

## ARTIST FILE

NAME: Ron Archuleta Rodriguez



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Ron Archuleta Rodriguez is a native Santa Fean and a third-generation woodcarver. Ron began his career as a woodcarver at eight-years old when he began working with his grandfather Felipe Archuleta. Ron worked with Felipe and his uncle Leroy Archuleta for many years and is now the only family member carrying on the woodcarving tradition that started with Felipe Archuleta in Tesuque, New Mexico. Ron, Leroy and Felipe are best known for their wooden animal sculptures. Their pieces have been shown in national venues, including the Smithsonian and various traveling exhibitions as well as local Santa Fe venues such as the Governor's gallery and Ron's long-time gallery, The Shop of the Rainbow Man. The three-generation tradition is unique and the Archuleta-Rodriguez style and characteristics cannot be mistaken. The animals that Ron creates are diverse and the themes range from ferocious to whimsical. For example, the ferocious but charming lynx, bear and lion sculptures bear their teeth for all to see. The whimsical pieces include Ron's signature "Fish Eating Bear", "Devil and Angel Cat" and the exceptional "Armadillo Tank" made from wood and recycled motorcycle gas tanks. Each piece created by Ron is a unique, handmade sculpture that is sure to bring delight to any household or business.

