

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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PRESS PREVIEW

Tuesday, May 12, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Recent Sculpture USA, an exhibition of 79 works of art by 66 artists, some of whom have never before shown in New York, will be on view at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from May 13 through August 16. Selected from more than 700 entries submitted from various parts of the United States, this large survey reveals the great variety in material and style which characterizes the art of sculpture in America today.

Summarizing the importance of recent sculpture, James Thrall Soby, well-known art scholar, says in his introduction to the catalog that the extraordinary outburst of talent among British and American sculptors is one of the most startling developments in art since the Second World War. While in the past we have sometimes confused sculpture with statuary, all that has changed. "We can take great pride in what the best of our sculptors are producing, whether they carve or cast their works, weld them, or convert into estimable jewels the wry tiaras of the junkyard."

All the sculpture in the show, which was organized by the Museum's Junior Council, can be purchased at the Museum during the course of the exhibition.

The sculpture ranges in style from precise geometric abstractions to figures of animals and people. Materials include traditional marble and bronze, as well as synthetics such as fiberglass and plexiglas, and scrap metal welded into new forms. Reliefs, hanging sculptures, wall pieces, a kinetic sculpture, large outdoor pieces and small table-size pieces are included. All the works of art were made since 1950.

The exhibition, which comprises the largest survey of recent sculpture shown in New York in recent years, was selected by James Thrall Soby and Dorothy C. Miller, Curator of the Museum Collections. After a preliminary selection based on photographs, the sculpture was sent to the Museum at the expense of the Junior Council for final selection.

Two-thirds of the artists represented in the exhibition are in their 20s or 30s. Although most live in the Eastern part of the country, six live on the West Coast, seven in the Middle West, one in the Southwest, and two in the South. Three, all recipients of Fulbright Grants, are currently living in Italy. Eighteen of the 66 artists are women.

René d'Harnoncourt, Director of the Museum, has installed the exhibition in the first floor galleries and garden terrace. Golden-like bronzes, including a three foot flower by Bertoia, a six foot Web Tree by Hawaiian-born Abe Satoru, and an abstraction by Carlus Dyer, are shown in a glass walled gallery, three sides of which
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have been painted a deep red. Another room is devoted to small scale pieces, such as a cast bronze called The Flirt by Mary Callery, animal figures by David Hayes and by Jack Zajac, a self portrait of synthetic materials by a young Philadelphian, Arlene Love.

An over-life size figure, Mat Wheeler's Wife by the Viennese Ludvik Durchanek, stands before a yellow wall at the entrance to the next gallery where cast bronzes by Hadzi, a young American now living in Italy, are among the pieces shown. In the next gallery are wood sculptures including A Guest in the House by Gabriel Kohn made of laminated wood and steel, and a construction of wood, brass and glass by H.C. Westerman called The Soldier's Dream.

Among the geometric abstractions grouped in another gallery are three by students and a teacher at the Yale School of Fine Arts, and a sculpture forged from a stainless steel rod by the well-known artist José de Rivera.

The last gallery contains reliefs incorporating wood, tar, sponges and foam rubber, sand, wire and rope, metal and wire. Welded steel sculptures made of scrap by Stankiewicz and Chamberlain, constructions by Jean Follet, and a large relief of wood, polyester resin, paint and sand by Robert Mallory are among the works of art shown.

On the garden terrace a 9 1/2 foot welded steel sculpture by David Smith, a cast bronze by Reuben Nakian and a stainless steel kinetic sculpture by George Rickey are shown. In the entrance gallery are works by Lipchitz, Richard Hunt, a young Chicago artist now serving in the Army, a marble abstraction carved by Norman Carlberg and two welded sculptures by Larry Rivers.

This is the third survey of recent art organized and sponsored by the Junior Council of the Museum. The previous shows were Recent Drawings USA (April 25 - August 5, 1956) and Young American Printmakers (November 25, 1953 - January 24, 1954). The Council, which is composed of 50 young men and women who organize and operate many special services for the Museum is under the chairmanship of Walter Baraiss. Mrs. Donald B. Straus is Honorary Chairman.

The Council Committee for Recent Sculpture USA was headed by Mrs. E. Powis Jones, Chairman, and Mr. Peter Rubel, Vice Chairman. After the New York showing the exhibition will be seen at the Denver Art Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum, the City Art Museum of St. Louis and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

A list of all the artists in the exhibition is attached.

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ARTISTS SHOWN IN "RECENT SCULPTURE U.S.A." MAY 13 - AUGUST 16, 1959

Andrews, Oliver. born 1925; lives in Santa Monica, Calif.
Asawa, Ruth. born 1926; lives in San Francisco, Calif.
Baskin, Leonard. born 1922; lives in Northampton, Mass.
Beal, Sondra. born 1936.; lives in New York, N.Y.
Berge, Dorothy. born 1923; lives in Minneapolis, Minn.
Bertoia, Harry. born 1915; lives in Barto, Pa.
Bloomer, Kent C. born 1935; lives in Riverside, Conn.
Calder, Alexander. born 1898; lives in Roxbury, Conn.
Callery, Mary. born 1903; lives in New York, N.Y.
Carlberg, Norman. born 1928; lives in New Haven, Conn.
Chamberlain, John. born 1927; lives in Southampton, New York
Decker, Lindsey. born 1923; lives in East Lansing, Mich.
Dehner, Dorothy. born 1908; lives in New York, N.Y.
Devich, Karen. born 1931; lives in San Mateo, Calif.
Durchanek, Ludvik. born 1902; lives in Wassaic, New York
Dyer, Carlus. born 1917; lives in Norwalk, Conn.
Engman, Robert M. born 1927; lives in Durham, Conn.
Feves, Betty W. born 1918; lives in Pendleton, Ore.
Follett, Jean. born 1917; lives in New York, N.Y.
Gordin, Sidney. born 1918; lives in New York, N.Y.
Granata, Angelo. born 1922; lives in University, Ala.
Hadzi, Dimitri. born 1921; lives in Rome, Italy
Hardy, Tom. born 1921; lives in New Orleans, La.
Harkavy, Minna. born 1895; lives in New York, N.Y.
Harris, Paul. born 1925; lives in Glen Ridge, N.J.
Hayes, David V. born 1931; lives in Manchester, Conn.
Hess, Emil. born 1913; lives in New York, N.Y.
Higgins, Edward. born 1930; lives in Long Island City, New York
Hunt, Richard. born 1935; lives in Chicago, Ill.
Jacob, Marion R. born 1925; lives in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Kaish, Luise. born 1925; lives in New York, N.Y.
King, William. born 1925; lives in New York, N.Y.
Kohn, Gabriel. born 1910; lives in New York, N.Y.
Konzal, Joseph. born 1905; lives in New York, N.Y.
Krisel, Harold. born 1920; lives in Long Island City, New York
Kruger, Louise. born 1924; lives in New York, N.Y.
Lekberg, Barbara. born 1925; lives in New York, N.Y.
Lipchitz, Jacques. born 1891; lives in Hastings on the Hudson, N.Y.
Lipton, Seymour. born 1903; lives in New York, N.Y.
Love, Arlene. born 1931; lives in Conshohocken, Pa.
Mallary, Robert. born 1917; lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico
Messina, Joseph Antonio. born 1926; lives in Florence, Italy
Nakian, Reuben. born 1897; lives in Stamford, Conn.
Nivola, Costantino. born 1911; lives in New York, N.Y.
Pineda, Marianna. born 1925; lives in Brookline, Mass.
Reimann, William P. born 1935; lives in New Haven, Conn.
Rickey, George. born 1907; lives in East Chatham, New York
de Rivera, Jose. born 1904; lives in New York, N.Y.
Rivers, Larry. born 1923; lives in New York, N.Y.
Rosenthal, Bernard. born 1914; lives in Malibu, Calif.
Satoru, Abe. born 1926; lives in New York, N.Y.
Schultz, Moses Richard. born 1926; lives in Barto, Pa.
Scuris, Stephanie. born 1931; lives in New Haven, Conn.
Seley, Jason. born 1919; lives in New York, N.Y.
Smith, David. born 1906; lives in Bolton Landing, N.Y.
Spaventa, George. born 1918; lives in New York, N.Y.
Squier, Jack. born 1927; lives in Ithaca, N.Y.
Stankiewicz, Richard. born 1922; lives in New York, N.Y.
Stern, Lewis Michael. born 1930; lives in New York, N.Y.
Teller, Jane. born 1911; lives in Lahaska, Pa.
Tovish, Harold. born 1921; lives in Brookline, Mass.
Weinberg, Elbert. born 1928, lives in New Haven, Conn.
Westermann, H.C. born 1922; lives in Chicago, Ill.
Wines, James. born 1932; lives in Rome, Italy
Zajac, Jack. born 1929; lives in Claremont, Calif.
Ziegler, Laura. born 1927; lives in Rome, Italy