



Smith says he learned how to cast with GFRC (glass fiber reinforced concrete) by assisting Stephen Robin in casting his concrete pieces. “We cast them open-faced, meaning the mold is left open and each piece of the mold is cast separately, then assembled,” says Smith. “We would paint in layers of a slurry made from the sand, cement, and acrylic fortifier mixture until a thickness of three-sixteenths inch was attained.

When those layers were firm enough, we would back them up with a mixture of the slurry and chopped fiberglass strands. When those parts were firm, we would clamp the piece mold together and continue to hand-apply mixes of the fiberglass strands, sand, cement, and fortifier until the cast was three-quarter inch thick overall. The cast was left in the mold for a day or so to cure and then demolded.”



Photos: Courtesy of the artist.