



Amphora

Having recently retired from my career as an Architect I have expanded my efforts in my passion to create art from everyday objects. I define my work as Bricolage, a term used in several disciplines, among them the visual arts and literature, to refer to the construction or creation of a work from a diverse range of things that happen to be available, or a work created by such a process. The term is borrowed from the French word bricolage, from the verb bricoler, the core meaning in French being, "fiddle, tinker" and, by extension, "to make creative and resourceful use of whatever materials are at hand (regardless of their original purpose)".

My art takes the form of usable objects that I reinvigorate and redefine using discarded everyday familiar objects, ephemera and castoffs of the past as a palette for my work. I think of myself as an urban hunter-gatherer and assemble materials from a variety of sources. I am constantly on the lookout for the unusual as well as the mundane and my family and friends share the search. My architectural background has a strong influence on the direction and complexity of my work, which has taken the form of bird houses, boxes and furniture.

My work can be nostalgic, historical or just plain whimsical, juxtaposing memories and knickknacks that are castoffs of everyday activities. I am a lifelong Detroit, although currently living in Grosse Pointe Park, consequently much of my work will contain objects and memories of forgotten Detroit. I aspire to make people smile as they catch something familiar from their own personal history.

Mark Mardirosian