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SHIRLEY WAGNER
AS FEATURED IN LUXE ARIZONA STYLE MAKERS



Artist Shirley Wagner stands in her workshop with her circular saw, one of the imposing tools of her trade. *Opposite:* Tucson's FLUX Gallery is Wagner's newest pet, a collaborative venture that she entered with other talented local artists.

PORTRAIT: TIM FULLER, OPPOSITE: STEVE TORREGROSSA

In the battle for brain dominance, either the creative right or the analytical, logically oriented left normally wins out. Tucson-based Shirley Wagner, however, maintains solid camps in both mental arenas. She is, first and foremost, an artist, but her subject matter is decidedly scientific. She often finds inspiration for her exquisitely detailed sculptures in the geological nuances she enlightened students with in her previous career as a teacher. "I'm particularly interested in earth sciences," Wagner explains. "I've done a lot of research on land formations, and the processes of earthquakes and landslides really elucidate my work." The art she creates is, as a result, a force of nature in and of itself. Constructed from scraps of salvaged wood placed together like a puzzle and meticulously adhered to one another, the pieces are reminiscent of a terrain in revolt—a constant shifting and settling that is both dynamic and risk-taking, much like Wagner herself. shirleywagnerartist.com; 520.990.9725

Shirley Wagner's *Trajectory*; wood with acrylic, 31.5" x 8.5"



NATURAL SELECTION

SHIRLEY WAGNER



Up Next:

I've recently joined eight other artists in opening the new FLUX Gallery in Tucson. The idea was to bring different mediums together for a collective of contemporary work.

Favorite Artist:

Louise Nevelson. People sometimes compare my work to hers, but I don't think I'll ever achieve her level of understanding. She was phenomenal.

Self-Indulgence:

I'm crazy about handbags. I have some favorite old vintage purses, and I'm crazy about Prada.

Art Envy:

I love anything by Maya Lin. She translates a variety of different landscapes into large-scale installations that totally fascinate me.

Favorite Museums:

The wonderful Musée de Montmartre, where I saw a fantastic Monet exhibit, and the Centre Pompidou, both in Paris.

Inspiration:

The desert. Sometimes the heat is so unbearable you can't go outside, but there's something about that kind of oppression that leads to creation.

SHIRLEY WAGNER

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