

# Essence Of Sculpture

Written By Lynn Nicholson  
Images : Nicole Durand

**F**or me personally sculpture is art I can really connect with. It is the ability to be able to touch the piece, to feel where the artists hands have been and to absorb the very essence of the piece.

You can study sculpture and find something new every time. Just by touch you can feel the energy of the artist. Some will encourage you to leave your hands on the piece, others may make you draw away, but the reasons are the same, you are absorbing the energy of the artist as they worked. As the sun shines down on to sculpture it changes, creating new shadows and new areas of interest sometimes giving the piece a whole new dimension. Sculpture, for me, really comes alive and captures your imagination time and time again.

I discovered Nicole Durand whilst researching sculpture and I instantly fell in love with her creations.

Nicole Durand was born in June 1957, in Lyon, France and now lives and works in the village of Mortola, Italy, overlooking the Riviera where she holds workshops for those wishing to develop, or learn, their skills in sculpture. This is a beautiful place for creativity where people from all over the world come to paint, draw and sculpt. It is a very special place where you can allow your creativity to come to the surface and given the space to simply 'be' you can find much

more hidden within you than you probably ever imagined. With every residency carefully designed with plenty of art you can find inspiration at every turn.

The days are long, you could be working on your piece for six or eight hours a day but this is such a wonderful opportunity to simply get into the 'flow' that you will not even notice the time, and as you come together in the evening for a meal with your course members your spirits will be flying high. You will feel refreshed, full of energy and your natural energy will shine through in abundance. By being creative you are really taking time for yourself, you will be working on your emotional, your physical and of course your mental wellbeing so by the end of your course you will have given yourself the gift of better health.

Nicole works from within, she believes everyone is an artist you just need to connect with yourself, to find the beauty within yourself and then simply let your emotions flow and create. What you will create will be a true reflection of who you are. Of course, should you be looking to create a masterpiece you may need a little help but every piece of art will be your





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own personal masterpiece and a memory of the time you spent here.

Nicole describes her own work as a distinction between realism and abstraction, something she calls visionary realism. Her work can be found amount collections in France, Italy, Switzerland, Canada, Hong Kong, as well as major cities in the United States such as Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco. She is considered a world peace Artist and had major exhibitions in Beverly Hills with World Vision and the Association of Human Rights in Germany. It is evident by her work and life; she is on her way to becoming a leading force in the world of sculpture. You can view several galleries of her work on the web site.

If you have an interest in art, at any level, do contact Nicole and find out about a course and get information on the other places you can visit whilst you are here. All you need is your enthusiasm and the desire to do something just for you.

Contact:

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