

# Shuswap School of Carving and Arts - September 18-23, 2016

Held at Sorrento Retreat and Conference Centre, 1159 Passchendaele Road, Sorrento, BC V0E 2W0 [www.sorrento-centre.bc.ca/](http://www.sorrento-centre.bc.ca/)  
Registration Forms are available at [www.bccarvingschool.com](http://www.bccarvingschool.com) or can be obtained by emailing [Kathy.Les@telus.net](mailto:Kathy.Les@telus.net) or phone at 250-573-2277

## CARVE YOUR OWN SCULPTURE IN STONE with Michael Binkley

\$390 for five 7.5-hour  
days of instruction



Michael Binkley's approach to learning is to encourage your creativity and help facilitate your inspiration and artistic vision by looking at the shape and grain of a stone and listening to it. Each stone is different, and each sculptor has an individual penchant for objects that appeal. Binkley will work one-on-one with you to realize your chosen design - whether it is an animal, human figure or an abstract object. Like wood carving, stone carving is a subtractive process. The only difference is that it is a harder medium, but one that should not be feared. Newcomers will gain experience by carving a buff-coloured even-grained limestone from Indiana, USA. Returning students may choose to carve white marble from Carrara, Italy, or a different stone of your choosing, while building on the skills learned in previous years. Limestone is soft enough to get a good start on a sculpture in the week-long



session, and probably complete, yet enduring enough to last for decades indoors or in an outdoor garden setting; marble is harder and takes a little longer to carve, so you may not complete your project in a week. But fear not - you will learn the different methods of bulk stone removal, detail carving, and completing your sculpture in a range of finishes so you can always finish your project at home. You can use hammer and chisel, angle grinder, air chisel or Foredom points - the tools and techniques can be applied to both stones. Come join the fun - it is sure to be an interesting, dust-covered experience! **If you have questions about tools or the class, Michael can be reached at [info@michaelbinkley.com](mailto:info@michaelbinkley.com) or 604-984-8574.**

**Skill Level:** All are welcome.

**Materials Fee & Tools:** Michael will contact you to ask the size and kind of stone you want him to bring for you - limestone will cost \$1.00 per pound and Italian marble will cost \$2.50 per pound (less if he can get it for less). If you wish to use a different type of stone, you are welcome to bring it to the class, but are advised to consult with Michael about the relative difficulty of carving it before purchasing it. **Bring whatever tools you have in your arsenal.** Binkley will provide a selection of tools of his own for you to try. If you like one in particular, he will provide sourcing information for you to buy your own. This way, you will not be stuck with obsolete tools if stone carving does not appeal to you. **If you can, bring** an angle grinder with a diamond blade - this is the main tool used for roughing out (flush-mounted cutter/grinder-type blade is nice), Foredom-type machine or die grinder with your most aggressive bits, mallet, any steel chisels you have, rasps are very handy, especially a half round, dust protection - you will get dusty, so dress appropriately, eye protection, dust mask or respirator, ear protection, dust collection system and/or fan, extension cords and power bar for tools, wet or dry emory cloth - 60 or 80 grit, 100 and 220 grit (you may not get to the sanding stage), reference pictures for your sculpture ideas, a stool - you will be working outside and mostly standing.  We supply a picnic table to work on, but you might be more comfortable if you bring an adjustable workmate-type table. We will have a tent set up, but to help prevent



crowding, if you can, bring your own picnic shelter to cover your work station in case it rains. Bring appropriate clothing - this class will be conducted outdoors -- so bring warm clothing, and be prepared for variable weather.

**About the Instructor:** "I Chip Away Everything That is Not David ..." - Michelangelo. Although sounding romantic, Michelangelo was inspired by each block of marble he chose to carve - he said the stone spoke to him and told him what lay within. So it is with Michael Binkley, contemporary Canadian stone sculptor. Binkley has over 30 years' experience carving a wide variety of stone types, scale and idiom. He has lead several workshops and instructed many in the art of stone carving at several symposiums in the Pacific Northwest; he is the first artist in history to teach stone carving aboard a cruise ship. Michael has had a prolific career and believes he has sculpted more than 10,000 original pieces of art - those pictured here are only a few examples. For more info about Michael and to see more of his sculptures, go to [www.MichaelBinkley.com](http://www.MichaelBinkley.com) or [www.designgoodness.com](http://www.designgoodness.com).

