



John Acorn

Professor Emeritus of Visual Arts

John Acorn was born in Patterson New Jersey, on November 1, 1937. His education as an artist began at Montclair State College, New Jersey, where he received his BA degree in fine arts in 1959. His interest in sculpture was initiated by the sculptor Paul Harris and continued with graduate study at the Cranbrook Academy of art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, where he received his MFA in 1961.

His career as artist/teacher began in 1961 as an assistant professor at Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina where he was the chair of the Department of Art beginning in 1976, a position he held until his retirement in 1998. In 1969 he received a grant as a Fulbright Scholar in Creative Arts at the Hochschule fur Bildende Kunst in West Berlin. He also has been an artist/instructor in summer sessions at the Penland School, North Carolina. In 1970, he was a resident at the MacDowell Colony in Peterboro, New Hampshire.

John has been a member of the South Carolina Arts Commission, has been recognized by the South Carolina Chapter of American Institute of Architects for Art-In-Architecture, has received awards and participated in exhibitions and competitions, and was one of two sculptors selected for a 1995 Piccolo Spoleto Exhibition in Charleston, South Carolina. In 1998, John received the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award, South Carolina's Governor's Award for the Arts. His studio is in Pendleton, South Carolina.