay Concepts, Hays, KS  
Barton County Community College Invitational Exhibit, Great Bend, KS  
Great Bend Public Library Invitational Exhibit, Great Bend, KS
- 1986 The A.R.T. National Claybox Show, Elk Grove, IL  
36th Spiva Annual Competition, Joplin, MO Honorable Mention  
Prairie Art Exhibition, Sterling, KS  
Smoky Hills Art Exhibition, Hays, KS  
Nebraska Crafts Council Show, North Platte, NE, Traveling Exhibition  
Lost Creek Arts Council Invitational Exhibition, Concordia, KS  
Focus on Crafts, Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE  
MA Thesis Exhibition, Moss-Thorns Gallery, Hays, KS

1985 Men and Women in the Arts, West Bend, WI  
Lenexa National 3-Dimensional Art Show, Lenexa, KS  
Topeka Crafts Competition 9, Topeka, KS  
Smoky Hills Art Exhibition, Hays, KS Purchase Award  
Prairie Art Exhibition, Sterling, KS  
Art Inc. Exhibition, Great Bend, KS  
Wichita National Decorative Arts Exhibition, Wichita, KS  
Nebraska Crafts Council 6 Show, Kearney, NE  
Black and White, Guilford, CT  
Art in Worship, Hendersonville, NC  
Salina Art Center's Seventh Annual Show, Salina, KS  
Sioux City Art Center 1985 Biennial, Sioux City, IA  
Woodlawn Gallery Invitational Exhibit, Wichita, KS  
Hays Arts Council Invitational Exhibit, Hays, KS  
Barton County Community College Invitational Exhibit, Great Bend, KS  
Pratt Community College Invitational Exhibit, Pratt, KS  
Focus on the Crafts, Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE





## BIOGRAPHY

- 1958 Born in Stafford, Kansas
- 1969 Spiritual rebirth, Pratt, Kansas
- 1976 Graduated Valedictorian from St. John High School, St. John, Kansas
- 1977 Married Sheldon Ganstrom, ceramic artist
- 1978 Bore a son, Landen Sheldon Ganstrom
- 1980 Graduated Summa Cum Laude from Fort Hays State University earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art Education
- 1981 Bore a daughter, Tiara Jade Ganstrom
- 1982 Art instructor at USD #350, St. John, Kansas
- 1986 Earned Master of Arts Degree in Ceramics (Drawing minor), Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas
- 1987 Art instructor at Barton County Community College, Great Bend, Kansas
- 1988 Began MFA work at Fort Hays State University
- 1990 Earned Master of Fine Arts Degree in Ceramics (Drawing minor) Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas

