

Exhibitions

Morgan Bulkeley: Two Decades

Main Galleries

September 19–November 29, 1987

Morgan Bulkeley's work has intrigued the New England art-viewing public since 1974 when it was first exhibited in Boston. From his early Newark drawings and boxes dating from the late 1960s to the recent paintings of 1987, Bulkeley's work has manifested a highly personal, primitive vision, blending real and surreal elements.

The DeCordova exhibition, organized by Senior Curator Rachel Rosenfield Lafo, will feature twenty years of Morgan Bulkeley's art, including boxes, wood sculpture on a large and small scale, jewelry, carved and painted furniture, pastels, city paintings, country paintings, photographs of floor drawings, and a new floor drawing executed for the exhibition. Over 100 works of art will be included.

Morgan Bulkeley is represented in the DeCordova permanent collection by four works and has been included in a number of group shows at the Museum. His large oak sculpture, *Mountain Guard*, has been on loan to the Museum's sculpture park since the summer of 1986.

The impetus for much of Bulkeley's art is the desire to tell a story, a story open to the viewer's interpretation and imagination. In the early drawings and boxes, objects, figures and animals are arranged in grid-like compartments. The isolation of objects and figures continues in the early city paintings where through open apartment windows, we are given mystifying and tantalizing glimpses of unexplained activities. The country paintings are inhabited by figures and animals engaged in ambiguous dramas.

The range and diversity of Morgan Bulkeley's work is partly attributable to the two very different locales in which he works—a country house in the Berkshires at the southwestern tip of Massachusetts, and a studio in Boston's urban South End. The shift from one environment to the other on a seasonal basis has resulted in a shift of both subject matter and medium. In the country, Bulkeley works primarily on sculpture. The sculpture he makes there is organic, totemic, and animalistic. In the city, Bulkeley's tendency has been to work primarily two-dimensionally. Transitional pieces, such as carved and painted masks and furniture, help the artist bridge the gap from city to country and from painting to sculpture.

Morgan Bulkeley was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts in 1944 and received a B.A. in English literature from Yale University. His work has been included in many group exhibitions and has been featured in several one-person exhibitions at the Stux Gallery, New York and Boston. The DeCordova exhibition will be the first to document the past two decades of the artist's work. The accompanying illustrated catalogue will provide an analysis of the chronological development of the art.



Morgan Bulkeley, *Blind Fox*, 1981, oil on wood, 17½ × 11¼ inches, Museum Purchase.



Morgan Bulkeley, *Birch Building*, 1985, oil on canvas, 76 × 66 inches, courtesy Stux Gallery.

Decordova

Decordova
 Sandy Pond Road
 Lincoln, MA 01773
 617/259/8355

Admission
 Adults \$2.00
 Seniors and Children \$1.00
 Members Free

Hours
 Tuesday-Thursday, 10 AM-5 PM
 Friday, 10 AM-9 PM
 Weekends, 12-5 PM

Exhibitions

Morgan Bulkeley: Two Decades
 Main Galleries
Lenny Long: Paintings
 New Work/New England Gallery
Recent Acquisitions: Photographs
 Permanent Collection Gallery

September

18 **Preview**
 6:30-8:30 PM
 Morgan Bulkeley: Two Decades
 Lenny Long: Paintings
 Recent Acquisitions: Photographs
 27 **Gallery Talk**
 Artist's Dialogue: Morgan Bulkeley, 3 PM

October

13 **Members' Morning**
 Docent tour and refreshments, 9:45 AM
 16 **Cronin Lecture**
 On Sculpture, 8 PM
 30 **Cronin Lecture**
 On Sculpture, 8 PM

November

6 **Members' Evening**
 Docent tour and refreshments, 5:45 PM
 8 **Student/Faculty Reception**
 The Opportunity to Show, 5:30 PM
 14 **Kids' Workshop**
 Create Your Creature with Lenny Long, Grades 1-6, 10-12:30 PM



DeCordova Events

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Morgan Bulkeley: Two Decades

Main Galleries

Lenny Long: Paintings

New Work/New England Gallery

Recent Acquisitions: Photographs

Permanent Collection Gallery

September 19–November 29, 1987

Preview

Friday, September 18, 6:30–8:30 PM

Cocktails a la carte and hors d'oeuvres

Adults \$2.00, Children and Seniors \$1.00, Members free.

Gallery Talks

Free guided tours of the exhibitions are offered every weekend at 2 PM from September 27–November 29. Tours for groups (10–30 people) can be arranged with a two-week advance reservation through the Museum School, 259-8821.

Artist's Dialogue

Morgan Bulkeley, Sunday, September 27, 3 PM,
Main Gallery, Free with Museum admission.

Morgan Bulkeley will present an illustrated slide talk, *Sources, Stories, and Influences*, documenting those events, people and artists who have influenced his work.

Members' Tours

Tuesday, October 13, 9:45 AM

Friday, November 6, 5:45 PM

Members and their guests will enjoy refreshments followed by a docent tour of the exhibitions. Free; reservations required one day prior to event, 259-8355.

Lectures

Paul J. Cronin Memorial Lecture Series

"On Sculpture"

Fridays, October 16 and 30, 8 PM,

Kids' Workshop

Create Your Own Creature

Saturday, November 14, 10 AM–12:30 PM, Grades 1–6

New Work/New England featured artist Lenny Long will guide children as they create their own drawings of imaginary animals. The morning will culminate with an exhibition of the children's work in Studio 1 of the Museum School. Refreshments will be served. Parents and friends welcome. Children will meet at the Museum desk. Register by sending fee and ages of children to DeCordova Museum School, Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, MA 01773. Cost: \$12.00 non-members; \$10.00 members.

Videotape

The DeCordova Museum has produced a videotape to

For Members

Members' Tour

Join us for either of two special docent tours *planned especially for DeCordova members*. Be treated before each tour to coffee and pastries on October 13, 9:45 AM, or wine and hors d'oeuvres on November 6, 5:45 PM. These events are free to members and their guests; however, please make a reservation with our receptionist no later than one day prior to each event at 259-8355.

Gifts of Friendship

Remember your friends with a DeCordova gift membership, and be remembered all year long. Send your check or Visa/MasterCard number to DeCordova Museum, Membership Director, Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, MA 01773 OR call Jeron Weinand, Membership Director, at 259-8355.

Fall Events for Upper Level Members

Members at the Supporting level and above receive more benefits than exhibitions catalogues, museum passes and rental opportunities, they also receive invitations to special functions designed especially for the art lover.

Two special events have been planned for the Fall. The *Paul J. Cronin Memorial Lecture Series on Sculpture* is scheduled for October 16 and 30. **An Evening With Morgan**, preceded by cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, is a complimentary event designed to thank our upper-level members and docents for their past and future support. An Evening With Morgan is scheduled for September 17, 6 PM. Reservations required with Museum receptionist, 259-8355.

Collectors' Evening

May marked the first annual *Collectors' Evening*. This event, offered to Sustaining level members and above, provided a rare opportunity for DeCordova members to visit the homes of some of the Boston area's most prominent art collectors, and then return to the Museum for a catered dinner and music. The collectors that **generously opened their homes to DeCordova members** included Michael Beauchemin, John Boyer, John Foster, Robert and Nancy LaPlante, Stephen and Susan Paine, Lewis and Lynn Pollock, Robert Scott and Diane Spencer, and Donald and Jean Stanton. All proceeds went to the conservation of the permanent collection. *Collectors' Evening* was chaired by Meredyth Hyatt Moses.

Upcoming Exhibitions

December 12, 1987–February 14, 1988

New England Now:

Contemporary Art from Six States

Main Galleries

New England Now: Contemporary Art from Six States is a collaborative effort of six New England museums which represents recent work by twenty-five regional artists in a variety of media. The exhibition, which originates at DeCordova, will travel to each institution. (The Six States Galleries of Art Museums, New