

THE SCULPTURE CENTER

2002
SUMMER
#32

Mission

The Sculpture Center is dedicated to enhancing our community's appreciation of sculpture by fostering the careers of emerging sculptors and promoting the preservation of outdoor sculpture.



Conservation News: Our Lady of Liberty and Peace of Kirtland Park

As the new Conservation Program Coordinator of The Sculpture Center, it is my pleasure to inform you of one of our exciting conservation projects currently underway. It involves the pink granite statue, known as *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace*, which was dedicated in 1944 to local heroes who fought in World War II. Although well weather-worn with arms missing, the majestic statue still stands proudly in the center of Kirtland Park as a symbol of what used to be and what could be.

Consisting of about twelve acres of lush greenery, Kirtland Park is located at East 49th and the South Marginal, a short walk or drive away from the surrounding St. Clair-Superior neighborhoods. Established in the early 1920s, the park was named in honor of one of Cleveland's most influential early settlers, Dr. Jared Potter Kirtland (1793-1877). As a doctor, naturalist, educator, and philanthropist, Kirtland left many lasting contributions that still permeate the local landscape, including founding Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine, as well as The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. He also made important botanical discoveries such as the introduction of twenty-six varieties of cherries and six different pears still grown in Ohio through his experiments at Whippoorwill, his two-hundred acre estate in the middle of what is now Lakewood.

During its heyday, Kirtland Park bustled with activity and was well-known for its beautiful landscaping and facilities, which included two baseball fields, a toddler wading pool, a brick clubhouse, brick bathrooms, water fountains, a Greek-style amphitheater, and our featured monument, *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace*. Today, only the latter two historic items remain and are in urgent need of treatment. Largely due to vandalism, the sculpture's most significant damage is located at the shoulders and head of the figure. Its forearms are completely gone and the chin and nose are also missing. Also, there is black soot, spray paint, and charcoal that need to be removed from its surface.

The Sculpture Center had done a preliminary survey of *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace* a number of years ago. It was not until last summer, however, when our administrator, Bill Jirousek, was contacted by a local activist, Maureen Hayden, that conservation plans for this monument officially began. Ms. Hayden is the director of the Friends of Kirtland Park, a community organization

whose goals include restoring the site to its former glory by upgrading the facilities and incorporating public programs there. Ms. Hayden often came to the park as a child and remembers that, "It was a haven of beauty, art and culture in our inner-city neighborhood, and we want to make sure that the children and families here have this wonderful place at their disposal."

By working hand in hand with civic leaders and city planners, as well as other related civic-minded groups such as The Sculpture Center, the Friends of Kirtland Park's dream to revitalize Kirtland Park may soon become a reality. One of the instrumental people involved with the project has been Councilman Joe Cimperman who is accessing public funds to assist with the costs to repair *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace*. Plans also include landscaping around the vicinity of the monument and installing proper lighting, which are intended to enhance its appearance and deter vandalism.

Bruce Christman, the Chief Conservator of The Cleveland Museum of Art, assessed the sculpture's condition and made some recommendations, including overall cleaning and restoration of the missing arms. Since the original sculptor of the monument is unknown, a local artist, Lothar Jobczyk, has been selected to do the conservation work, which will begin this summer. He is a highly skilled stone carver from Germany, and his studio does commission and restoration projects, ranging from Gothic church spires, to imaginative garden statues, as well as modern abstract pieces.

In a recent meeting of all the parties involved with the Kirtland Park project, additional headway was made. Jim Majer, the Commissioner for Cleveland Public Power, informed us that a floodlight was installed in the park in April, which helps illuminate the statue and the surrounding area dramatically. It is now quite visible from the South Marginal road and the freeway. In addition, representatives from the city's department of Research Planning and Development presented a landscaping proposal for the site that mirrors the original design.

In light of the world's current affairs, a rededication ceremony for *Our Lady of Liberty and Peace* has been tentatively scheduled for September 11, 2002. This forgotten gem will once again become a powerful tribute to all those who have perished and to those who bravely stand guard and fight for our country's liberties.

Katherine Ukmar

Call for Entries - Tell Your Students - Tell Your Friends

WINDOW TO SCULPTURE is an annual exhibition series designed to give emerging sculptors an opportunity to display their work and gain recognition and exposure. Individual artists will be given the use of the main gallery (1500 sq.ft.) located at 1834 East 123rd Street in the University Circle area. **To apply you must be a sculptor living in Ohio who has graduated from an Undergraduate or Graduate Program within the last TEN years (1992-2002).**

Artists will be responsible for the installation of their work with the assistance of the gallery preparator. They are also responsible for its removal within three days after the close of the exhibition. The Sculpture Center will provide promotion for the exhibition and will host an opening reception with the artist.

DEADLINE : for the 2003 exhibition series is August 15, 2002

INCLUDE WITH APPLICATION:

- 10 - 20 slides of recent work (labeled with title, year, medium, and indication of the top)
- slide list
- resume
- artist's statement
- SASE for return of slides

Work submitted should represent the direction of your proposed exhibition.

Fill out this application form and return it with the above materials:

name: _____

address: _____

city: _____ state: _____ zip code: _____

daytime phone: _____ evening phone: _____

school, degree and year of graduation: _____

12th Anniversary Exhibition

Fred Schmidt

Wayne Draznin

Tribute

Nicholas Livaich

John Puskas

June 14 - July 12, 2002

Opening Reception: June 14th 5 - 8pm

A Special Thanks to The Following Contributors

Dr. & Mrs. Harold Bilsky, Eleanor Bonnie
Honnie & Stanley Busch, Jane Busch
Bernice & David E. Davis, in memory of Harvey
Friedman
Dorothy Davis, Chicky Drost
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The John P. Murphy Foundation
The Strawbridge Family Foundation

Susan and Bob Leggett - Thanks for donating a computer.



As Co-Chair of the Conservation Committee, it is my pleasure and my privilege to welcome a new Conservation Coordinator into the SculptureCenter family. Katherine Ukmar joined us on April 1 ready to take on a full slate of ongoing projects and activities. Katherine comes to us with a Master's Degree in Art History from Kent State University and an impressive business background. Katherine has a contagious love and enthusiasm for art and the administrative expertise necessary to be an effective Conservation Coordinator. We wish her much success with her new task of conserving and advocating for Cleveland outdoor sculpture.

Robert Thurmer

Welcome Katherine!



Parade the Circle Wade Oval - University Circle Saturday June 8, 2002 11 am - 4pm

The Sculpture Center will present an activity that encourages visitors to explore sculpture. We will have mounds of clay to work with and information about how artists use simple materials (like clay and wax) during their creative process to end up with amazing final pieces of art. Activity books with information about sculpture will also be available.



Well it's time for the All-Night Sculpture Free For All.

Work on your art in the company of fellow artists. It's up to you what you do. We supply the space and the power.

Time: 11 am till 11 am.

Where: In the parking lot of The Sculpture Center.
We will have a grill and charcoal, you bring stuff to cook.

RSVP: Nathaniel Parsons (216) 229-6527

THE SCULPTURE CENTER

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gallery hours: Mon-Fri 10-4, Sat 12-4

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In recognition of the terrorist attacks on America, the AAWR and The Sculpture Center banners have been temporarily replaced by banners with the American Flag and the statement, "Remembering... September 11, 2001."

Upcoming Exhibitions

John Leyland

July 19 - August 16, 2002

Tim Cassell/Kenn Hetzel

August 23 - September 20, 2002

We Need Your Help!

The Sculpture Center relies on the generosity of its friends to financially support its work. Please consider making a generous contribution to The Sculpture Center which will enable our programs to continue and grow in the future.

E-Mail

If you would like to receive general information from TSC via email, please send your address to tsc@apk.net

THE SCULPTURE CENTER

Chairman

Mark I. Wallach

Founder and Chairman Emeritus

David E. Davis

Administrator

Bill Jirousek

Staff

Matthias Minnig : Gallery Preparator + Graphic Designer
Nathaniel Parsons : Exhibitions + Programs Coordinator
Katherine Ukmar: Conservation Program Coordinator

Volunteers

Carol Gill : Ohio Outdoor Sculpture Inventory
Carolyn Jirousek: Writer
Steve Goldrich: Researcher
Al Krueger: Photographer
Jennifer Thomas: Intern, (OOSI)
Claire Kovacs: Intern, Conservation
Meredith Light: Intern, Exhibitions + Programs

In addition to the 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



Ohio Arts Council