



**ORGANIC ABSTRACTION:
CONTEMPORARY OUTDOOR
SCULPTURE**

Curated by Cheryl Sokolow
C FINE ART

INSTALLATION & PRESS PREVIEW

Thursday, April 25
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

On view for the season

Southampton Arts Center
25 Jobs Lane
Southampton, NY 11968

southamptonartscenter.org

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"Embrace" by Kevin Barrett

SOUTHAMPTON, NY APRIL 1, 2024 — The Southampton Arts Center announces its partnership with Curator, Cheryl Sokolow to bring contemporary outdoor sculpture to the grounds of SAC throughout the season.

The exhibition, entitled **ORGANIC ABSTRACTION: CONTEMPORARY OUTDOOR SCULPTURE**, explores the materials, processes, and techniques of nine internationally recognized, museum-collected sculptors working within a formalist paradigm.

Participating artists include Joel Perlman, Hans Van de Bovenkamp, Kevin Barrett, John Van Alstine, Norman Mooney, Arlene Slavin, Carole Eisner, Carol Ross, and Isobel Folb Sokolow.

With an emphasis on syntax and form rather than subject matter, the handling of material and the artists' processes become the subject of the work; each piece is most immediately identified and appreciated by its most basic physical attributes.

Artwork that is seemingly void of narrative (or abstract) has historically been celebrated as the purest form of art, as noted by critics such as Clement Greenberg and others. Material, shape, form, composition and surface engender an unadulterated or "pure" aesthetic experience.

Within this idiom, notions of nature connect and inspire each work by virtue of material, form, or concept.

The relationship with transitory nature is seen in the sculptures of Norman Mooney and Arlene Slavin. Norman Mooney's "Bloom No. 4" captures the intricacies of form, pattern, and the sequences found in nature; its exquisite, highly-polished surface provides a mirror into the natural surroundings. Arlene Slavin's translucent and vividly colored "Intersections" are juxtaposed to capture the light of the sun with an ever changing saturation of color creating a reflective third dimension.

Isobel Folb Sokolow's "Copernicus' Midnight Sun" references the natural phenomena of the Big Bang Theory, which her process powerfully mimics as fire-welded forms explode into being.

Kevin Barrett's "Embrace" fuses organic shapes and rhythms rooted in both the human form and landscape with impeccable grace and welding technique.

John Van Alstine's "Sisyphean Circle" unites industrial metal objects with natural river stone, marrying the two literally and metaphorically. Nature's heavy stone is suspended and appears weightless at the helm of his clever and skillful assemblage process.

These concepts are underscored by the natural essence of outdoor atmosphere where the synergy between nature, art, and spectator is both continuous and evolving; time of day, scale, perspective, light, color of the sky, movement of clouds, and the artworks' proximity to trees and to each other are all vital to the viewers' sense of place, space, and discovery.

ABOUT SOUTHAMPTON ARTS CENTER

Southampton Arts Center is committed to community building through the arts, presenting and producing inspiring, inclusive, socially and regionally relevant programs across all disciplines – welcoming, connecting, and collaborating with the diverse members of New York's East End community and beyond.

"We are truly delighted to be able to collaborate with Cheryl to bring world-class sculptures to the grounds of the Southampton Arts Center for all our community and visitors to come and enjoy." Notes Christina Mossaides Strassfield, Executive Director, Southampton Arts Center.

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ABOUT CHERYL SOKOLOW

Cheryl Sokolow has over 20 years of art world experience with both a bachelor's and master's degree in art history. She launched C Fine Art in 2009 to showcase established artists with a focus on formal abstraction in contemporary sculpture and dimensional art. She was the founder and curator of the Uncommon Ground Sculpture Series hosted by the Bridge Gardens for 6 seasons.

"Our appreciation for excellence in craftsmanship, and insistence on originality leads us to artists who masterfully fabricate their work, reaching far beyond the boundaries of their chosen materials."

We are thrilled to collaborate with SAC making large scale, outdoor sculpture accessible to the community.

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"Bloom No. 4" by Norman Mooney

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"Intersections" by Arlene Slavin



"Embrace" by Kevin Barrett

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"Sisyphean Circle" by John Van Alstine

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"Copernicus' Midnight Sun" by Isobel Folb Sokolow

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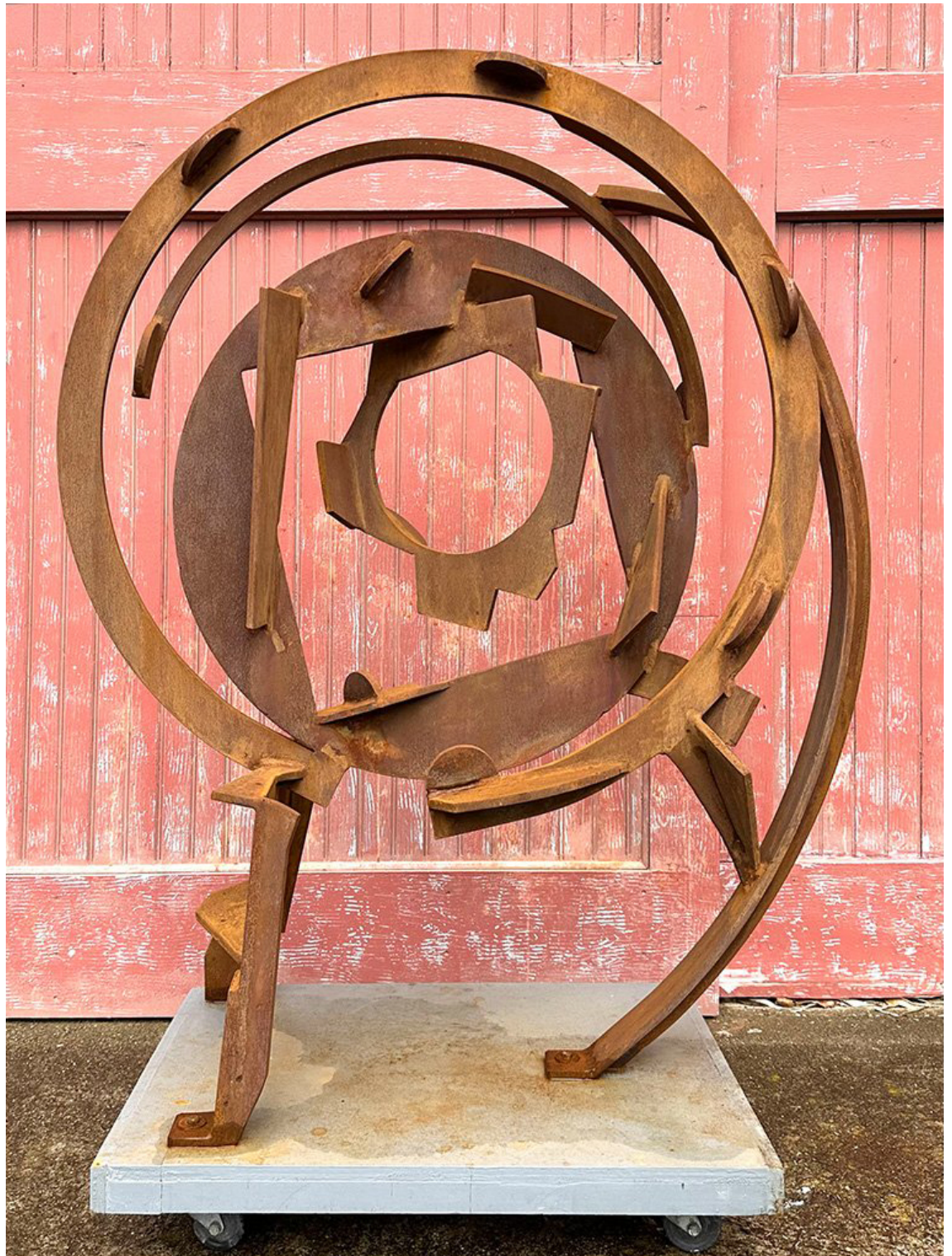


"Column with 7 Crescents" by Carol Ross

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"Round East" by Joel Perlman



"Quintessence #3" by Hans Van de Bovenkamp

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"Circus" by Carole Eisner

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