

Neil Dalrymple / STATEMENT

As a small boy in school, I used to make dragons . . . out of clay. This . . . interested the teachers and I received much encouragement in the subject of art.

Today the dragon is often a focal point for my themes. Why I have always had a dragon/beast fascination all my life, I can't say. I also make hawks, eagles and salmonoids. . . .

I often find myself wanting to make beings and creatures from the spirit world and from another dimension. . . . Through them I find a way of expressing human emotions and carnal activities . . . some of these sculptures have strong erotic elements.

For most of my life I lived in North Wales. I try to flavour my work with Celtic feeling. The Gothic Cathedrals of Europe and England are fantastic places. I like the gigantic towering arches, roofs and pillars, together with all of the stone carvings and decoration and the figures. In my work, I try to get a feeling for the Gothic past.

As a river fisherman, I have an interest in wildlife and I combine this interest with my fantasy work. Eagle-winged figures, water nymphs emerging from the mouths of trout are recent subjects.

My work is Romantic and its strangeness lends it a Surrealist appearance and yet it would not fit in with mid-Century Surrealist works. Some of it is certainly weird stuff and I just can't categorize it. I would call my style Anglo-Celtic, Gothic, Romantic Surrealism.









