

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
& POLICY CENTER
15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SILENT ART
AUCTION & EXHIBIT
GUIDE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008
THE FAIRMONT HOTEL CHICAGO
INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
200 NORTH COLUMBUS DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER

WELCOME FRIENDS,

The Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC) is pleased to present this one-of-a-kind Fifteenth Anniversary silent art auction and exhibit. In celebration of ELPC's accomplishments protecting the Midwest's natural heritage for fifteen years, twenty Midwestern artists have come together to donate their work.

ELPC has a unique history of reaching across diverse communities to initiate change and bring environmental awareness to a large-scale audience. Many of the artists represented here tonight have exhibited with ELPC in the past. We are thankful for their long-standing support and the ability their art has to reach across similar boundaries to illuminate nature and thus the significance of ELPC's work.

As our audience tonight, our hope for you is twofold—that the power and beauty in what you see reminds you of the opportunity for positive change—and that you choose to bid generously because every penny of the funds raised by this auction will enable ELPC to be a leader for positive change for another fifteen years.

We would like to thank the artists that so generously donated their time, energy, and incredible talent to this auction. Many of the artists are here this evening and we hope you have a chance to talk with them and get their unique perspective on the vitality and ongoing evaluation of our Midwestern landscape.

Thank you for your support of ELPC and the natural world,

Nancy Loeb,
Treasurer and Secretary,
ELPC Board of Directors
Silent Auction Chair

Harry Drucker
Chair,
ELPC Board of Directors

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Silent Art Auction Instructions

A valid bid must exceed the previous bid by at least the minimum bid increment indicated

The Silent Art Auction will close at approximately 8:50.

Final closing time will be announced at the event.

Payment is due in full on November 12, 2008 beginning 30 minutes after the close of the silent auction, at the cashier near the registration area, credit cards will be accepted.

Auction items may be taken from the Fairmont Hotel by the end of the evening on November 12, 2008. Other arrangements can be made as necessary.

All sales are final.

LES BOSCHKE

WETLANDS PHOTOGRAPH
20" x 24"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$900
MINIMUM BID: \$500

Les Boschke is a Chicago based photographer. He received a BFA in fine art photography from the University of Wisconsin and studied film, video and photography at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His black & white fine art photography has been exhibited in numerous galleries, including Prairie Avenue Gallery, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Around the Coyote, Ab Imo Gallery, and LandMark Arts Gallery.

Artist Statement:

This photo is part of a series of my work entitled “Michigan Wetlands”, which I began in 1990. The image was taken in spring of 1997; the series was shown at the Chicago Botanic Garden in 1998 and has been shown at other area galleries. I am still creating photos of the same subject, in all formats, including film and digital.

I personally enjoy creating landscape photographs. Being raised in the city, I found it more challenging to explore areas not inhabited with people. The more involved I became with this process, the farther off the beaten path I wanted to go. This led to an on-going exploration of the rural wetlands of southwest Michigan. After almost 20 years of this type of photography, I still find it challenging and exciting.

This marsh image, as the balance of the photographs of this Wetland Series, is intended to document the constantly evolving landscapes of the dunes near the Lake Michigan coast of western Michigan. These marshes change annually based on the quantity of water in the spring thaw. Many of these areas are being lost forever due to recent development.

This marsh photo was taken with 120 size B&W infra-red film. I hand develop all of my film, and one-at-a-time, make all of my own prints.

LADONNA CARLTON



TREE PHOTOGRAPHED IN
CANYON DE CHELLY
18" x 24"

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$750
MINIMUM BID: \$500

LaDonna Carlton is an award winning photographer with over 25 years of experience. The focus of Carlton's current projects include photographs of people, landscapes, seascapes and the documentation of international medical missions and other non-profit projects.

Carlton studied photography in college, working exclusively in black and white. Since then she has used color film and now specializes in digital technology. Carlton continues to study photography, participating in workshops with Arizona Highways, National Geographic and with other professional photographers.

Artist Statement:

Seeing the world through a camera lens and capturing a fleeting moment allows for the creative side of me to share the experience with others. I have always found meaning and pleasure in life by documenting what I see through photos. When I travel through life, I have my camera with me at all times. I constantly find opportunities to record a moment of beauty, a funny situation or a dramatic moment. This marsh photo was taken with 120 size B&W infra-red film. I hand develop all of my film, and one-at-a-time, make all of my own prints.

TERRY EVANS



FROZEN POND
MORAINÉ HILLS STATE PARK,
MCHENRY COUNTY, IL
20" x 24"

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$800
MINIMUM BID: \$500

Terry Evans, Chicago artist photographer, has photographed the prairies and plains of North America and the urban prairie of Chicago, combining both aerial and ground photography. Her most recent work explores working steel mills. Moving from fire to ice, she is currently at work on an exhibition about the Greenland ice sheet and measuring climate change.

She has exhibited widely including one-person shows at the Chicago Art Institute, the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, and The Field Museum of Natural History. She is a Guggenheim Fellow and a recipient of an Anonymous Was a Woman award. Her work is included in major museum collections including the Chicago Art Institute, Museum of Modern Art, N.Y., San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Whitney Museum of American Art, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Museum of Contemporary Photography, and many others.

Artist Statement:

This photograph was taken at Moraine Hills State Park, in McHenry County, IL, in March 2003. My work explores connections between the human and natural environment and various ecosystems. Like much of my work, the photograph captures the beauty and complexities of the natural landscape.

DIANE FARRIS

NAUTILUS CRANE

12" x 15"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$525

MINIMUM BID: \$375

Diane Farris is a photographer working in Gainesville, Florida. She is currently working with images of the Florida prairie and its Sandhill Cranes, images about children and nature, and sustainability projects such as the "Eco Kitchen" column with Mary Taylor in the journal Elephant.

Farris's work has been widely collected and is included in the collections of The Museum of Fine Arts – Houston, The Polaroid Collection – Boston, The Jacksonville Art Museum, The Haverford College Collection, the Museum of Contemporary Photography – Chicago, Princeton University – The Art Museum, the Center for Creative Photography – Tucson, and The High Museum – Atlanta. Farris has exhibited widely throughout the country including solo and two person shows at the Peggy Notebaert Museum in Chicago in October 2008, the Carnegie Center in Michigan and the Melrose Art Gallery.

Artist Statement:

Nautilus Crane reflects on nature's love of the curve and the spiral and the elegant, repeating rhythms of these forms. Where I observe cranes in Florida, sometimes they come close by, and this was taken one such early morning. Breath held; pictures attempted; thanks given.

ALICE HARGRAVE

CABIN PHOTOGRAPH
20" x 24"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,025
MINIMUM BID: \$500

Alice Hargrave is a photographic artist and educator based in Chicago. She has had several one-person and group exhibitions, including two one-person shows at The Chicago Cultural Center (1991, 1998). She exhibits and is collected both nationally and internationally, and is included in the collections of The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Nuveen Corporation, Outer Circle Corporation, Rush Presbyterian Hospital among others. Her work has recently been seen at The Smart Museum of Art (Chicago, IL), The Tweed Museum of Art (Duluth, Minnesota), The Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Yale University Art Gallery, Klein Art Works Gallery and Carol Ehlers Gallery. Hargrave has received many awards for her work and has been published and reviewed in several journals. Currently she is an adjunct professor at Columbia College, Chicago.

Artist Statement:

Jacques Lartique, in the beginning of the 20th century, called photography “the art of the fleeting,” an “attempt to catch hold of happiness”. However futile that attempt may be, we still try to grab hold of time, but time is fickle.

Uninhabited interiors and landscapes in the family (pictures) series underline this ephemerality; the image is distilled from life, narrative is lost, stories and images collide, leaving behind the photographic residue as a completely subjective artifact.

MIKE HELBING

SEATHING



STAINLESS STEEL, FOUND
MESH SCREEN AND GUSH

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$2,000

MINIMUM BID: \$1,000

Mike Helbing is a sculptor living in the Chicago area. Helbing studied engineering at Purdue University and art at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. He received a Master of Fine Arts in sculpture from Northern Illinois University in 1991. Helbing also served a tour of duty in Vietnam. Helbing has worked extensively on the production and installation of large sculptures in the United States and around the world. He has been very involved with the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum as a member artist, chairman of the board and curator.

Artist Statement:

Much of my sculpture involves found objects, primarily stainless steel. The ready-made object carries with it a social understanding that is used and modified to give new meaning. I find these ready-mades many places: junk yards, industrial factories, second hand shops, the side of the road, mostly anywhere. Much as writers form thoughts that grow into stories using words, my found objects are analogous to words, these objects are reassembled to create new meaning.

Things I collect are rearranged and modified, cut and attached, grouped, bent, reduced, chipped, welded, ground, assembled and polished. This presents the familiar in a new light, causing the everyday to be looked at with new wonder. My influences and interests range from the naturalistic to the scientific, the art macrocosm to the world of the spirit. My art examines my place in my world and invites visitors to come along and share the journey.

JAMES ISKA

GHOST TREE
20" x 24"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,200
MINIMUM BID: \$750

James Iska studied photography at the Institute of Design in Chicago where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Design in 1980. He worked on various architecturally related projects including “Money Matters”, an exhibition and book devoted to the history of bank architecture in the United States and Canada. He has worked with architectural historian Francis Morrone on three architectural guidebooks of New York City, Philadelphia and Brooklyn. Iska’s work also began to expand to include the urban landscape. That led to his collaboration with Julia Bachrach of the Chicago Park District and fellow photographer Judith Bromley to produce the exhibition and book “The City in a Garden, A Photographic History of Chicago’s Parks.”

In 2000, Iska began working on an ongoing project photographing the Chicago River and its environs. He is currently working on several projects documenting new construction in Chicago including the new Modern Wing of the Art Institute of Chicago. His work is represented by the Michael Inghar Gallery in New York.

Artist Statement:

The interplay of light draws me to Chicago’s parks, boulevards and riverbanks – views that one would never expect to find in the city. I believe, for example, that the river is “breathing new life” and hope that people will take action to maintain the grandeur and beauty of Chicago’s rivers and natural heritage.

TERRENCE KARPOWICZ

WORLD SCULPTURE

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$3,000

MINIMUM BID: \$1,500



Terrence Karpowicz is a Chicago-based sculptor. Karpowicz studied art when the theories and practices of Minimalism and Conceptualism dominated the art world. During that time, he was awarded a Fulbright-Hayes grant to the United Kingdom. While there he served as a millwright's apprentice and discovered the beauty and craftsmanship of water and windmill construction. This understanding of the traditional techniques of joinery and his interest in the interactions of wind, water, and gravity on natural materials remain evident throughout his work.

Karpowicz co-founded the annual Pier Walk, the outdoor sculpture exhibition at Navy Pier. Locally, his work can be seen on the campuses of the University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois Institute of Chicago, and at the Skokie and Barrington sculpture parks.

Artist Statement:

I am particularly drawn to tension at the point of contact, or “joint”, between disparate materials. By joining irregular, organic materials (such as wood limbs or granite shards) to machine-tooled geometric shapes of metal, my work creates actual or implied kinetic relationships among the elements of the sculpture.

The various ways in which these disparate materials interact with each other mark the artist's relationship to his world. Oak and granite nesting in congruent harmony, stainless steel orbs spinning within walnut ellipses, granite shards twisting against armatures of steel—all elements held together with dedication to refined and skillful craftsmanship.

PETER LATNER

NORTH DAKOTA PHOTOGRAPH
20" x 24"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$750
MINIMUM BID: \$500

Peter Latner has been photographing Midwest and Great Plains landscapes for more than 25 years. He has been awarded three photography fellowships from the McKnight Foundation, two artist grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board, a Jerome Foundation Fellowship, and a Minnesota 2000 documentary commission from the Minnesota Historical Society. His photographs are in many corporate and museum collections, including the Art Institute of Chicago, the Milwaukee Art Museum and the Minneapolis Institute of Art. His pictures have been exhibited widely, including a 2003 exhibition at ELPC.

He has taught photography at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minnesota Center for Photography, Colorado College, Minneapolis Community College, Film in the Cities, and Dakota County (Minn.) Technical College. He also spent 12 years as a museum photographer for the Minnesota Historical Society and, prior to that, six years as a staff photographer for Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.

Artist Statement:

The common perception about North Dakota is that it's flat and boring and best driven through quickly. That's a myth, of course, but it's one I'm happy to perpetuate. What better way to keep the roads clear for the rest of us?

JIN LEE

PRAIRIE WINTER #1
24" x 30"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,000
MINIMUM BID: \$750

Jin Lee is a Chicago-based artist whose photographs of Midwestern landscapes explore particularities of a place. Her photographs are included in the permanent collections at the Art Institute of Chicago, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Madison Art Center, and the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago. She has received a 2005 Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in photography, and is currently a Professor of Art at Illinois State University.

Artist Statement:

My work for the past ten years centered on exploring how we experience a place and the way it structures our thoughts and sense of belonging. Whether utilizing a panoramic format, a sequence of related images, or landscapes that include human presence, my work also seeks to reference and expand upon various traditions of landscape art, from Asian screen paintings and documentary photographs, to botanical drawings.

For three years from 2001 to 2004, I worked on PRAIRIE series, a photographic study of prairie plants in different stages of their seasonal cycles, documenting the rich diversity of Illinois' native plant community. My goal is to make photographs of the natural world that are precise and accurate in the tradition of scientific illustrations and documentary photographs, but at the same time, create a paralleled dream-like world of images suspended between the real and the imagined.

JAMES LINEHAN

SOUTH SHORE OF LAKE SUPERIOR
24" x 30"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,300
MINIMUM BID: \$750

James Linehan has been a professional photographer for more than 20 years. He has taught photography at Columbia College, the Harrington Institute of Interior Design and the Illinois Institute of Technology. Linehan has won numerous awards including a full artist's fellowship from the Illinois State Council in 1992 and "Best of Documentary" as part of the Eddie Adams photojournalism program. Linehan has a Master of Fine Arts degree from Yale University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College.

ELPC commissioned Linehan to create the exhibition titled, "ELPC: Ten Years of Protecting the Midwest Natural Environment", which captured images of unique Midwestern places that ELPC worked to preserve during ELPC's first decade.

Artist Statement:

Fragility of Nature is often not apparent from the viewing of a few photographs. The places captured in my photographs exist now, but some are still in temporal jeopardy. While visiting the Midwestern states, I came to a substantive understanding of why ELPC is here. Knowing places can be saved and preserved gives us hope for the future of the land and its inhabitants.

MILES LOWRY

POVERTY SAVANNA

22" x 39"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$900

MINIMUM BID: \$500

Miles Lowry is an adjunct professor of photography at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Recent exhibits of Lowry's work have been held at the FermiLab Gallery in Batavia, Illinois, the Chicago Botanic Gardens, College of DuPage Art Center, Green Lantern Gallery in Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and Lands' End Corporate Gallery. His works are in numerous private and public collections including the Art Institute of Chicago, the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, and the Lands' End Corporate Gallery.

Artist Statement:

The images in this collection represent my attempt to draw attention to places where grandeur resides—those forest and savanna cathedrals of old growth found in the East. These special remnant sites are the last echoes of a forest that dominates the eastern landscape and still serves as a genetic reservoir of our forested future.

In effect, I hope to contribute to a re-definition of the grandeur associated with American landscape. To me, grandeur also resides in the simplicity of elemental organic natural forms and the visual complexity of undisturbed habitats.

By the time I am finished, I will have photographed from the dry savannas of Arkansas/Texas to upstate New York and from the boreal forests of northern Minnesota to the swamps of South Carolina.

RHONDAL MCKINNEY

WOODS PRINT
24" x 30"



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$5,000
MINIMUM BID: \$1,500

Rhondal McKinney was born and raised in southern Illinois during the 1950s and 60s. He received a B.S. in Mathematics in 1970 and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Illinois in 1981. There, he heard Harry Callahan once say that he had grown up in a religious family and when he went to college he was talked out of religion and eventually photography took the place of religion in his life. McKinney says, "something like that happened to me."

McKinney has been a professor of Photography at Illinois State University for over 20 years. His photography is in numerous museum and private collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Modern Art, New York and the Biblioteque Nationale, Paris.

Artist Statement:

When I was a kid I used to ride around in my father's pickup truck. He was a bird hunter and a fisherman and we might be on our way to run his nets in the river or driving around looking for quail or pheasant. Usually I didn't know where we were headed.

If a quail ran across the road Dad would pull over, hold his hand against his chest as if to hold back a necktie and spit tobacco juice at the spot where the bird disappeared into the fencerow. As we drove along gravel roads past fields of clover and alfalfa, corn and wheat, past orchards and pastures and hardwood groves my father's eyes moved constantly over the landscape. He had a thirst for the look of it. I remember wondering what it was that he was always looking at. Pretty soon I too began looking and eventually I learned to see what he saw, to love what he loved.

JILL METCOFF

SMOKELINES
25" x 14"



ESTIMATED VALUE:
\$900
MINIMUM BID:
\$500

*For more than 30 years, Jill Metcoff's camera has explored the rural southwestern Wisconsin landscape. Much of her early work culminated in a traveling exhibit and book, *Along the Wisconsin Riverway*. Influenced by Leopold's *The Sand County Almanac*, she began and continues to photograph transformations on Aldo Leopold's Sauk County property. Much of that work hangs in the Leopold Legacy Center, "the greenest building in America", near Baraboo, Wisconsin.*

Metcoff's photographs of controlled burns have been displayed in numerous locations including the Chicago Botanic Garden, Taliesin in Spring Green, Wisconsin, and the UW Arboretum in Madison. Metcoff's large photographic collages about the relationship between sandhill cranes and the human world are currently on display at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum in Chicago.

Artist Statement:

Concurrently with the Leopold project, I began to restore my own six acre prairie and started a ten year project photographing controlled burns. These topographical dramas, dubbed the 'fire and smoke' pictures, freeze frame the process of change in the landscape. They capture the intersection of humanity with the natural world. Although these photographs of transitory events are site specific, rooted in real experiences and memories, the images tend towards an abstracted, highly aestheticized reality.

MARY K. O'SHAUGHNESSY

I'M SO WRITE LAMP

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$300

MINIMUM BID: \$200



Mary K. O'Shaughnessy was born in the Chicago area. She received a B.A in Theatre from Barat College, and a Masters from the University of Illinois in Chicago. She has had many diverse careers, from training show horses to running an art gallery.

For the last six years she has been creating art, from a series of sculptures to lamps made from recycled objects like advertising tins, tin toys, globes and doll heads.

Artist Statement:

As a sculptor, I use a lot of found objects as a starting place for my art. There is something wonderful about objects that look like they have their own story, that the patina of age has made them more than when they were brand shiny new.

I have carried that over into my lamps. They are created from old advertising tins, doll heads, tin toys and globes. They are combined to have a narrative, and named to make them singular.

Some people are astounded that I take “collectibles” and “ruin” them by drilling holes in them. I feel that what I have done has taken them off the shelf, and given them new life, new purpose. It's re-creation with what we already have.

COLLEEN PLUMB

PRAIRIE GRASS PHOTOGRAPH
EDITION OF 10



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,100
MINIMUM BID: \$750

Colleen Plumb attended the University of Illinois in Urbana and studied drawing before transferring to Northern Illinois University and earning a BFA in Visual Communication in 1992. Plumb holds an MFA in Photography from Columbia College Chicago (1999), where she is currently an adjunct faculty member.

Plumb's work is in several private and permanent collections including at the Museum of Contemporary Photography; the Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago; and the Natural Cultural Center, China. Her photographs are part of the Midwest Photographers Project at the Museum of Contemporary Photography and the Chicago Project at the Catherine Edelman Gallery. Recent exhibitions include a solo exhibit at the Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago and group shows throughout the United States. Plumb's photographs were recently on display in Beyond the Backyard at the Museum of Contemporary Photography and are featured online with Photo-Eye's Photographer's Showcase.

Artist Statement:

My work examines the relationship people have with nature in an urban environment. It looks at how plants and animals can be a link to a world far from the reality and pace of contemporary life, as well as provide an intangible connection to a deeper world of instinct and rawness.

PHILLIP SHORE

HAND SCULPTURE

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,000

MINIMUM BID: \$750



Phillip Shore is an artist and educator; he divides his time between Three Oaks, Michigan and Dallas, Texas. Shore received his MFA from the University of Notre Dame and a BFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. Shore has received numerous grants and most recently was the recipient of the Hagger Fellow Award through the University of Dallas. His work is represented by Craighead-Green Gallery in Dallas, Texas and Sue Greenwood Fine Art in Laguna Beach, California and is in many public and private collections. Shore's work is informed and influenced by his travels to the sites and his study of the archeological artifacts from Ancient Greece.

Artist Statement:

The objects I create are amalgamations that synthesize that which is within me with the environment that surrounds me filtered through my curiosity and creativity. This is reflected physically in the interior and exterior properties of the work and in my choice of the reliquary as a central metaphorical device. Although the objects are uniformly one, the interior spaces, glimpsed through small openings, take on the appearance of containers and hold unexpected and precious objects collected from the landscape of my daily life. In these sculptures I combine not only interior and exterior, but also human forms and forms found in nature, evoking the sense of oneness. I choose to speak through quite visual suggestions that challenge the attitude that humans are in some way separate from and/or above the natural world.

CRISTINA SILVESTRI

CROW TRIPTYCH
3.5' x 2' EACH



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$1,500
MINIMUM BID: \$1,000

Cristina Silvestri has been studying art since she was a small girl. Born in Chicago she grew up a city child. She enrolled in the early college program at the School of the Art Institute while in high school and later studied at the University of San Francisco where she explored sculpture and printmaking. She graduated in 2006 with a Bachelors degree in Fine Arts. In the fall of 2006 Silvestri moved to Italy and earned her Post Baccalaureate Certificate at SACI (Studio Art Centers International) in Florence. Silvestri returned to Chicago “to feel out the city as an adult artist,” and now paints in a studio in Chicago.

Artist Statement:

Over time, I have absorbed my surroundings and lifestyle. There has been a consistent over-flow of emotion and intrigue. I began to examine myself through the art I was making. This forced me to question why I painted what I did. Studying my work as I was making it led me to take bolder steps with my art, using any materials I could find and leaving behind the very academic precision and creating more free-formed organic pieces. My time in Italy gave me a better understanding of how I wanted my art to evolve.

When creating this piece I thought about the human struggle that exists in this day and age. Even animals now are struggling to hold on to their free spirits. Trees are cut down, and are no longer standing as symbols of growth and strength. We have created a world that makes it hard to breathe both literally and figuratively.

JIM TOIA

THE TEMPEST SPORE DRAWING
31" X 23" EACH



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$7,500
MINIMUM BID: \$2,500

Jim Toia is a New York based artist. He was awarded a Master of Fine Arts degree from the School of Visual Arts in New York and studied at the School of Visual Arts Studio Program in Urbino, Italy. Toia's work has been shown in several solo exhibitions including at the Kim Foster Gallery in New York, Ben Shahn Galleries at William Patterson University Wayne, New Jersey, Hunterdon Museum, Clinton, NJ, the Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ, and Spazi Contemporary Art, Housatonic, Massachusetts. Toia's work has been reviewed extensively and is included in many private and public collections. His work appears courtesy of the Kim Foster Gallery, New York.

Artist Statement:

To create these spore drawings, I spend hours traipsing through the forest collecting mushrooms. Back in the studio, I arrange them on a slightly grainy piece of paper, cover them with another sheet and wait, while they release their spores, for anywhere from two to 48 hours. Then the top sheet of paper is removed to reveal a startlingly precise map of fungal architecture. I learned this technique from mycologists who make and study spore drawings in order to differentiate species of mushrooms based on the patterns formed by their droppings, which mirror the distinguishing ridges underneath the caps from which they fall (it's the same idea as making a rubbing of a leaf).

CHARLES YOST

DELTA D



ESTIMATED VALUE: \$550

MINIMUM BID: \$350

Charles Yost is a Chicago-based sculptor. Yost earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees from Northern Illinois University. He has served on the faculty of the Northern Illinois University.

Yost's work has been shown extensively in the Chicago area including exhibitions at Carson Pirie Scott and Company, Roy Boyd Gallery, Rosner Gallery at the Art Institute of Chicago, New Horizons in Sculpture, River Walk, Friends of the Chicago River, The Little Black Pearl Art and Design Center and the Quad City Arts Sculpture Show in Davenport. His work is held in several public and private collections including the Union League Club of Chicago and Northern Illinois University.

Artist Statement:

My current work embodies both geometric and organic elements. Throughout my creative life, I have been interested in observing and equating both geometric and machinelike forms in functional use as they interact visually and aesthetically. In this respect, curvilinear, organic-like forms juxtaposed with the harder-edged forms compliment a “georganic” visual concept. Color is added where the emphasis on whimsy dictates. The harder edged curvilinear forms compliment the organic juxtaposition.

Interaction between the viewer and the sculpture is important. With some of my sculpture, the viewer may either set in motion or re-arrange the forms that, in turn, may change design possibilities. In other cases, a paradox is seen with the static forms being set in motion by the viewer.



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER
Protecting the Midwest's Environment and Natural Heritage

The Environmental Law & Policy Center is the Midwest's premier public interest environmental legal advocacy and eco-business innovation organization, and among the nation's leaders for change.

We develop and lead successful strategic environmental advocacy campaigns to protect our natural resources and improve environmental quality. We are public interest environmental entrepreneurs who engage in creative business deal-making with diverse interests to put into practice our belief that environmental progress and economic development can be achieved together.

Our multi-disciplinary staff of talented and experienced public interest attorneys, environmental business specialists, public policy advocates and communications specialists brings a strong and effective combination of skills to solve environmental problems in our Midwestern communities.

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