



The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Karl Heinz Boyke

Abstract (B&W)

September 8 - October 4, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

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Artist Catalog, 'Karl Heinz Boyke - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers '
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Rich Fog Micro Publishing, printed in Toronto, 2007
Layout and Design, Richard Fogarty

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Karl Heinz Boyke

Julie Oakes

Formalist and secure in craft, Boyke's work speaks within itself and to itself, communicating similarities between the individual sculptures as well as unique traits. With a hieroglyphic distinction, his language is best understood by the initiated. What appears to be privileged visual information is unraveled when the key to the source of the imagery is made clear. Closer inspection - and illumination by the artist for it is doubtful that the impressions would be read as such without direction - reveals that a horseshoe, a saw blade, the grip of a tool and other utilitarian items have been pressed into the original bed from which the bronze mold was made. The formation of the final bronze, from the first material (clay, wax or plasticine) is made by passing through a stage where a mold is made in which to pour the molten metal. Boyke, with a clear and curious eye, has been known to consider this passageway from positive through negative to resulting positive as worthy of notice. He has transformed the negative into the positive which would mean that a second negative must have been made. The relief, *Fries in Pompeii*, is an example of such a transformation. It is a perfect example of how imbedded Karl Heinz Boyke is in the process of making sculptures.

The 'associations' that can be made to the works are more universal, however, and hence accessible. Both the relief work and the sculpture - even the triangular formats of the paintings - suggest archaeological findings and treasures from civilizations that have come and gone. The round formats are similar to weathered coins while the rectangular are like tomes. The sculptures bring to mind time-worn religious or fetish icons while the large public sculptures make reference to the grand statuary or ceremonial furniture of churches and temples. The triangular paintings could be embellishments above a portal leading into a sacred space. The use of gold leaf furthers the associations to the spirit realms and lends a symbolic aura to the work, just as the Egyptian pictographs conventionalized pictures of the things that they represented.

And yet, there is a more common pulse that runs through Boyke's diverse techniques, a human response to the sentiment of the work as the knobby bulbs, pokes and nipples distributed through the vertical columns are easily associated with the figure. These bronze sculptures have a warmth and personality that belies the hard metal for they have been handled, from the initial molding to the final rubbing of the wax on the patina. They invite a caress or a heft to test their weight and confirm their character. Like an interesting guest, they reveal themselves over time with a myriad of fresh angles for interest.



Pyramidal
acrylic on paper, 14 x 28 inches
2007



Modell Papyrussaule
bronze, 12 inches tall
edition 12



Modell Contrapposto
bronze, 10 inches tall
edition 12



Modell Fur Barlach-Memorial
bronze, 9 inches tall
edition 12



Regenbogen, Kunststoffmodell
resin maquette, 14"L x 2.25"W x 10"H
2007



Im Tal der Konige
acrylic on paper, 16 x 12 inches
2007



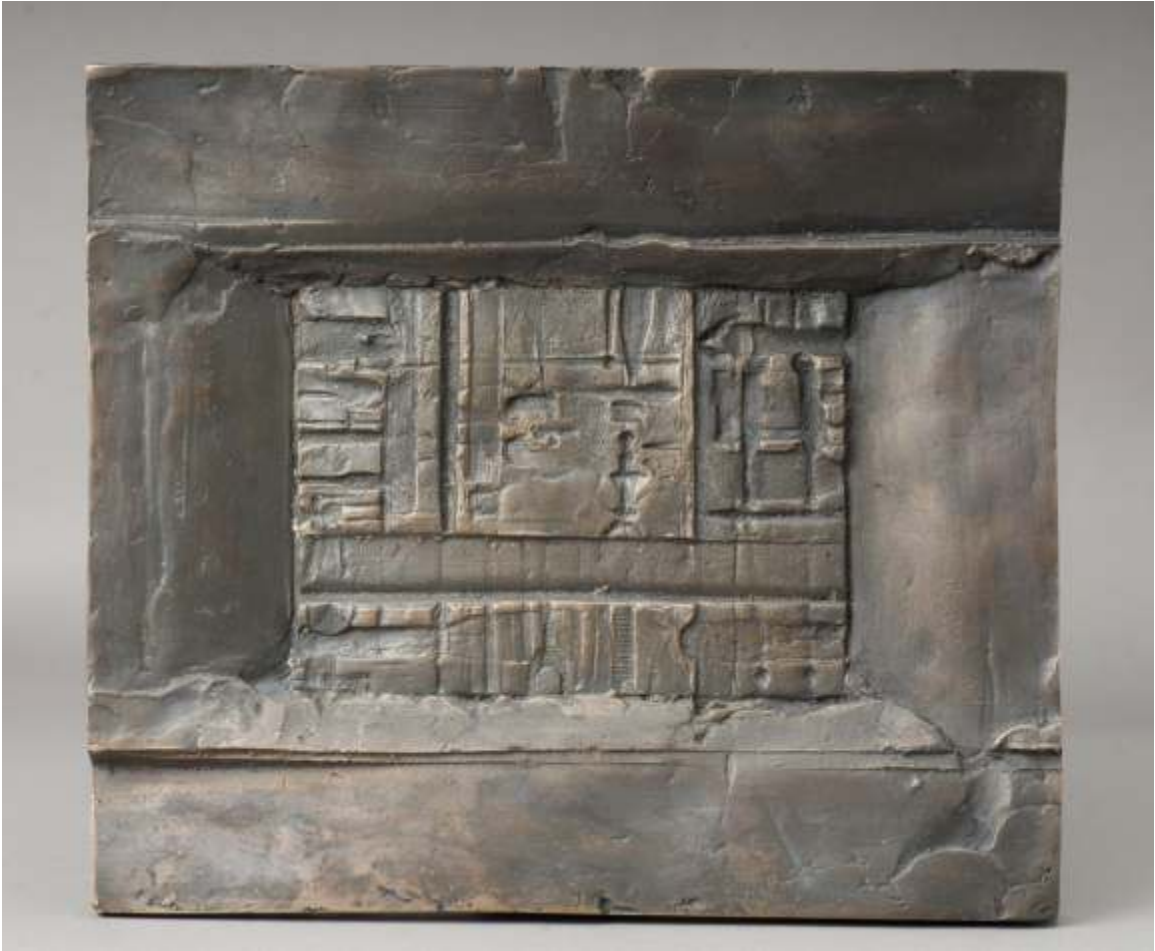
Blauwal, Kunststoffmodell
resin maquette, 8"L x 3"W x 4"H
2007



Keines Medallion I
bronze, 7.25 inches in diameter
edition 12



Keines Medallion II
bronze, 7.25 inches in diameter
edition 12



Blick Nach Abu Simbel
bronze, 9.5 x 11 inches
edition 12



Fries in Pompeii
bronze, 7.5 x 8.25 inches
edition 12



Jackson Pollock Meets Siddhartha
acrylic on paper, 14 x 28 inches
2007

Karl Heinz Boyke

- 1955 born in Uetersen (Hamburg), Germany
- 1972 education in surveying
- 1979 studies in sculpturing at the Muthesius-University of Fine Arts in Kiel, University lecturers:
Manfred Sihle-Wissel and Prof. Jan Koblasa
- Master of art -Studies in painting and sculpturing as a private student of Prof. Walter Arno in his studio near Hamburg
- 1986 working as a painter and a sculptor in Moorrege
- Competition of Arts in the public area
- Exhibitions in foreign countries
- 1991 visiting lecturer for the techniques of sculpturing
at the Design High-School in Hamburg (HWA)
- 1993 Scholarship of the County of Pinneberg
- Study of the Japanese calligraphy
of Prof. Nangaku Kawamata from Mito/Japan
- visiting lecturer for sculpturing at the international academy „Pentiment“ in Hamburg
- 1994 lecturer at the Design High-School Hamburg (HAW)
for the drawing seminar (until 1996)
- 1995 Scholarship of the Industrial Board (Elmshorn)
- “Hermann-StehrScholarship“ (County of Pinneberg)
- 1997 lecturer at the Design High-School Hamburg (HWA)
for the painting-seminar

Publications:

Catalogues of the Union of Art, regular since 1985

New Secession of Darmstadt, Darmstadt
8. Freiplastikausstellung

Schleswig - Holsteini Kunstnikud
Tallinn , Narva , Kothla-Järve / Estonia

„ Concept“ seat of the government in Kiel

„ Art forum North“, House of Art in Hamburg

„ ...was man draus macht ! “ ALSEN-Cement-factory
Sculpturing-symposium

„ Skulpturen - Objekte “, Schleswig AG Rendsburg

Boyke Paintings-Sculptures-Reliefs
Werkhof-Galerie Moorrege

„ North-sculpture “ , Galerie 17 , Neumünster

„ Connex “ , Stiftung Landdrostei , Pinneberg

„ Dialog “ , Manege , St. Petersburg / Russia

„ Concept 03 „ Ministry of the Interior Kiel
and Hanse-Office in Brüssel, Belgium

Works in public possession:

Ministry of education and cultural affairs of Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel

Department of the Interior of Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel

County of Pinneberg

Police station in Reinbek near Hamburg

Seat of Government, Kiel

The Government of Schleswig-Holstein, conference hall in the guest house, Kiel

Alsen - Cement - factory, Itzehoe

Central-Bank of Schleswig-Holstein, Elmshorn

Sculpture-Park in the city of Elmshorn

Bank of the County Glückstadt, conference hall

The union of the bank- and giro-association of Schleswig-Holstein

City department, Elmshorn

City of Barmstedt, „Brother and sister-Scholl-School“

City of Elmshorn, „Astrid-Lindgren-School“

Museum of Hessian, Gießen

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