

I use this as a final project for my hand building class.

It allows personal involvement and utilizing all the techniques presented over the semester.

Art 74, Ceramics
Instructor: Gary Erickson

NARRATIVE COLUMN / TOTEM POLE PROJECT

- Narrative n. 1. A narrated account; story.
2. The act, technique, or process of narrating.
adj. 1. Consisting of or characterized by the telling of a story: narrative poetry.
- Column n. 1. A supporting pillar consisting of a base, a cylindrical shaft, and a capital.
- Totem: n. 1. Something that serves as an emblem or revered symbol.
- Totem Pole: n. 1. A pole or pillar carved and painted with a series of totemic symbols representing family lineage and often mythical or historical incidents and erected before the houses of Indian tribes of the northwest coast of N. America.

Using the concept of a column or totem pole, create a sculptural form that narrates a personal story or event about your life. The time frame depicted could be as short as five minutes or as long as your life time. Examples used by former students have been: travel abroad, development of sexual self-consciousness, to the chronology of a sneeze! Try avoiding subject matter that deals with your day to day college life (ex: I got up - went to class - I fell asleep). Think of a significant event in your life that you can share. Using the example of a column or totem pole, the narration could begin at the bottom (base) - expand through the middle (cylindrical shaft) - and end at the top (capital).

Present your narration through use of one of the following: symbolism, metaphors, abstraction or representational images. Use form, texture and color as the language you communicate with. Your piece is not restricted to an actual column/totem pole but can be a sculptural form that is composed of three distinct shapes (ex: the axis may be horizontal instead of vertical if more effective). In either case it must have a beginning, middle and ending that tells a story. Remember to utilize the three-dimensionality of the sculpture - it will be viewed from all angles.

This is your final project and should embody all you have learned over the semester. There is no height requirement, it is part of your decision making process to decide what size would be most effective. All building techniques, slip and glaze surfaces are at your disposal.

Due Date _____