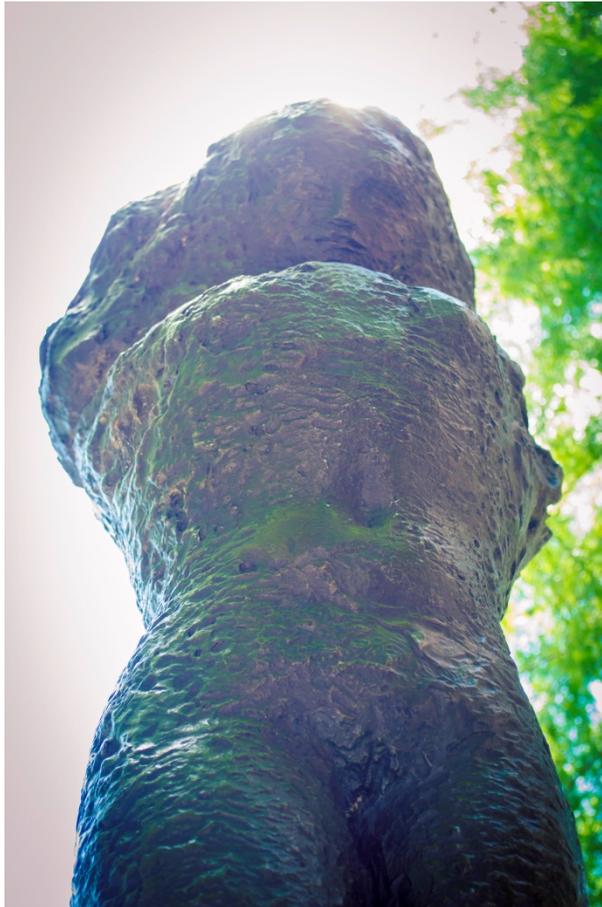


## Art in the City / Week 1

### *The Bride*



Reginald Cotterell Butler (1913-1981), *The Bride*, 1964, bronze

With the Public Art offices in the Metro Development Center next to Founder's Square, we are lucky to pass by *The Bride* on a daily basis. She stands strong and pensive there among the trees, quietly watching over the cars and pedestrians on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

British sculptor Reg Butler created the plaster original from which *The Bride* was cast in the garden of his studio in Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. Butler wrote of the sculpture, "It was made entirely outdoors in a tree-surrounded garden...*The Bride* probably owes a great deal to the adjacent tree trunks and the leaves around me at all times."

Butler was originally trained as an architect. During World War II, he worked as a blacksmith mending farm implements as part of his assignment as a conscientious objector. He began sculpting in 1944 and despite his lack of formal training, was considered one of the most promising British sculptors of his generation.

*The Bride* was donated to the city in honor of Dann C. Byck, owner of the Louisville-based Byck's Department Stores.

Next time you are in the area, at 4<sup>th</sup> Street Live or the Seelbach, walk over to Founder's Square at 5<sup>th</sup> and Muhammad Ali Streets and say hello to *The Bride*. Sit awhile in the Square, maybe have lunch or a coffee on the benches nearby. Enjoy!