

# THE SCULPTURE CENTER

Q SUMMER 2000  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

#25

## EXAMINING, PRESERVING, AND PROVIDING FOR OUR FUTURE

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In 1996, The Sculpture Center completed its first outdoor sculpture conservation program as a contribution to Cleveland's bicentennial. Many of you may recall seeing the transformation of the bronze sculptures commemorating Mayor Tom Johnson and Moses Cleaveland, which rest on the northwest and southwest quadrants of Public Square. In 1997 and 1998 eight sculptures throughout the city were treated.

The conservation program for 1999 saw marked changes. First, the emphasis of our conservation and education shifted to University Circle, an area that is one of Cleveland's greatest hubs of activity and has undergone strong improvements to the cultural and aesthetic landscape. Second, the sculptures selected for conservation were part of a unit — the Fine Arts Garden area south of The Cleveland Museum of Art — and therefore were related to one another not only geographically but also chronologically and in terms of their ownership. Each of the thirteen sculptures is owned by the City of Cleveland and dates from 1899-1929. Third, this project allowed The Sculpture Center to gain experience with sculpture conservation in a variety of media such as bronze, sandstone, granite, and marble. Fourth, a maintenance plan was formulated which guaranteed the protection of these sculptures beyond their initial conservation. This last component proved crucial in securing the funding for this project, which saw contributions from a broader base of support in comparison to previous programs, and includes twelve local, regional, and national foundations, three donations from individuals, and four in-kind contributions.

While the initial steps to secure the funding for the conservation and associated programs began in July 1998, Tom Podnar and his crew from McKay Lodge Fine Arts Conservation Laboratory began their inspecting, washing, and waxing a year later. July 22, 1999 marked the first day of conservation for this millennium

project. Appropriately, work commenced with the oldest sculpture in the group, *Harvey Rice Monument*, which celebrated its centennial with a rededication later that year (October 1999). Seven of the thirteen sculptures were treated during 1999 and in May 2000, the conservation team returned to complete their task.

The first buckets of water were spilled on *Marcus Hanna*, the only outdoor bronze sculpture in the state of Ohio created by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Saint-Gaudens, who was born in Ireland and trained in Paris under Jouffroy, completed many prominent works in the United States, including the Shaw Memorial in Boston.

These sculptures have come to life for those who participate in the educational opportunities that this conservation program invites. While we extend the invitation for groups to take guided tours of the Fine Arts Garden, we also bring the Garden to others in the form of slide lectures and discussion. We have shared the history and significance of the sculptures with hundreds of elementary, high school, and college students, as well as life-long learners. Of special mention is our partnership with John D. Rockefeller Elementary School, where The Sculpture Center has aided in forming a strong connection between arts learning and other curricula. We look forward to working with the students and artists-in-residence again next year.

Thus the conservation of the sculptures in the Fine Arts Garden and adjacent areas has played a key role in establishing The Sculpture Center Conservation Committee's presence in University Circle and Cleveland, and has additionally highlighted our abilities to serve as a conservation resource regionally, nationally, and internationally.

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by Juilee Decker,  
Conservation Program Coordinator

## WINDOW TO SCULPTURE

### THURSTON & WAHL REVIEW

Stevent Thurston & Gary Wahl opened with great success as over one hundred people attended the opening reception. The exhibition received critical attention as it was reviewed in The Free Times (July 19), The Plain Dealer (July 20) and Scene (July 27).

### OPENING AUGUST 18 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15: J. JAIA CHEN

Chen's colorful work uses traditional Chinese symbols and clichés combined with contemporary American stereotypes and icons to investigate issues that affect her life. Materials such as lifesaver candies, balloons, neon tubes, and rubber tubing are vehicles with which she interprets her personal journey through life.

### OPENING SEPTEMBER 22 THROUGH OCTOBER 20: DESIGN ASSIGNMENTS V

For the past five years The Sculpture Center has worked with the faculty of The Cleveland Institute of Art to curate an exhibition featuring works by select students from the three-dimensional foundation classes. The various works that will be exhibited typify the usual fanfare of inventive interpretations of the instructors project ideas. The assignments vary in scale, scope, and material all of the highest quality.

### OPENING OCTOBER 27 THROUGH NOVEMBER 24: MICHIKO SAKANO

Sakano's work incorporates exquisite blown glass sculptures with soft fabrics and feathers into large installations. She depicts everyday objects as precious, beautiful pieces of work as she uses materials that are not commonly associated with objects depict objects.

In addition to many individual contributors to our annual fund, The Sculpture Center's programs are funded by Bernice and David E. Davis and The Ohio Arts Council.



## SCULPTORS FORUM

Wednesday, November 8, 2000 @ 7 pm The Sculpture Center Conservation Committee will host a Sculptors Forum entitled "Protecting the Sculptor, Protecting the Sculpture: Rights and Responsibilities under the Federal Visual Artists Rights Act." Brian A. Glassman, Lecturer Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, will discuss the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 and will consider legal questions and issues facing artists, owners of artwork, conservators, and the public at large. The lecture will be held at The Sculpture Center with questions and refreshments immediately afterward. Space is limited, please RSVP by Monday, November 6, 216.229.6527.

The Staff values the views and opinions of our readers... Please submit any questions, comments, or concerns regarding our exhibitions, programs or sculpture in general to The Sculpture Center to be considered for a Letter to the Editor column.

## THE SCULPTURE CENTER

### CHAIRMAN

David E. Davis

### ADMINISTRATOR

Bill Jirousek

### STAFF

Juilee Decker : Conservation Program  
Coordinator

Carol Gill : OOSI Coordinator

Matthias Minnig : Gallery Assistant

Marisa Pascucci : Exhibitions & Programs  
Coordinator

### VOLUNTEERS

Michelle Barnicky: OOSI

Rob Bliss: Web maintenance

Siobhan Conaty: Conservation

Steve Goldrich: Cataloguing

Carolyn Jirousek: Programs

Bob Woide: Photography

### MISSION

The Sculpture Center is a nonprofit organization fostering the careers of emerging sculptors and promoting the preservation of outdoor sculpture.

## CONSERVATION NOTES

from Juilee Decker,  
Conservation Program Coordinator

• The work continues in the Fine Arts Garden area. Please visit the conservation team as they work on Fountain of the Waters and Twelve Signs of the Zodiac.

• At Edgewater Park, a state-owned park along the shore of Lake Erie, three sculptures were in critical need of examination and help. Thank you, Bruce Christman (member of the Conservation Committee and Chief Conservator at Cleveland Museum of Art) for your conservation expertise and advice. A hearty thank you to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for footing the bill for the conservation work. We will keep you updated once the work begins.

• Interested in helping out at John D. Rockefeller School? Please contact Juilee Decker, Conservation Program Coordinator, if you are interested in volunteering an hour or two per month at the school. Your time would be spent assisting the art teacher and working with the third and fourth grade students. The only requirements are an interest in art and enthusiasm about The Sculpture Center's conservation program.

• Interested in conservation? Attend one of The Sculpture Center Conservation Committee meetings, which are usually held at The Sculpture Center. The next meeting is Thursday, 17 August 9:30am and will be held at the Cleveland State University Art Gallery.

## KUDOS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE!!

The Cleveland Chapter of American Institute of Architects through its Committee on Historic Resources, awarded a Certificate in Recognition of Exceptional Accomplishment in the Areas of Restoration, Renovation and Maintenance of Significant Community Sculptures to The Sculpture Center Conservation Committee's Outdoor Sculpture Conservation Program for various locations throughout Cuyahoga County. Check out the Conservation Program's work on the newly updated portion of the website at [www.sculpturecenter.org](http://www.sculpturecenter.org).



*Dansa*, Charles Ginnever, 1981 at Edgewater Park will be conserved this fall.

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## SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS...

If you would like to receive periodical e-mails regarding The Sculpture Center's events & programs, please send your e-mail address to [TSC@apk.net](mailto:TSC@apk.net)

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## OFFICE WISH LIST

We are in need of some items for the office. If you have an interest in donating office materials, please contact us at your earliest convenience. We are an established 501c3 nonprofit organization, and will provide receipts for tax purposes. The following are the items that we are interested in obtaining:

- microphone/p-a
- combination
- tool box & tools
- flat bed scanner
- file cabinet
- 8' step ladder
- small light table
- 3' level

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## INTERESTED IN INTERNING?

GET INVALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCE  
Sculpture Students: As you enter the and fall semester, consider an internship arranged by The Sculpture Center. The opportunity to work with a professional sculptor will provide valuable studio experience. Some internships may include a stipend and/or college credit. For more information, contact Marisa Pascucci, Exhibitions & Programs Coordinator.

# THE SCULPTURE CENTER

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PERMIT 1415

**GALLERY HOURS:** Mon-Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 12-4pm

## ATTENTION SCULPTORS!!

### CALL FOR ENTRIES EXTENDED

Due to an expanded exhibition schedule, The Sculpture Center has extend our Window to Sculpture Call for Entries deadline to **OCTOBER 1, 2000**. Please call 216.229.6527 or e-mail TSC@APK.NET for an application.

### SLIDES WANTED

THE SCULPTURE CENTER is currently expanding our Slide Registry to include more artists and recent works of those artists who have submitted slides in the past. We are also doing more to bring in gallery owners, interior designers, and other interested contacts to view the registry and form new relationships with the artist of their choice. There is no charge to have your file in the registry. If you are interested please call 216.229.6527 or e-mail TSC@APK.NET for an application.

### ON VIEW: **J. JAIA CHEN** **RED TIES**

August 18 - September 15

**OPENING RECEPTION,**  
August 18, 5-8pm

**ARTIST PERFORMANCE, 6:30pm**

## CHECK IT OUT!

THE SCULPTURE CENTER  
has recently updated its website, next time  
you're surfing the web, check out,  
**www.sculpturecenter.org**