

Your Vision – Marcia's Artistry & Craftsmanship



When Qualicum Beach-based artisan Marcia Wright was a child, she loved the outdoors, she liked puzzles, and she was mesmerized by the beauty of little things—leaves, shells, starfish.

Her love of nature has not changed.

She says, "For more than 30 years, I have observed the unique colours, lighting, textures and shapes in nature through the changing of the seasons. I have been fortunate to be surrounded on this island by many of nature's wonders—from beaches to rock formations...plant life and forests, to the snow in the mountains."

In the fall of 2007, while designing an entry foyer for her home, she looked down at the leaves on the ground and was inspired to create a stone floor mosaic, which she calls "AUTUMN BLANKET." After many positive comments from guests and requests to create custom pieces for them, she decided to turn her love of design and stone work into a business, which she formally opened as Stone Art &

Mosaics.

In addition to her one-of-a-kind floor mosaics, she creates custom counter or furniture insets, back-splashes, and trim tiles. For some clients, her husband does the wood work into which the mosaic is installed, including tables of all sizes, fireplace surrounds, and custom beds.

Her home's one-of-a-kind fireplace surround combines stone with wood, with the focal point being a silhouette of her husband, Doug, holding a fishing pole with the "big one" on the hook.

From seashells and star fish to maple leaves and dogwoods, Marcia works with residential and commercial clients to design a piece that reflects their personal taste, colour scheme and interests.

Each creation from Stone Art & Mosaics is custom-designed, cut, carved, and detailed out of natural stone, including slate, granite, marble,

and rock. After she cuts some pieces, she carves texture into the stone, such as the veins of a leaf or spirals in a seashell, to give dimension.

One of Marcia's largest projects, installed in Edmonton in 2011, is an entry foyer at Shepherd's Care retirement community. The design includes two matching mosaics, each measuring 10 ft x 3 ft. The two combined have more than 500 hand-cut pieces of stone with the design intended

to reflect the flora of Alberta plus the company's logo. Hundreds of stones are also set in the spaces, then the whole piece is grouted and finally sealed.

John Pray, president of Shepherds Care, says, "After seeing Marcia's stone mosaics at her home, I knew that if anybody could bring our Board of Directors' vision to fruition, Marcia could.

Shepherds Care Foundation wanted an entry for our new building that would not only convey a spirit of elegance to welcome everyone through our doors--our guests, residents, and even our employees--but one that could convey who we are and speak to our faith. And, she did. Our entry foyer is amazing.

Based, in part, on the comments we have gotten, I am certain that her artistry and meticulous craftsmanship...from the design sketches to stone cutting and installation--have set the standard

for future buildings and renovation projects we will do.”

The process began with Marcia listening to what Shepherds Care wanted and also figuring how to create their unique logo out of stone. She then presented design concepts. Once approved, she began the search for stones that were just the right color, she cut each by hand, and then laid the entire two mosaics out in her basement on large flats to ensure she liked where each piece of stone was positioned, as well as the impact of the two mosaics side-by-side.

To ensure installations are precise, she numbers each piece on the back and creates a paper “map” of the design. For some clients, tile contractors do the installations, but for Shepherds Care, she and Doug did it.

They carefully packed each piece and drove to Edmonton where the puzzle went together without a hitch--placing each flower petal and each fern leaf exactly where she wanted it.



In addition to commercial clients such as Shepherds Care, and many residential clients in BC and Alberta, Marcia also works with interior designers and contractors to “create



the wow.”

She particularly enjoys the collaborative design process and offers complimentary site visits to ensure her designs reflect each client’s taste while also complementing the surrounding structure and décor.

For those seeking smaller samples of Marcia’s work, Stone Art & Mosaics offers a variety of stone home décor (tables, counter insets) and trophies/awards, and business card or pen holders. Popular house warming or hostess gifts include street number signs and stone candle holders or hot plates.

She says, “Part of what I like best is translating what a client likes and desires into a design concept, tweaking it with their input, and then creating

the piece. I love to see the expression on their faces when we unveil their one-of-a-kind piece for the first time.”

“I also like the variety of work. One week, I have an order for a backsplash, and the next for a dining room table. I am inspired by the vision of my clients and the nature that surrounds us...I’m lucky that my work not only brings me joy, but also my clients and those who see their pieces as well.”

www.StoneArtAndMosaics.com