

Edwin Shelton

Biography

Currently Edwin Shelton is the art teacher at Marquette Catholic High School in Michigan City, Indiana. He has taught three years at this college preparatory school. About 250 students attend the school including international students.

Before his teaching career, Edwin Shelton was the program director for the Lubeznik Center for the Arts for about five years. The organization existed for about three decades as the John G. Blank Center for the Arts. The “Faux Fish Factory Summer Art Camp” was created and managed by Edwin Shelton. It won the Governor’s environmental award in 2004.

Edwin Shelton and his artist wife, Laurel Izard designed and produced ceramic jewelry, ornaments, and whimsical functional objects for about two decades. Their company was called Izwin. They sold their unique objects to fine craft galleries like Twist in Portland, Oregon and department stores like Neiman Marcus.

Edwin Shelton earned his Master of Fine Arts degree from University of Wisconsin-Madison in sculpture. His Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in sculpture was from Virginia Commonwealth University. He was born and raised in a suburb of Richmond, Virginia.

Artist Statement

Two Spirits, Integrity is fabricated from an assortment of new and repurposed archival materials including fabrics, paper, window screen, matte medium, acrylic paint, spray paint, etc. I explore creating literal and visual layers. The wall panel is evidence of countless choices, memories, and personal associations. I enjoy experimenting with the combinations of materials and responding to their characteristics. I originally considered working with large canvases. I realized I would need access to a large truck to move them. The wall panels provide a flexible format for transporting. I am not limited by the convention of a canvas. I appreciate the idea that the wall panel will shift each time it is installed.

Two Spirits, Integrity is an example of a series of abstract artworks that I have been working on for about three years. Most spirits depicted throughout history and cultures have been representational. I enjoy assigning innovative images with titles that refer to the spirit realm. The possibilities are limitless. My wife, Laurel Izard and I are practicing Spiritualists.