

HARRY H. GORDON

Biography



Harry Gordon was born in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas and now lives in Lambertville, New Jersey. As a teenager, he started sculpting in a community art class. His teacher arranged for him to an apprentice to Boris Blai, a classically trained Russian figurative sculptor who had worked in Auguste Rodin's studio.

Gordon began his sculpture career with a very classical, figurative beginning. His materials and forms have changed a great deal over the years, but it is still possible to find remnants of the figure in his work. He work now focuses on sculpture that is "larger than life." The materials he uses for his sculptures are primarily wood and granite. He does not create maquettes for his sculptures; he relies more on the natural shape of the wood.

The types of wood that Gordon uses in his sculpture are oak, maple, ash, and elm. Much of his wood comes from trees cut down by tree removal services, as Gordon prefers not to cut trees only for the purpose of carving. He creates larger than life organic sculptures, which are designed to "exist naturally in the landscape."

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ARTIST STATEMENT

I started my sculpture career with a very classical, figurative beginning, and although my materials and forms have changed a great deal over the years, it is still possible to find remnants of the figure in my work. Most of my large outdoor wood pieces from the 1980s stand on two points (legs) and incorporate a separate element on top (body or arms). My granite work, started in the 1990s, also tends toward figurative or post and lintel forms.

When I incorporate several elements together to construct a sculpture, I am looking at the way they relate to each other, and ultimately how they work together as a whole. A tilt here and a cut there can change the attitude of the piece and gives each one it's own distinct personality. When I make a piece with just one element, I tend to do more carving and editing of the material to achieve the same effect.

My work and the ideas behind it are tied very closely with the material it is constructed of – I have chosen traditional, ancient mediums with which to express myself. I try not to manipulate my materials beyond their natural state, but imbue them with an expression of dignity and grandeur to release their spirit.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 Outdoor Sculpture Program: James A. Michener Art Museum, Doylestown, PA
- 2001 Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA
- 1999 Outdoor Sculpture at Chapin School, Princeton, NJ
- 1994 Harry H. Gordon at Morris Arboretum, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 Outdoor Sculpture, Reading Public Museum, Reading, PA
- 2011 ArtPrize, Grand Rapids Art Museum, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2011 Navy Pier Walk Show, Chicago
- 2010 New Additions Outdoors, Grounds For Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ
- 2010 Highwater Sculpture Invitational, Noyes Museum of Art, Oceanville, NJ
- 2009 It's All About Art, New Hope Arts Center, New Hope, PA
- 2009 Arts Council of Princeton, Princeton, NJ
- 2008 Stone Sculpture in New Jersey, Kean University, Union, NJ

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS (continued)

- 2008 Sculptors Choose Sculptors, John Davis Gallery, Hudson, NY
2008 Counter/Balance, Gerald Peters Gallery, New York
2008 Village Green Exhibit, Cashiers, NC
2007 Delaware & Raritan Greenway, Princeton, NJ
2007 New Jersey Arts Annual, Noyes Museum of Art, Oceanville, NJ
2006 Western Michigan University Sculpture Tour, Kalamazoo, MI
2006 Sculpture Invitational 2006, City of Columbus, IN
2006 Outdoor Sculpture Biennial, Adelphi University, Garden City, NY
2006 Riverfront Renaissance: Sculpture Invitational, Riverfront Arts Center, Millville, NJ
2005 Winter Solstice IV, Westchester Arts Council, Grand Banking Room at the Arts Exchange, White Plains, NY
2005 Focus Sculpture, Princeton Day School, Princeton, NJ
2005 4th Annual Buckingham Valley Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit, Buckingham Winery, Buckingham, PA
2005 The Sculpture Mile, Hollycroft Foundation, Madison, CT
2004 Sculpture in the Park, Rockland Center for the Arts, West Nyack, NY
2004 Gallery in the Garden 6, Hawk Mountain, PA
2004 Sticks and Stones: The Making of a Sculpture Garden, Devault, PA
2004 2nd Annual Outdoor Sculpture Show, New Hope, PA
2003 The Eureka Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit, Eureka, IL
2003 Inside/Outside/On the Wall, Hebrew Home for the Aged, Riverdale, NY
2003 NC Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, Greensboro, NC
2003 Sculpture, Indoors and Out, New Hope, PA
2003 Artsbridge Juried Show, Prallsville Mill, Stockton, NJ
2003 Madison Mile Sculpture Show, Madison, CT
2002 Outdoor Sculpture Installation, James A. Michener Art Museum, Doylestown, PA
2002 Artsbridge Gallery September Group Show, Lambertville, NJ
2002 Family Sculpture, Café des Beauxarts, Frenchtown, NJ
2002 Pier Walk '02, Chicago
2002 Convergence XV, Providence, RI
2001 Pier Walk '01, Chicago
2001 Convergence XIV, Providence, RI
2001 Off the Wall: Sculpture by Artists affiliated with Rutgers University, Gallery at Bristol-Myers Squibb, Princeton, NJ
2001 Artsbridge Gallery April Group Show, Prallsville Mills, Stockton, NJ
2001 Artsbridge Gallery March Group Show, Prallsville Mills, Stockton, NJ
2000 Many Faces, One Family, Mt. Holly, NJ
2000 Sculpture 2000, New London, CT

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS (continued)

- 2000 Ivoryton Mile, Ivoryton, CT
2000 Outdoor Sculpture at Woodmere Museum, Chestnut Hill, PA
2000 Sculpture NOW, Stockbridge, MA
2000 Convergence XIII, Providence, RI
2000 The Artists of Hunterdon County, Hunterdon Museum of Art, Clinton, NJ
1999 Pier Walk '99, Chicago
1999 Convergence XII, Providence, RI
1998 Sculpture on the Prairie, Celia and Willet Wandell Sculpture Garden, Urbana, IL
1998 Works in Wood, Contemporary Arts Corridor, Lambertville, NJ
1998 Convergence XI, Providence, RI
1998 Pier Walk '98, Chicago
1998 Sculpture Court Gallery, Southampton, NY
1998 Art in the Embassies Program, U.S. Embassy, Vienna, Austria
1998 Pier Walk '98", Maquette Exhibit, Chicago
1997 ART/OMI Outdoor Sculpture, Ghent, NY
1997 DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA
1997 SUNY Plattsburgh Sculpture Terrace, Plattsburgh, NY
1997 Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park & Museum, Hamilton, OH

COLLECTIONS

- Pennsylvania State University, Palmer Museum of Art, State College, PA
SEPTA Norristown Transportation Center, Norristown, PA
Kean University, Union, NJ
Lincolnwood Sculpture Park, Lincolnwood, IL
Bugsy & Joan Baer, Madison, CT
Michael & Elisabeth Kalogris, Valley Forge, PA
Chapin School, Princeton, NJ
Tower Park Corporation, Newport News, VA
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schwalbe, New York
Hall Financial Group, Dallas, TX
The Grove School, Manchester, CT
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Goergen, Greenwich, CT
Ms. G. Finkel Freedman, Delray Beach, FL
Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park, Hamilton, OH
Nexus Properties, Trenton, NJ

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COLLECTIONS (continued)

Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ
The State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, PA
Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL
Mr. Matthew Strauss, Rancho Santa Fe, CA
Runnymede Sculpture Farm, San Francisco
Cheyney University Permanent Collection, Cheyney, PA
James A. Michener Art Center Sculpture Garden, Doylestown, PA
Westchester University Permanent Collection, Westchester, PA
City of Allentown Permanent Collection, PA
Public Art Trust Permanent Collection, Fort Pierce, FL
Ursinus College Permanent Collection, Collegeville, PA
Edinburgh University Permanent Collection, Edinburgh, PA
Lehigh University Permanent Collection, Bethlehem, PA

COMMISSIONS

2007 "Crossing", Black granite, Norristown SEPTA Center, Norristown, PA
2005 "Duchess", White and black oak, Kean University, Union, NJ
2004 "Tori Gate", Granite, Casey Middle School, Mt. Vernon, IL
2000 "Thor's Hammer", Granite, Private collection
1996 "Ghat", Marble, Public Art Trust, Mercerville, NJ
1995 "Algonquian", Granite, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
1995 "Untitled", Granite, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, PA
1990 "Westchester", White oak, Westchester University, Westchester, PA
1990 "Balance", Red oak, City of Allentown, PA

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Art, Sculpture , Rutgers University, 1987
Bachelor of Fine Art, Sculpture, Syracuse University, 1983