

The Desert Sun
The logo features a stylized sun with yellow, orange, and red horizontal stripes above a blue and white mountain range.

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Jon Krawczyk forms his sculpted vision

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The Desert Sun

A worker is just about to walk past the sculpture.

He stops, then peers at it with a close eye. And then, just when he thinks nobody is looking, he raps on it with his knuckles.

It's a common response.

The pieces rise like wisps of smoke, winding in front of a rough stone wall. The color ebbs and flows naturally with the curves, changing from dark browns to olive green to blue and back again.

You've never seen metal do anything like this.

"A lot of people are confused at first," said sculptor Jon Krawczyk, running his hands along the bronze piece. "You just don't know what the material is made out of."

Krawczyk recently installed a new piece in a specification home at Bighorn in Palm Desert.

The Malibu artist has captured a lot of attention in the Coachella Valley.

"This area has been good to me over the last 10 years," he said.

His work has been commissioned by a number of desert residents - he can look across the golf course at Bighorn and easily identify the homes that boast his sculptures.

Krawczyk has also made frequent appearances at local sculpture and art exhibits.

Locals might also recognize his work "Droog" (located at 73-950 Alessandro Drive in Palm Desert), and "Walking Man" (at 72-980 Fred Waring Drive).

Krawczyk attended school at Connecticut College, studying to become a stockbroker or economist.

After graduating, he decided to blow off some steam in Southern California while working for an artist his father admired. He eventually began making his own art and started his own studio.

"I came here a 22-year-old, and I haven't left yet," he said. "I guess I'm still blowing off steam."

His work reflects that by exploring the pliability of elements, of something hard and uptight opening up into an expansive new shape.

"The message is that it's OK to dream," he said. "It's all right to follow what's in your own heart."

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