

## **Nan Smith**

### **Artist Statement**

Figurative sculptures set within tableaux reflect my search for serenity and the quiet moments when this inner state becomes apparent. Sculpting the human body and placing it within a context permits me to explore consciousness by mirroring it outwardly. It also reflects my belief in the universal connectedness of our inner and outer worlds. As a sculptor my intent is to convey a sense of the psychology of intuitive nature as a female attribute. The temporal quality of human existence is an underlying theme implicit in the choice of clay as a sculptural material. Ethereal in tone the figures are idealized personifications which recently reflect the porcelain figurine and statuary traditions. Detailed and refined the sculptures quietly draw the viewer in to a more pure reality. The sculptures frame time and memory within a vignette; the salient moment conveyed through subtle gesture; the tilt of the head, repose in facial expression or reaching hand. The body is envisioned along side airbrush paintings on tile or sepia toned photo decal images. The painted images, and manipulated photographs layer text, pictures of maps, compasses, and time pieces; manmade indicators of time, space, and direction. The sculptures are intimate and contemplative; they picture memory and indicate a sense of its timelessness.