

Pierre, Rene J.



Papier Mache Mardi Gras Float Model Maker

Rene' Pierre is a Creole/African-American. He was born in New Orleans in 1966 where he currently lives. He is a scenic artist, curator, and gallery director with a B.F.A. in Fine Arts. Rene' has been creating miniature paper mache Mardi Gras floats since 1980. He is self-taught and studied the form since he was in junior high school when he was assigned to create a shoe-box float.

Rene' starts the creative process on paper. He says, "I like to try to match the design on paper as closely as possible." He then uses cardboard, cotton, and latex to create the base. Pierre then adds the paper mache heads to finish.

Rene' has demonstrated and sold his crafts at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, Festival Acadian, and the Elks-Orleanians Truck Parade in 1996 through 2000. He creates his miniature floats for McKinnley Contrell and Sons, Mardi Gras Productions, Creative Events, and Mardi Gras World. Pierre' is also represented in the Creole State Exhibit and has been the captain of several Mardi Gras Krewes.