

## Elaine Parks Biography/Artist Statement

“I have been working with imagery of the cosmos, inspired by spending many evenings under Nevada’s starry skies. I imagine that in the right conditions, we see the night sky the way people did millennia ago. In this series, I speak to our connection with the past. My sculptures serve as a point of reflection to connect us to a time when a star-filled sky was the norm. Celestial imagery combined with earthy materials brings attention to how people look to the night sky to find stories and meaning. The depiction of human experiences placed on the stars creates a connection between the earth and the sky. I see these pieces as maps of contemplation that help us consider our tiny place in the universe.”

Elaine Parks is a ceramicist, sculptor, and installation artist. A Los Angeles native, Parks received her MFA from California State University, Los Angeles. In 1999 Parks moved from a town of 14 million to Tuscarora, Nevada, a town of 14 people. Her work has been exhibited extensively nationally and internationally. Elaine taught art for seven years at Great Basin College in Elko, Nevada. She twice received the Nevada Arts Council Fellowship Award. She is an instructor, co-director, and board member of the Tuscarora Pottery School and a board member of the art publication “*Double Scoop*.”

### Quote

*“Walking the same landscape throughout the seasons and over the years always brings a feeling of rediscovery and something new.”* - Elaine Parks