

Peaceful Warrior

The Life of Ken Paul Lozada

by Joanne Ehrich



Half Moon Bay, California

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“Kenneth Paul” sounds like the Chinese term “Gin Yuen Bao.” The above symbol, “Bau,” means “wrapped fish” or “abalone” in English. Like an abalone shell fish, Ken is tough on the outside to anyone who might mean harm but soft on the inside.







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Tree Sculptures of the Unconscious

by Ken Paul

A major part of the material composing the sculptural display comes from the San Francisco Watershed that covers more than 20,000 acres in San Mateo County. The rest of the trees are like a mini history on a part of my life that covers Hawaii, Calistoga, Half Moon Bay, San Mateo, La Honda and the place of my birth, San Francisco... As human beings we all have hands and fingers, but what separates everyone from each other is the distinct print formed on each person's fingers from birth. In that sense I visualize each tree and sculpture to have a different story to share and tell us. Sometimes that story is clearly told and other times it becomes vague and ambiguous... I wrote in the year of 1992 on April 26th, these words: "A time of reflection and wonder at so much that has taken place in the past twelve months with the work of sculpting. Almost fifty pieces are in some process of completion or finished and waiting to be displayed in a public place. These are symbols of the unconscious life that seems to reside in every human being, no matter what their culture or status in life and where they might have come from in this world. I'm excited at what seems to be happening in my life and the increase of intensity."

The Seven Treasures of Life

October 26th, 1996: If someone said to me, "Place all your experiences into a tiny bag and keep only what you treasure. What would you choose to keep as treasures for life?" This question stirred a personal response so the "Seven Treasures of Life" emerged. The following treasured experiences were not bought with money or influence. They were given as I gave up my right to myself and accepted them freely and wholely. What more could I ask of life but to freely give these experiences to another person to treasure?

1. The sense of awe and joy in conversation with another person's spirit and soul.
2. The thrill of risk-taking ventures in stepping out into the unknown, but still certain of myself.

3. A sense of well-being in tune with the universe no matter what the situation may be.
4. The freedom to share and give my thoughts to another without expecting something
5. The thrill of accomplishment after many failures.
6. The sensation of quiet reflection over a book that engrosses me.
7. The comfort of knowing I am a child of God through no effort of my own, but a simple accepting of faith.

Who am I? I am many persons wrapped into one. I walk the streets of any town. I run the hills and mountains of any country. I listen to the sounds of people and machines. I am allowed to see the exceptional in common objects and scenes. I taste many sensations and feel with the outer surface of my body limitless objects. I smell a vast array of odors that range from fresh to musty, pungent to sickening, pleasant to obnoxious, and the many undefinable scents that blend to make a distinct odor and aroma. I am these, yet more. I am an illusion that hits back and forth between the now you know me, now you don't world. I will smile and I will scowl. I will exude loving endearments and I will bristle with anger and hate in my eyes. I will walk humbly and I will strut proudly until I fall. I will offer forgiveness and remember to keep forgiving and to forgetting. I will embarrass the high and mighty ones who deign to stoop to the lowly ones they serve. Is there more? Probably, but that's enough for now.

On January 8th, 1994, I began dialogues with my sculptures. I began to channel automatic writings on January 28th, 1994, on a regular daily basis. This is a sample of that kind of writing. Let your heart and mind be receptive to this means of communication and you'll find a sense of peace.

Ken Paul Lozada