

## RICK TOPOLSKI

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[www.sdvag.net/R/RickTslide.htm](http://www.sdvag.net/R/RickTslide.htm)



Rick Topolski, was born in Buffalo New York, started metal fabrication during a three year tour in the U.S. Navy. Serving as Hull Maintenance Technician onboard the USS Jason he stayed in the San Diego area and continued in his new home by the sea.

After years of metal repair and fabrication, Rick started to play and create with the metals of his trade. The experience continued to offer a challenge and potential for creative expression, a side not often exposed in his day-to-day activities. In his spare time he would cut and form different shapes, developing skills and experience with solid stainless steel.



Inspired by sea life, Rick created his first stainless steel sculpture in 1990. Whale Flukes was a simple and direct sculpture that

represented the life strength of this majestic aquatic creature. Encouraged by that response, he received from friends and colleagues, Rick continued to sculpt and expand his repertoire.



Each Sculpture, handcrafted in welded solid stainless steel, or cast bronze is a one of a kind creation. A labor of love, this art form requires hours of cutting, forming, welding, grinding and polishing to achieve the sensual forms and seductive surfaces. When cast in bronze each limited edition is either chrome plated or finished with a patina inspired by the natural skin surface and texture of aquatic creatures. After completion each piece is mounted on an individually matched complementary base of marble, wood, or granite.

