

AMERICAN

art COLLECTOR

NEW WORKS BY MAINSTREAM
SCULPTORS—COAST TO COAST

OCTOBER 2007

SCULPTURE



UPCOMING GROUP SHOW

Up to 15 works on show

Oct. 20–Nov. 24, 2007

American Legacy Fine Arts

949 Linda Vista Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91103

(626) 577-7733

• SHOW LOCATION PASADENA, CA

The beauty and power of sculpture

Sabin Howard, Béla Básci, George Carlson, Peter Brooke and Karen Cope will participate in American Legacy Fine Arts' first exhibition dedicated solely to three-dimensional works of art.

These five sculptors, some of whom are among the top artists working in the contemporary-traditional style, have a range of work that goes from traditional figurative work in bronze to more contemporary work rendered in Italian marble.

Howard, who works in bronze, uses his jewel and life-sized work in the Greco-Roman tradition to comment on what it means to be human.

"My sculpture is a response to a need in our culture to remain human in an ever-increasing mechanized world," says Howard. "It also speaks to the need to stand still for a moment in a world that is all sound byte and flash. I sculpt figures that carry the same humanism that can be found in places like St. Peter's in Rome or the Medici Tomb in Florence. I want to create and surround myself with the beauty and harmonious energy that I grew up with in Italy as a child."

Because of this universal theme and subject matter, Howard hopes his work will appeal to everyone on some basic, emotional level.

"The reaction to my work is visceral," says Howard. "No matter what the education of the viewer, people gasp and respond. No one is excluded from understanding and appreciating what I do because the human form, when sculpted at this level, is so powerful that it cannot be ignored. And the human body is universal; it's one of our few common denominators, no matter what our education, wealth or religious background."

Básci goes as far as the Cava di Michelangelo in Carrara, Italy to get the perfect marble to use in his hand-carved pieces of both humans and animals. In his studio, he is currently surrounded by 20 tons of statuary marble that he brought back from Italy two years ago.

"My desire is to connect the highest craftsmanship of the past to my own expression of modern themes," says Básci. "I want collectors to see a fluidity of form, motion, texture, transparency and character. I want them to have the ability to touch the work as well. The fact that I continuously explore and innovate in my compositions and designs is also something that should be pleasing to collectors."

Básci goes out of his way to make sure that each piece is imbued with the serious craftsmanship that has taken him more than 30 years to excel in. He sees himself as the designer, the craftsman and the final critic and relishes in the details of the entire process.

"I employ techniques that I learned 30 years ago in the finest marble studios in Italy," says Básci. "Most of those carvers are now gone and there are very few carvers today, even in Italy, who know the secrets that they taught me. My virtuosity is a product of knowing every aspect of the sculptor's trade, including clay modeling,



SABIN HOWARD, MAN, BRONZE, 20 X 7 X 4"



BÉLA BÁSCI, OCTOPUS, ITALIAN MARBLE, 15 X 35 X 5"



KAREN COPE, PHYSIQUE, BRONZE, 12 X 3 X 2"


mold making, plaster work, bronze casting and metal fabricating."

Cope, a figurative sculptor, creates bronze pieces that are done in a naturalistic style as she works diligently from nature.

"This body of work reveals my love of nature and all naturalistic qualities that make each of us unique inside and out," says Cope. "My goal was to articulate the 'Big Impression' of the figure physically and internally, uniting the naturalistic physical qualities of each person and successfully weaving their essence in with each note of clay."

Carlson's work is also imbued with a certain naturalism that comes from working directly from life.

"It puts you in direct contact with the life force," says Carlson. "Not just the light and the landscape, but also the vitality of the world around you. Working that way, whether you're a painter or a sculptor, you have far more information because you can see your subject living and breathing and moving around. Then, of course, the trick is to process all that information and knowing what to look for." ●

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to  www.americanartcollector.com

Price Range Indicator

Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator shows what you can expect to pay for these artist's work.

KAREN COPE			
	Small	Medium	Large
2007	\$800-\$1,600	\$2,800-\$5,000	\$10,000-\$15,000
SABIN HOWARD			
	Small	Medium	Large
2007	\$6,000-\$17,000	\$35,000-\$75,000	\$145,000
BÉLA BÁSCI			
	Small	Medium	Large
2007	\$4,500	\$25,000	\$75,000