



JEAN-JACQUES
PORRET

MEDIA KIT

"Rocambollesque"
Sculpture, 22 ½ in height

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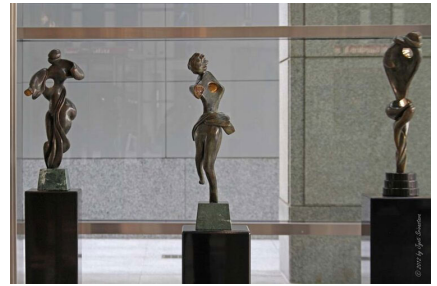
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Contact

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About Jean-Jacques Porret



Originally from Switzerland, award-winning artist, sculptor, and engineer Jean-Jacques Porret was exposed to art from the day he was born to a family of art and antique collectors.

Surrounded by beautiful antiquities, statues, and artwork every day, the seed of art was planted early, and he began carving wood when he was just six years old. He specialized in creating magnificent works with the lost wax technique of casting Bronze. Bronze primarily interested him "because it is the most demanding material which is responsive and sweet to the touch."

After acquiring his engineering degree, Porret came to New York, anxious to learn English and build a life on his terms. There, his career was set into motion, which soon after led him to Chicago. Porret's thirst for knowledge took him to museums all over the world, absorbing all he could and sharing philosophies with the most prominent artist of the time.

As an artist, Porret is continuously evolving, and his work and style have changed over the years. From sharper to a softer expression of molten metal. Porret muses, "If my approach seems figurative, I do not aim for a reproduction of the human form: what interests me is to transmit an abstract feeling or an idea rather than an image of reality. I use recognizable forms to arouse emotion, to give birth to sensations. I consider myself, in fact, an impressionist." This vision drives his work, and each sculpture imbues depth and intensity.

Though he initially started his career by working in Bronze, Porret began experimenting with various stones. Dissatisfied, with his sculpture's bases, bought a granite and marble company, to have complete control in his work's creation. Yet this choice also evolved his work, and these various stone elements have become an integral part of his creative process and vision.

Many of his signature pieces with their soft angular movements are harmoniously mixed with sharply defined textures captivating thoughtful designs with an immortal richness, boldness, and unsettling beauty. Porret's work is infused with his personality, unsuppressed by traditional rules; his work is original and buried within each piece is the poetry of his work. Creating figures of humanity in the abstract, each form courageously melting into the next. Emotions created from fragments of granite or marble jutting and piercing through the bronzes bring the concepts of nature and man together, creating a stunningly modernistic and seductive interpretation of the human form.

When viewing one of his sculptures, the human form seems to leap out at the viewer. Jean-Jacques describes this movement as "rhythm in space." Porret said of his artistic method and vision, "I work without any preconceived idea...(I) continue instinctively, with one shape leading to the next, until the figure is simply rhythm in space".

Jean-Jacques Porret's bronzes can be seen in innumerable collections throughout Europe, Japan, and the United States. He was commissioned to create the bronze sculpture for the American-Swiss Friendship Award. The "Abage Encyclopedia of Bronzes" describes Porret as "an independent thinker, whose bronze sculpture might be described as a naturalistic, modern blend, in which forms are simplified to their essential rhythms and elements."

"Lost wax is a slow multi-step process that has endured only because of the results...knowing that my bronze sculptures will outlive me provides a comforting whiff of immortality. I believe everyone wants to leave something behind." Porret's work is entirely his, unique, crafted with his strong individuality and melded with tremendous sensitivity. His work and art, a dedication of exacting professionalism, and unswerving integrity have guided a life of total artistic commitment and personal expression.



Art Review

by Daniel Limo

Jean-Jacques Porret specializes in sculpting contemporary bronze sculptures using the lost wax method. Though he studied engineering, art has always had a special place in his heart. Porret's work, at first glance, captures focus with its smooth motions.

"I work without any preconceived idea, I continue instinctively, with one shape leading to the next, until the figure is simply rhythm in space."



Bronze primarily interested him "because it is the most demanding material which is responsive and sweet to the touch." After acquiring his engineering degree, Porret came to New York, anxious to learn English and build a life on his terms. There, his career was set into motion, which soon after led him to Chicago. Porret's thirst for knowledge took him to museums all over the world, absorbing all he could and sharing philosophies with the most prominent artists of the time.

In the beginning, many artists imitate the art that inspired them as they begin to find their voice. For Porret, the drive to be unique became his challenge as he worked without being influenced. "It is hard not to be influenced. I met many of the great sculptors of the 60s, 70s, 80s, and was influenced by them, but not anymore. I constantly need to be very careful and reject being influenced. I create my style, my path; I create out of my imagination."

In 2002, Porret changed his style significantly, creating an epoch in his eras of activity, from sharper to a softer expression of molten metal. Porret muses, "If my approach seems figurative, I do not aim to reproduce the human form: what interests me is to transmit an abstract feeling or an idea rather than an image of reality. I use recognizable forms to arouse emotion, to give birth to sensations. I consider myself, in fact, an impressionist." He allows this vision to drive his work, and each sculpture imbues depth and intensity. Although he worked in

Bronze throughout his career, Porret has begun experimenting with various stones. Dissatisfied with his sculpture's bases, he bought a granite and marble company, to have complete control in his creative process.

Porret's sculptures of the human form seem to leap out at the viewer. Jean-Jacques describes this movement as "rhythm in space." Porret said of his artistic method and vision, "I work without any preconceived idea...(I) continue instinctively, with one shape leading to the next, until the figure is simply rhythm in space."

Porret's bronze sculptures possess grace, balance, and fluidity "If my approach seems figurative, I do not aim for a reproduction of the human form: what interests me is to transmit an abstract feeling or an idea rather than an image of reality. I use recognizable forms to arouse emotion, to give birth to sensations. I consider myself, in fact, an impressionist." This vision drives his work, and each sculpture imbues depth and intensity.

Jean-Jacques Porret's collections have been exhibited throughout Europe, Japan, and the United States. A spirit of exacting professionalism and unswerving integrity has guided a life of artistic dedication and personal expression evident in Porret's distinctive sculptures throughout his vast artistic career.



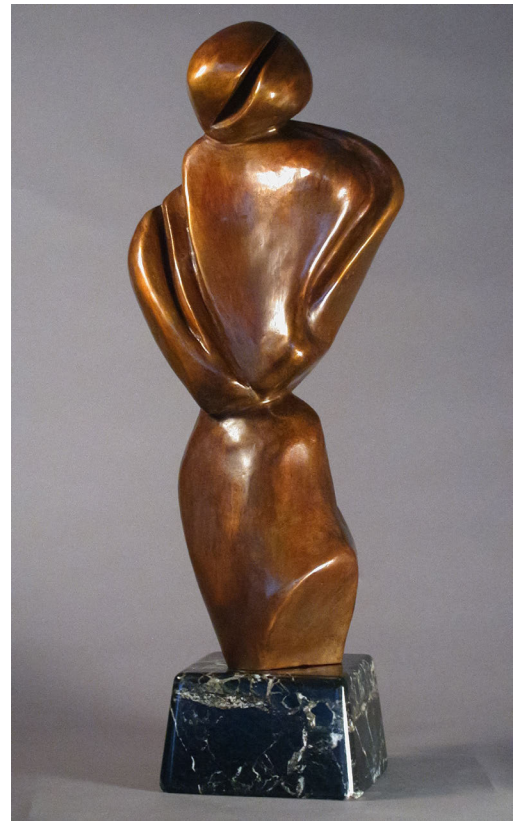
"Fripouille" Bronze



"Belle du Soir" Bronze Green Patina



"Nuit d'Amour" Bronze



"Insolite" Sculpture, 20 in height



"Harmonious" Sculpture, 8"x11"x15"



"Comcubine" Sculpture, 22 ½ in height



"Compromise" Sculpture, 8"x18"x12"



"Pretense" Sculpture, 7"x7"x16 1/2 "



"Opulence" Sculpture, 19 in height



"Fille De Joie" Bronze



"Notorious" Sculpture, 7"x7"x12"

Jean-Jacques Porret

Art Review by Viviana Puello

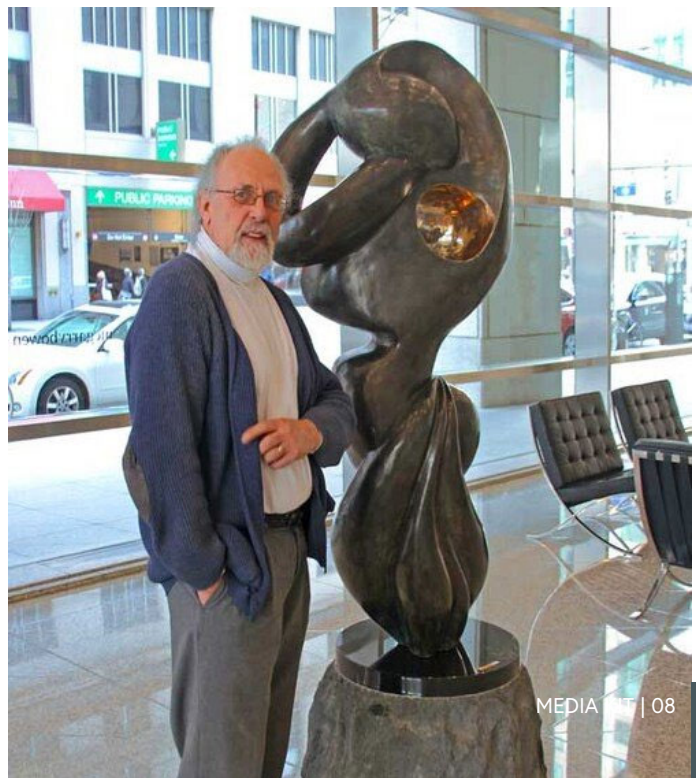
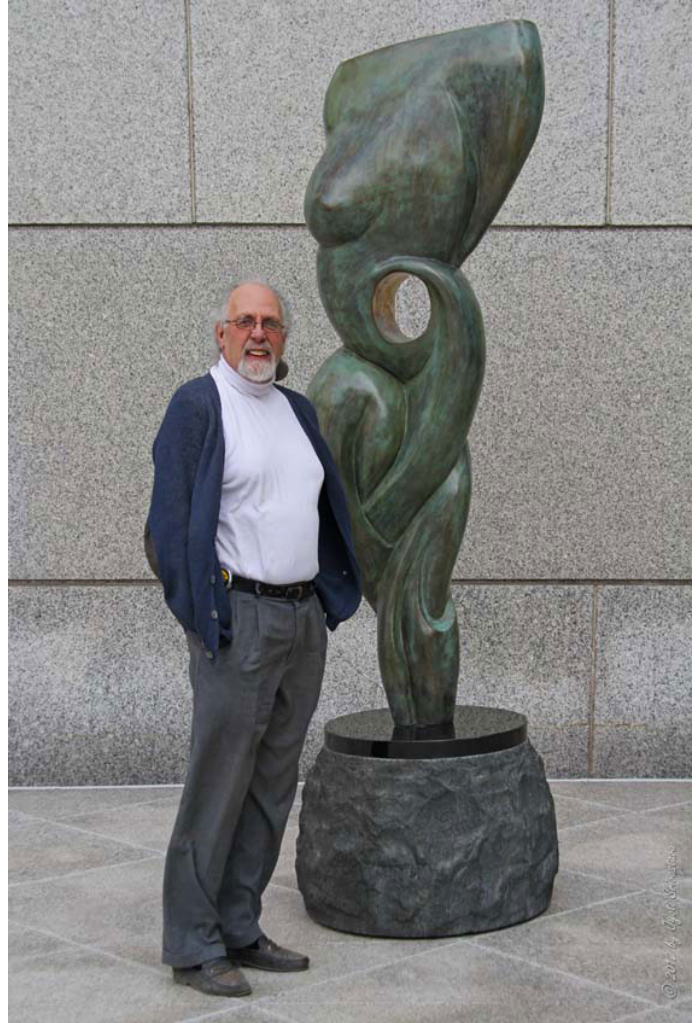
Master artist Jean-Jacques Porret creates awe-inspiring, thought-provoking bronze sculptures using the lost wax method. In his work, the artist infuses his passion for form and movement extending the limits of sculpture art and creating a fresh vision for the viewer. His sculptures transcend the mere human form and engage the viewer with their delicate expressionism, rhythmic movement, and abstract sensuality.

Porret's work, at first glance, captures focus with its smooth motions. He expresses a personal connection with Bronze, highlighting the individual attention required by bronze when casting and its responsiveness to even the slightest touch. Over the years, Porret has mastered the lost-wax process to crystallize his vision of honoring what it is to be a sculptor. His works are graceful, bold, elegant, and seamless. They replicate the harmony of blissful moments while exhibiting a sense of escalated movement in each figure. The result of his imagination manifests in ebullient forms that are mostly human figures. The sculptures are shrouded in grace as each movement seems intentional with the perfect balance of whimsical to make his sculpture look free and unfettered.

To categorize Porrets' work as figurative or abstract is moot. Though figurative in practice, the work is never about the figure, and more about the emotions and ideas shared by the human race, expressed in the tension of his fluid curves and precarious balance.

Over time, his work has only become more dramatic in its simplicity. As Porret's experimentation with his iconoclastic style moves forward, the outcomes undoubtedly continue to reflect our collective and personal experiences, possibly changing in shape, but never insensibility.

According to the master, his aim is not to reproduce the human form but rather to transmit an abstract idea of an image in reality. He considers himself an impressionist and uses forms familiar to the viewer to evoke emotions and feelings.



Curriculum Vitae

Jean-Jacques Porret started sculpting and creating wood pieces in his early teens. This was interrupted to study engineering, and he went back to his passion and love for sculpting some 15 years later.

Group Exhibitions

1979: Peter Miller Gallery, Chicago, Ill.
1980 to 1987: Corporate Art Source, Chicago, Ill.
1983 to 1987: Chicago Art Institute, Art Rental and Sales Gallery.
1983-1984: Valleau Fine Art, Grand Rapids, MI.
1984 to 1995: Benjamin Beattie Gallery, Chicago, Ill.
1984 to 1986: Lighthouse Row Gallery, South Haven, MI.
1985: Gallery Numaga, Auviernier, Switzerland.
1986 to 1988: Nan Miller Gallery, Rochester, NY.
1986 to present: Gallery 454, Grosse Pointe, MI.
1987: White Pine Gallery, Chicago, Ill.
1988: Water Street Gallery, Milwaukee, WI.
1988: White Pine Gallery, Maui, Hawaii.
1989 to 2004: Water Street Gallery, Saugatuck, MI.
1989 to 1995: Gallery 454, Birmingham, MI.
1994: R.A. Gallery, Chicago, Ill.
2000 & 2001: Art's Round Town, Saugatuck, MI.
1997, 1998, 1999, 2000: Chicago Design Show.
2001-2002: RA gallery, Detroit MI.
2005 to 2018: DeBruyne Fine Art, Naples, FL.
2006 to 2009: Nussbaumer Gallery, Santa Fe, NM.
2008 to 2014: ARTBOX Gallery, Indianapolis, IN.
2011: Artopolis, Chicago Art Expo.
2011 to present: Artful Sol, Vail Colorado.
2011, 2013: Willis Tower, Chicago.
2012: AMA Building, Chicago.
2013: St Antonio, TX –Art in the garden – Blue Star center
2013: Art in the park, Chicago, CSI symposium.
2013 to present: The Peninsula, Chicago.
2014-2018: Art Design Consultant, Cincinnati, OH.
2014: Miami Art Expo, Spectrum, ADC Gallery.
2015-2018: Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton, Il.



2016: New-York Art Expo, Art Tour International.
2016: New-York Art Expo, Blink/ADC gallery.
2016 to 2018: Artblend Gallery, Ft Lauderdale, FL.
2016-2017: Miami Art Expo, Reddot, Artblend.
2016-2017: Miami Art Expo, Spectrum, Artblend.
2016: RMG artist of the year Award.
2016: RMG Spectrum Art Expo, Miami, San Diego, New-York.
2017: Hampton Art Expo-Artblend Gallery.
2018: Circle Art-France.
2018: Art up Close- New York.

Solo Shows

1985, 86, 87, 89: Benjamin Beattie Gallery, Chicago, Ill.
1986: Gallery Numaga, Auviernier, Switzerland.
1987, 89, 91, 93, 98: Gallery 454, Grosse Pointe, MI.
1988: Corporate Art Source, Chicago, IL.
1991 & 1992: Gallery 454, Birmingham, MI.
1993: Balzekas Museum, Chicago, IL.
1999: Water Street Gallery, Saugatuck MI.
2009: Artbox, Indianapolis, Disintegration Jason Myers, and Jean J Porret.
2010: Artbox, Indianapolis, Sculpture, and work on paper

Membership

International Sculpture Center.
Chicago Sculpture International.
Chicago Art Club.

Press

Jean-Jacques Porret and his work have been featured in a variety of art magazines, catalogues, websites, and other media. View some of his most recent features below:

ArtTour International Magazine, Winter 2020.



Accrochages, June 2020 (English/French) ISSUE #218, JUNE 2020

[Read Full Article:](#)

www.jjporret.com/accrochages-transmitting-an-abstract-feeling-english

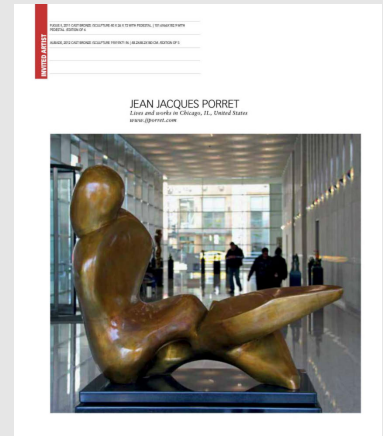


Jean-Jacques Porret

"Transmitting an Abstract Feeling"

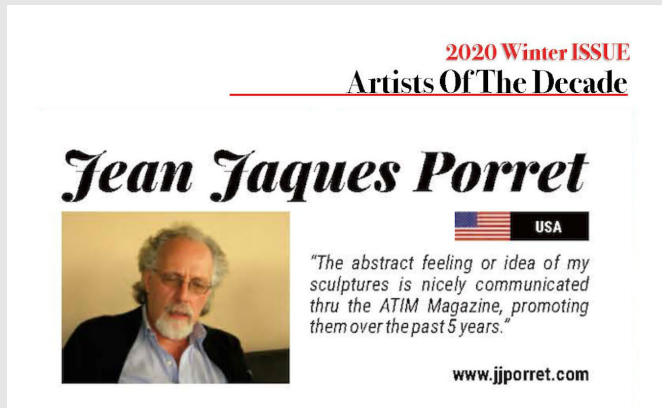
Far from his native Switzerland, he has lived and worked in Chicago for almost 50 years, the sculptor Jean-Jacques Porret (79) has made a place for himself in the art world, by his talent of course, but also because he was inspired by the best to find his own way. *By Dominique Traversini*

Museum of Modern Art's World of Art Magazine,
2020 (pages 150-153).
ISSUE #9, VOLUME 1, 2020



[Read Full Article:](#)

www.jjporret.com/moma-features-jean-jacques-porret



ArtTour International Magazine,
Winter 2020

Jean-Jacques Porret featured as an "Artist of the Decade."
Access the full article in the "Artists of the Decade"
Winter 2020 – Anniversary Issue (page 40).

[Read Full Article:](#)

www.arttourinternational.com/publications/artists-of-the-decade-2020-winter-anniversary-issue/

Videos

Jean-Jacques Porret is the conductor of a ballet in bronze. Like the classical dance technique, Porret's surreal sculptures transcend the mere human form they represent, and instead draw the viewer in with their delicate expressionism, rhythmic movement, and abstract sensuality.



Ballet in Bronze: The Sculpture of Jean Jacques Porret
<https://youtu.be/WqZzwMvoSXo>



Jean-Jacques Rendering of Picasso's Painting "Les Demoiselles d'Avignon", 1997
https://youtu.be/8dPV_cN5j98

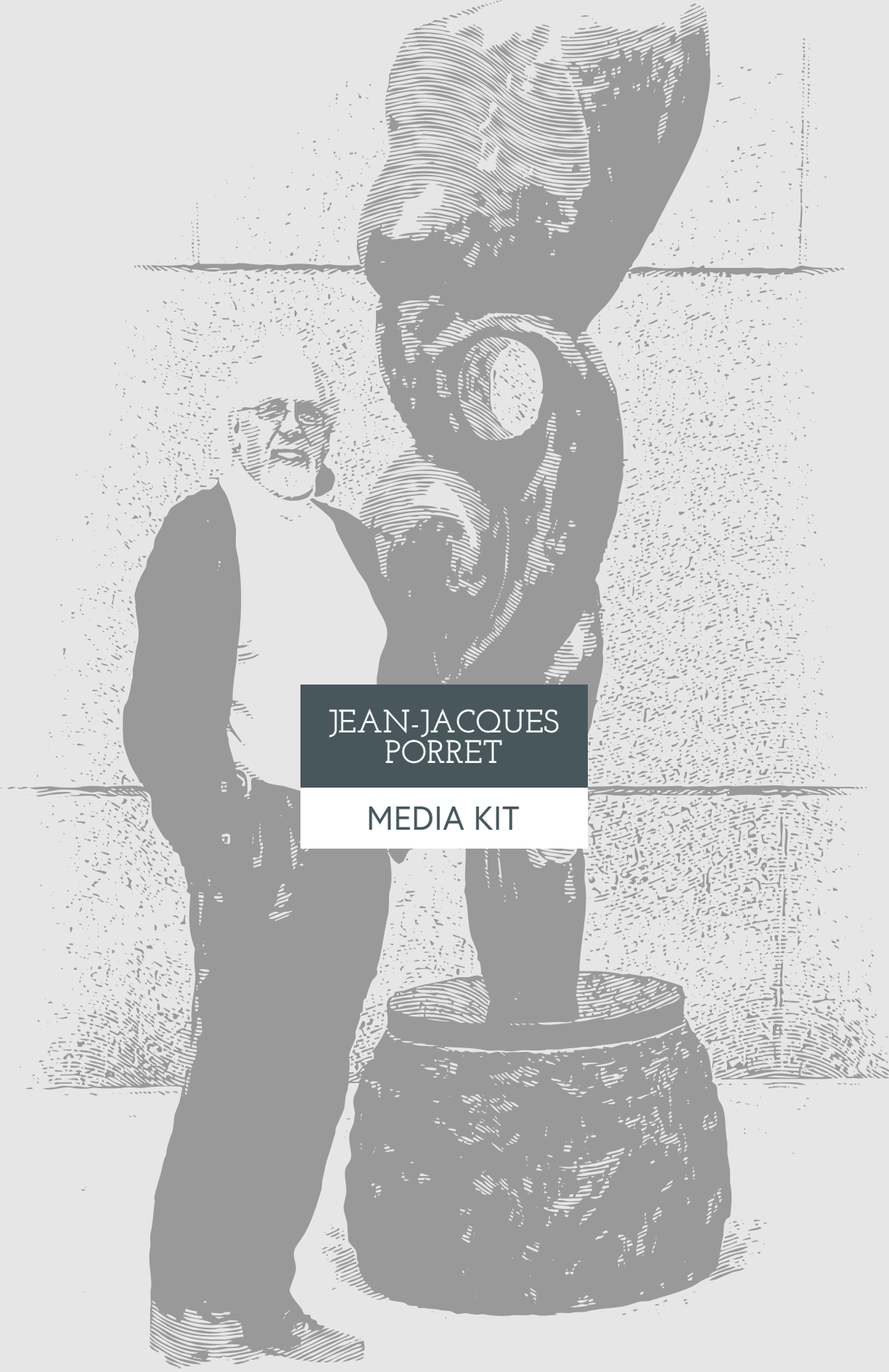


Sculpture Molds and Wine Collection!
<https://youtu.be/8R3G1vJVvA>

JEAN-JACQUES PORRET



"Belle Du Soir" Bronze



JEAN-JACQUES
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