



Denis A. Yanashot



Artist Statement

The dictionary defines the adjective *esoteric* as, “intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest.” *Esoterica* the noun is defined as “esoteric or highly specialized subjects.”

The objects in this exhibition may be termed *esoteric* because of their unknown mysterious nature. Viewers can come to their own conclusions.

Time immemorial harbors many mysteries. Many amazing structures and art from known and unknown cultures still exist all over the world. Technology today cannot replicate precise construction techniques used thousands of years ago. Where or how did ancient cultures learn of the techniques they utilized in the creation of these amazing structures and art? Where did their knowledge come from? Why was it lost? Will we ever regain this knowledge in the future?

In *Esoterica*, I tried to create assemblage sculptures and wall reliefs that fall out of context with the real world and its experiences as we know them. The imaginary devices and apparatuses I made for this exhibition challenge natural and supernatural systems and their order.

In these creations, I have combined ideas of empirical and rational knowledge, supernatural perspective, divine interference, irrationality, and absurdity. Perhaps someday some of the esoteric mysteries of the world will be revealed to us. Perhaps some of the now absurd nature of *Esoterica's* sculptures will transcend into reality. Presently, I hope the viewer can find enough merit in them to spark their own curiosity and thought.

-Denis A. Yanashot