

Jeff Sundheim

ARTIST STATEMENT

The inspiration for my work comes from the context in which I live...the objects, culture and people that I interact with on a daily basis. They not only provide the ideas, but they are my workplace and in some cases, exhibition spaces. My career has consistently straddled the worlds of art and commerce with some imaginative results.

One of my earliest shows was of sculptures I created with fruit and produce crates, then exhibited in the windows of a grocery store in New York's SoHo district after proposing the idea. The art was priced by the pound like all the other merchandise there, which captured the attention of *The New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* (see press coverage). Another show was based on an alliance I initiated between appliance maker Sub-Zero and Canyon Ranch resort after I unknowingly created a series of sculptures using wooden skids that are used to ship Sub-Zero freezers and refrigerators.

Lastly, the C.R. Smith Museum in Fort Worth, TX (American Airlines' Museum of Commercial Aviation) presented an exhibition of mixed media I created on board flights titled "On Board Art".

The process of making art transcends the things which I find in my travels...it respects in varying degrees the spirit of the materials and the functions they were originally intended to serve. Whether it's sculpture, painting or other forms of mixed media, I ultimately consider myself a "shape maker" creating new and original beings and thus giving new life to ready-mades and cast-off's that the rest of the world does not see or appreciate.