

**Praying Plantis**, 2011, bronze, yucca, agave, mescal and cholla, 7'6" tall on base.

*Praying Plantis unites plants and sculpture in a state of prayer and meditation.*

Robert J. Wick  
**Living  
Bronze  
Sculpture**  
EARTH. LIFE. MAN.



*“Until you can grow a tree from your own heart  
you’ll never understand the oneness of all things,”*

says Bob Wick, creator of bronze sculptures that carry living plants and trees. Wick explains the parallels of earth and humanity:

“We humans are structured like the earth we come from. The earth has strata of rocks and dirt. Our strata are genetics and personal environment.

The earth has earthquakes. We have love, birth and death.

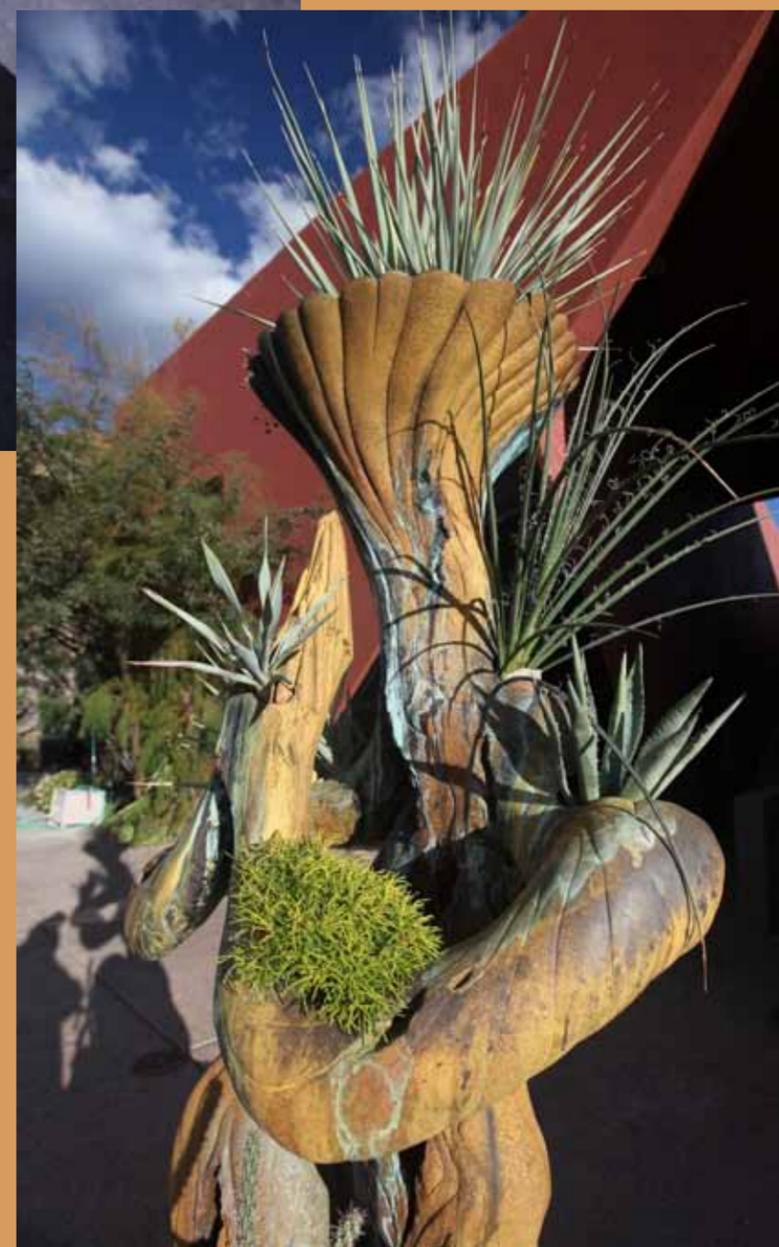
The earth has volcanos. We have pain, violence and creation. It all comes from beneath.

The evolution of the earth is the pulsating heart of mankind. Both earth and humankind grow new forms, new life, new states of being. Both are always in change. We and the earth are shaped by the energy and forces put upon and within.

We are only a recent manifestation of the earth’s evolutionary force ... and the part we play is the conscious earth.”

Wick concludes: “I am hopeful that my work will allow others to see a synthesis of earth, life and man, so that each of us can grow a tree from our own heart. Maybe then will we make the right decisions for a better earth and life.”

[robertwick.com](http://robertwick.com)





**Arroyo Rising** (above) 2013, bronze, yucca, prickly pear, mesquite, ocotillo and cholla, 15' tall.

*Arroyo Rising defines a section of earth that rises out of the landscape carrying the plant life of a desert wash with it. Yucca, mesquite and prickly pear burst from the earth inside Arroyo Rising revealing the flora of the desert southwest.*

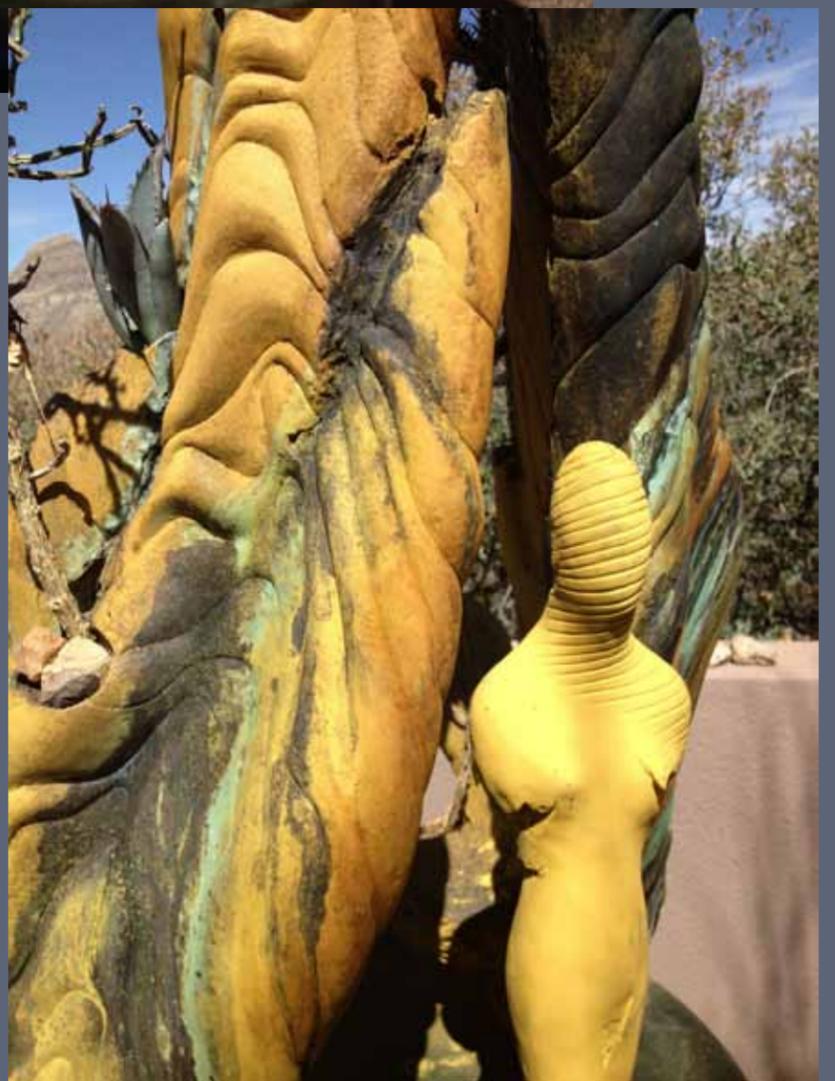


**Many Arms** (bottom left) 2004, bronze, juniper, mesquite, yucca and euonymus, 6'6" tall on base.

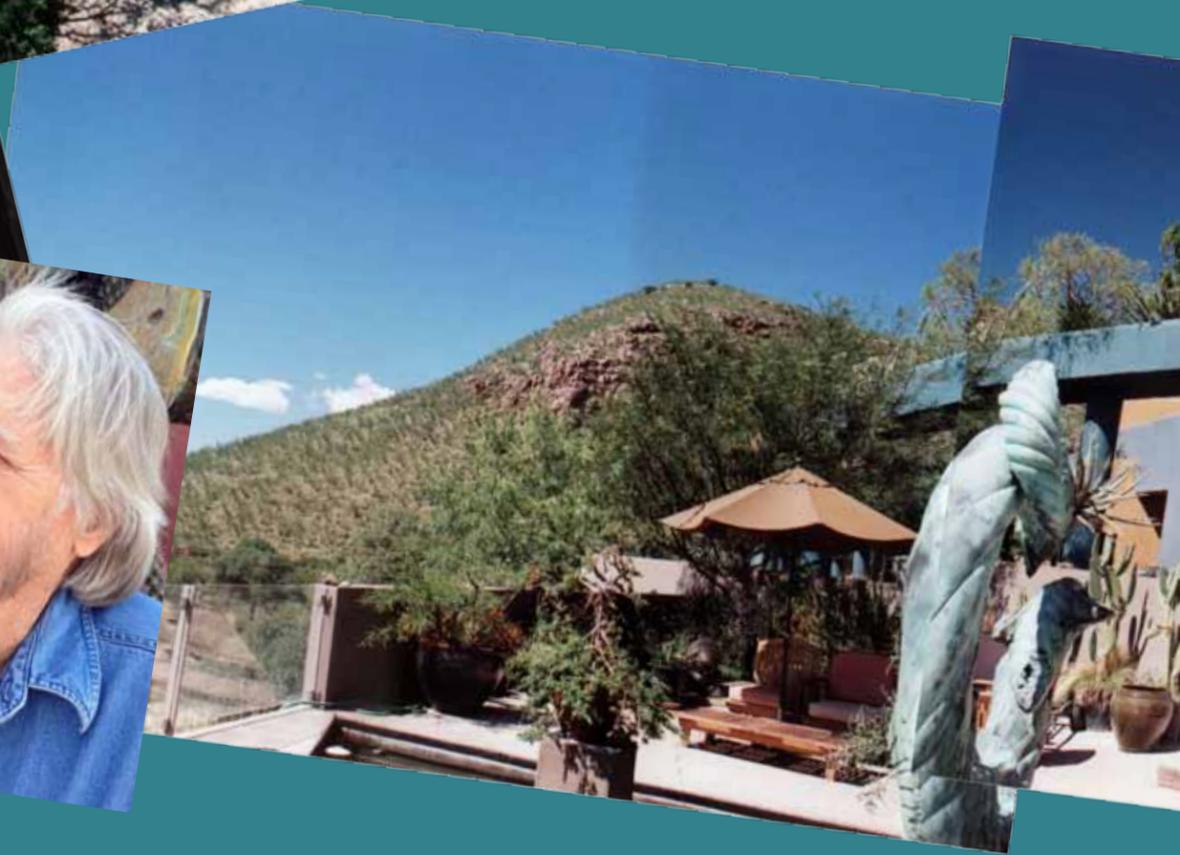
*Many Arms* represents ancient goddess figures with many arms. Each arm carries a living plant, for this is the goddess of living things.

**Cathedral Yellow**, 2013, bronze, cholla, yucca and pencil cactus, 4' tall

*Cathedral Yellow* inspires a place of contemplation and solitude. The yellow figure reflects the mysterious light of the sun and man.



# WICK WAY HOME



## *About Robert Wick*

Wick was born into a small town newspaper family. As a youth, he pedaled papers, swept floors in the news office and played sports. Sensibilities for Robert Wick's art came early. He drew in three dimensions when he was six years old and began sketching modern homes which were inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright architecture by the time he was eleven years old.

Nature, early man and astronomy were places his young questioning mind kept going. Although he gained a journalism degree at Kent State University and worked at his father's paper, The Niles Daily Times as a reporter, in the evenings his mind was working overtime on art and sculpture.

His artistic quest won him a Carl Milles scholarship to graduate school at Cranbrook Academy of Art. After graduate school, he taught sculpture and drawing at Kent State University. Eventually Wick went back to newspaper work joining his father and brother. He led Wick Communications' small town newspapers into strong editorial positions promoting against air and water pollution.

In southeast Arizona he and his newspapers helped to fight against pollution the Phelps Dodge smelter was causing in Douglas, Arizona and surrounding areas. The result was the closing of that smelter; the limiting of expansion of the Cananea, Mexico smelter nearby; putting an air cleaning acid plant on a new smelter in Naco, Mexico; thus helping to make the air the cleanest it had been in eighty-five years. Without these changes the air would have become the most heavily polluted in North America.

Shortly thereafter, Wick also fought for the establishment of the Large Binocular Telescope (LBT) on Mt. Graham, Safford, Arizona, home of another Wick newspaper. In this case he fought environmentalists, who, as a political ploy, opposed the installation of the telescope. The telescope is complete and is currently the most powerful land telescope in the world.

On June 30, 1980 Wick's son Stan, a precocious young poet, was killed in an auto accident. In honor of his son, Bob and his brother Walter, who had also lost a son Tom in an auto accident, created the Stan and Tom Wick Poetry Center at Kent State University in Ohio. Today it is one of the finest university poetry centers in America.

"Working in the newspaper business gave me grounding in the real world and an opportunity to help change the communities we were in for the better. At the same time it financially allowed me to cast large bronzes and exhibit my work throughout the country," Wick explained.

Places Wick has exhibited his art include the Botanic Gardens in Phoenix, AZ, Denver, CO, Salt Lake City, UT and Ft. Worth, TX. Other showings were at the Austin Museum of Art, Cleveland Museum of Art, Scottsdale Center for the Arts, Tucson Museum of Art, The Art Museum at Lakeland, Florida, The city of Lakeland, and Max Hutchinson's Sculpture Fields, NY.

"I have been touched by the realization that the outside world of nature and the inside world of man are one and the same. It has laid the foundation for the visions which came forth in my sculpture and art," Wick openly expressed.



*Wick Way rests in a dramatic southern Arizona landscape. Sculptures, architecture, plantings, water and space meld together speaking of the union of art and nature.*

“My idea of **WICK WAY** was to create strong, geometric shapes in the architecture of the home as a backdrop for placing large and small organic, bronze sculptures.

Both architecture and sculpture would have living plants and trees growing from them which help to define the union of high desert oaks and junipers with the rugged, mountainous landscape of southeastern Arizona,” Wick expressed.

This home is an assimilation of the natural elements of sunlight, shadow, and sweeping landscapes with seventy mile vistas and hills showcasing fifty million year old earth strata. This integration is accomplished by creating buildings in the shapes of pyramids, trapezoids and right angles.

“Wick Way was nine years in design, four years in construction and finally ten years of magnificent living. It has been eye-opening, mind-stretching, shadow-viewing and an ever-touching presence of nature,” Wick stated.

“Wick Way is a place to live; a place to be; but more than that, it is a place to experience and immerse oneself in the wonders of nature, mountains, flora and fauna. It is a place integrated artistically and architecturally in the heart of nature’s reality,” Wick strongly believes.





**Hoodooos** (top left) 2004 and 2006, bronze, juniper, prickly pear and box-wood, 7' and 8' tall.

*Hoodoo is often a term used to describe tall vertical rock formations on the western landscape. These male and female figures stand as a symbol of the union of this planet, life and humanity.*

**Seated Earth** (bottom left) 2010, bronze, pencil cactus, cholla and mes-cal, 36" tall.

*Seated Earth, stratified and carrying real earth inside, also nurtures real life. A person sits inside a 12'6" plaster model of Seated Earth being prepared for the foundry to cast into bronze.*

**Cantilever Black** (above) 2012, bronze, wormwood, 2'5" long.

*Dark as night Cantilever Black is "nature that never goes out of style" as quoted by H. Gaudi. The Wormwood plant contrasts with the organic sculpture.*

**Earth Wave** (below) 2004, bronze, pine, juniper and flowering plants, 11' long.

*Earth Wave is a reclining landscape figure that flows much like an ocean wave or natural earth bridge.*





**G's Nose**, 2009, bronze, juniper, euonymus, 7' tall by 9' long.

*G's Nose carries the plants which grow sending out fragrance that returns to enrich its very purpose.*

**Cornucopia** (right) 2003, bronze, Chilean saguaro, cholla, mescal, 10' tall.

*Cornucopia's large earth container holds an abundance of living plants, in this case, four Chilean Saguaros.*

**Chinese Circle** (below) 2004, bronze, cholla and agave, 8'3" tall.

*Chinese Circle is much like the Chinese culture; It is difficult to decipher or predict, but beautiful in its mystery.*



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