

## **Priscilla Stadler**

The six or so years I spent studying stonecarving with Alfredo Cardenas and Francisco Rivera at the Alliance have been invaluable for my practice as an interdisciplinary artist. Natural light is an essential ingredient in the process of stonecarving and all 3-dimensional work. I can speak from experience as I subsequently carved in a studio without natural light. In *\*that\** studio we would wheel our pieces out onto the street in order to truly "see" them! Please do not let this happen to the carvers of the Alliance.

The other wonderful ingredient in the mix is the students, especially in the day classes. Sometimes I learned as much or more from my fellow students - about carving, history, and life - as we shared the dusty, noisy, and miraculous energy of creative production.

While I did not personally study welding or photography at the EA, I knew some of the students and faculty and know how essential these two areas are among the school's offerings. Please do not eliminate these programs - they make a difference in people's lives.