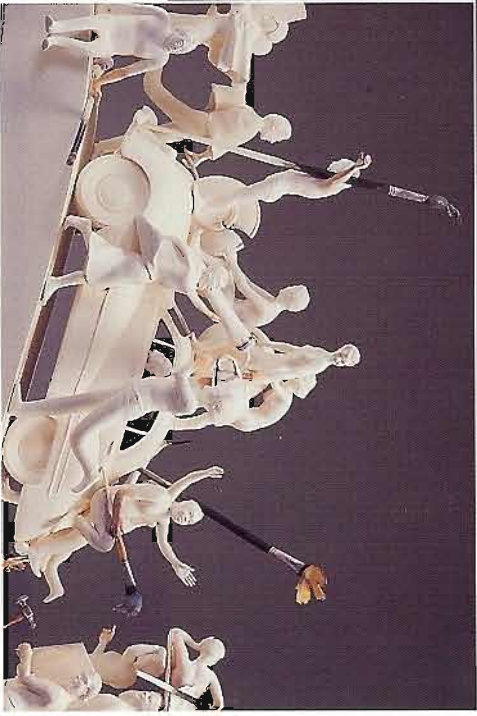


Photograph: Roger Schreiber



*'Procession'*, Patti Warashina, 1986, Clay and mixed media, L: 10' x H: 8' x D: 3',  
City of Seattle Public Art Collection

**"A" Procession** by Patti Warashina

My sculpture is titled "*A*" *Procession*, and it shows seventy-one well-known Northwest artists in a joyful procession over a simple ten-foot long bridge. Some of these artists you know—like Fay Jones, Dale Chihuly, Jacob Lawrence and me. (I included myself in this sculpture, too.)

I try to put both amusement and seriousness in my work, and I really try to use my imagination. My ceramic sculptures are fantasy stories. The clay figures are the performers, and the viewers are the audience. I invite viewer participation in my sculptures by stopping the action on a scene that, at first glance, may seem incomplete. But, as you look into the scene, your imagination adds details to the performers, colors the objects (which I deliberately leave unpainted or slightly painted) and fills in the story.

My sculptures are made of a white clay body. I want the clay to be able to do anything and to be anything. I try to get the heaviness out of the clay, to get the clay off the ground, and to pull it up into the air, as if it were weightless.

Some of the subjects and ideas for my work are: the doll, the car, the insect, the flames of fire, the bird, and the wish to fly. As a child I collected dolls, dreams and fantasies. My artwork comes from my personal thoughts, ideas and feelings. You might compare art to growing a garden—sometimes you just don't know what will come up.

**Patti Warashina**