

**George Tkabladze** creates abstract stone, wood and mixed media sculptures to embed particular themes and ideas, focusing on illuminating problems and stereotypes of modern-day society. He received Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts in sculpture from Tbilisi State Academy of Art (Tbilisi, Georgia). Two consecutive artist' residency grants at Studio Midwest (Galesburg, IL, USA 2001) and Anderson Center (Red Wing, MN, USA 2001) initiated his move to the United States. Since 1993, he has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions, both on national and international levels. Some such exhibitions include: 2019 Artists at work – Smithsonian Museum, S. Dillon Ripley Center, Washington DC (2020-2019); 3<sup>rd</sup> International Biennial of Art (Barcelona, Spain 2019), Artisti '19 (Milan, Italy 2019), International Biennial of Nations (Venice, Italy 2018); International Contemporary art EGOS XIII Oud Sint-Jan Museum, (Bruges, Belgium, 2017); International Modern Art Cannes Biennial (Cannes, France 2017); The 11th Annual Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize semifinalists' exhibition (MICA-Baltimore, MD, USA 2016); Basilica of Saint Paul (Vatican/Rome, Italy, 2015); "Grazie Italia" 56 Venice Biennale (Venice, Italy, 2015); Carrousel du Louvre (Paris, France, 2015); Triennale Di Roma ( Rome Italy, 2014); Tbilisi National Picture Gallery (Tbilisi, Georgia, 2013); PICTURE Cultural Art Foundation (Carson, CA, USA 2011); International Arts & Artists (Washington DC, USA 2010); Target Gallery (Alexandria, VA, USA 2009); Agora Gallery (New York, NY, USA 2003) to name a few. Throughout his career, he has received numerous awards on a global scale. Some such awards include International Prize Velazquez (Spain 2019), Milan International Art Award (Italy 2017), International Prize Michelangelo (Italy 2015), International Art Award Raffaello Sanzio (Italy 2014), Best Virginia Artists in sculpture category (USA 2005), Best work of The Year – Sculpture category (Georgia 1997) as well as being awarded a title of Ambassador of Culture of the World (2014). In addition to his awards, his work has been printed in several publications. Currently he owns and works out of his studio (Manassas, VA, USA) and teaches sculpture and drawing at The Smithsonian Associates Studio Art program (Washington DC, USA) and at The Art League School in (Alexandria, VA, USA).