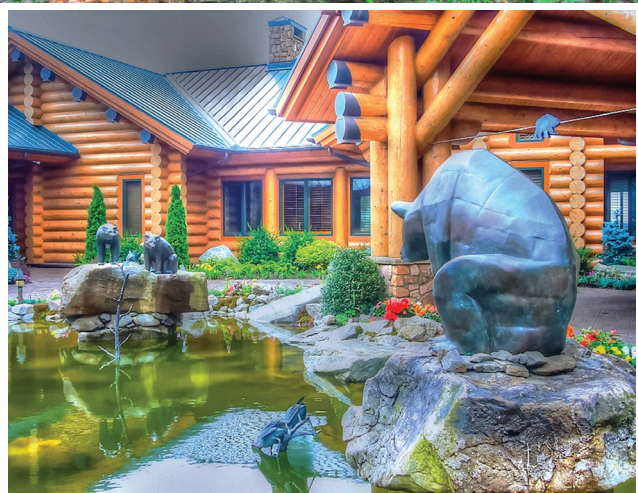




# ARTIST PAUL MILL





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## **Where did you grow up, and what brought you to the North Carolina area?**

I was born in Tyler, Texas. Years later, my parents moved to Ohio - and not being of voting age, I had to go with them! While there, I attended Kent State University & majored in the fine arts.

After that, I spent time freelancing as a designer and illustrator for ad agencies, as well as, my own clients. While doing freelance work, I got a call from a friend of mine who owned a business called the Caribbean Trading Company. He wanted me to paint some graphics on his shop. Once I arrived at Wrightsville Beach, I decided I didn't want to leave! So, I didn't, and have been here for the last 23 years. I have always wanted to come back to the South to live. It must be the southern Texas influence in me.

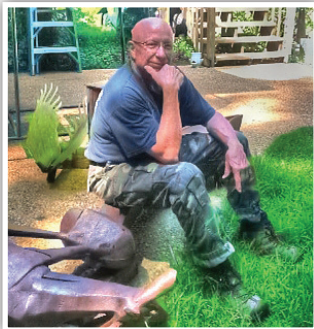
## **What is the first thing you remember creating?**

As a painter and illustrator, I cannot recall. It has been quite a while since my first painting. My introduction to sculpture was in school, where my interest in sculpture grew. Some of my better work involved the human form. Whether drawing or sculpting, the human form has continually been a keen interest for me. The very first piece of metal work I did was to make a series of tropical fish from carbon steel. After that experience, I was completely hooked on metal sculpture.

## **What is your medium?**

I use mostly steel for my work. I have been mixing media for the last few years

which includes: glass, concrete, bronze, copper, stainless steel and Corten steel. Corten is a great metal to work with, as it forms its own protective surface. The exterior surface turns to a rich, chocolate color which actually forms the protective surface against the elements. It is a perfect metal to use for outdoor sculpture.



**Artist Paul Hill.**

## **What made you want to do animal-inspired art?**

I do animal sculptures because I like to use these most loved creatures to emulate human emotions, and convey struggles that humans go through. They are a wonderful metaphor to use. I like the attraction of this technique. I want to let the viewer come to their own conclusion to the meaning of the work.

## **What other subject matters do you cover with your art?**

I am always open to commissions! Corporate and residential work is always most welcomed. One of my favorite commissions was being chosen as one of seven sculptors to create a piece of art for the newly opened North Carolina Veteran's Park in Fayetteville, NC. I felt that was a huge honor, and being a vet made it all the more meaningful.

## **Tell me about your current pet family member.**

We have 2 cats - outdoor cats. Ted and Biff both female. One is a bit of a nervous wreck, and the other is laid back to the max. Ted cannot hear out of one ear, so she has become a bit more jumpy, but still a sweetie!



# PET-cassos

## PET-FOCUSED ART

# ARTIST PAUL HILL



*"Straining to Be"*


Installed in Downtown Wilmington.

evoke emotion and action! As an artist, I feel that it is my job to create controversy, or at least debatable dialogue about my work... otherwise, what's the point? I am always trying to create a point of view or, at the least, tell a story... creating communication.

## Where in the area can your work be seen?

I have a piece of work at the Riverwalk in Downtown Wilmington. There are a set of Venus Flytraps entitled "Southern Hospitality". These particular Venus Flytraps are indigenous to this part of North Carolina. I also have a piece at the old Bijoux Theater Park, next to the Arts Council, entitled "Straining to Be". I leave the meaning of the piece to the viewer. All of my animal sculptures are created with an intention of creating an emotion or longing... an event, a problem, a solution? You be the judge.

## How can our readers get in touch with you and/or see your work online?

They can call me at: 910-547-5705 or email: paulhill@att.net. To view more of my work, please visit me at [www.PaulHillSculpture.com](http://www.PaulHillSculpture.com), and also at [www.absolutearts.com/metalforms](http://www.absolutearts.com/metalforms). 



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