

David Hayes: Sculpture



Vero Beach Museum of Art



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Alice and Jim Beckwith Sculpture Park
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Cover: *Group*, 2003. Painted steel, 63 × 75 × 45 inches

FOREWORD and ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

WE ARE MOST PLEASED TO PRESENT THIS EXHIBITION OF THE LARGE-SCALE, painted-steel sculptures of David Hayes as the second exhibition in the Museum's new Alice and Jim Beckwith Sculpture Park. Featuring 14 works representing four different series, and covering a 30-year period, the exhibition explores Hayes's interest in the interplay of abstract, geometric, planar forms that are painted in either all black or vivid color. Hayes draws his inspiration from the forms and shapes of the world around him. They have a bold presence and sense of vigor, as well as a lyrical nuance that belies their structural soundness.

As with all of the Museum's exhibitions, this presentation was a collaborative effort. I would like particularly to thank David Hayes for the opportunity to present this exhibition of his wonderful work and for lending the works included herein. Special gratitude is also due to the artist's sons John Hayes, who helped with its organization and installation, and David M. Hayes, who also helped with its organization, as well as beautifully designed the catalogue and graphic identity connected to the exhibition. On staff, I would like to acknowledge the good work and efforts of Museum Curator Jennifer A. Bailey, and Registrar J'Laine Newcombe, Preparator Todd Hoak and Sculpture Conservator and Preparator Jim Liccione. Support for the exhibition and its publication has been received from the Museum's Patricia M. Patten Endowment, with additional support from the children of the artist, to whom we owe our heartfelt thanks.

David Hayes was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1931, and received his AB degree in 1953 from the University of Notre Dame and his MFA from Indiana University in 1955, where he studied with David Smith. He is the recipient of many awards including a Fulbright Scholarship and Solomon R. Guggenheim Fellowship. Hayes's work has been presented in more than 300 exhibitions and is represented in more than 100 public institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art, and the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas and the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

A master of his medium, Hayes enjoys a well deserved national, as well as international reputation for his contribution to the history of American sculpture.

LUCINDA H. GEDEON, PH.D.
Executive Director/CEO

A CONVERSATION with DAVID HAYES

OVER THE PAST FIVE DECADES, AMERICAN SCULPTOR David Hayes has created a powerful body of work that resonates with associations to the natural world and evokes the artistic vocabularies begun by artists such as Henri Matisse, David Smith, and Alexander Calder. Working with welded and painted steel, Hayes explores color, form, and material in his abstract sculptures.

Hayes, a prolific artist, has devoted his life to making art. Born in Hartford, Connecticut, Hayes received his A.B. from the University of Notre Dame and his M.F.A. from Indiana University. During his sophomore year of college, after taking aptitude tests, he astutely changed his major to art. Then, upon completion of his naval service in 1957, Hayes turned his attention to making sculpture full time. Hayes found his medium while in graduate school at Indiana University. At the time, David Smith was a visiting artist at the University and introduced Hayes to working in steel, which continues to be his primary material. Smith's influence not only provides some



basic insight into Hayes's sculpture and development, but also made an enormous impact on American sculpture in general. A relatively new means of artistic expression, welded sculpture truly developed as an art form in the 1930s as American artists, such as Smith, began to adapt industrial welding for their own purposes. Hayes adopted the medium of welded sculpture as a platform for his own oeuvre and began utilizing the technique in his artistic vision.

In addition to Smith, Hayes cites the “full *réseau* of art history, from cave paintings to Pop,” as an influence on his work. Specific names pulled from this network include Julio González, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Alexander Calder and Georges Braque. Viewers can glimpse the biomorphic contours of Matisse, the playful color of Calder, and the shifting planes of Cubism in Hayes's sculpture.

Hayes describes his creative process as one that “begins like the irritation of a grain of sand in an oyster.” Once Hayes is attracted to a form or shape, he begins to make sketchbook drawings, which develop into ink and gouache studies for sculpture. Typically executed in a very painterly style and in vivid colors, the drawings can stand alone on their own aesthetic. Hayes then combines these forms into their most viable



arrangements. In the last step, the artist draws these shapes on sheets of steel, cuts them out with a torch and welds them into full standing sculpture.

Hayes's sources of inspiration are found in nature and he states he is directly inspired by "the signs and shapes that etch themselves upon my retina and later become sculpture." All of Hayes's work explores abstracted natural and organic forms. The works are suggestive of motifs such as leaves, or trees, but never actually represent these motifs. His interest lies in the forms themselves and their interplay and dialogue with one another. When asked about the figural nature of his *Totem* series, Hayes responds "if you hold a pencil upright at arm's length it suggests a figural motif. The *Totem* series for me remains forms arranged in vertical compositions." Hayes's abstract sculptures allow the viewer to draw their own association and interpretation of the work.

The exhibition includes examples from four series of work: *Polychrome Sculptures*, *Vertical Motifs*, *Totems*, and *Screen Sculptures*. The *Polychrome Sculptures* are large-scale constructions combining color, organic forms, and planar elements. For Hayes, certain pieces "suggest the use of color and the specific colors used are determined by the shapes themselves in



creating a singular harmony.” The palette for these sculptures typically includes bold, strong colors manually painted onto each piece. Hayes also states, “certain series of my works, such as the *Screen Sculptures*, *Totems*, and *Vertical Motifs* are categorically painted black.” It is in these works that Hayes’s exploration of abstract forms, light, and shadow, is most concentrated. Hayes adds to the visual complexity of his works by incorporating steel sheets with a raised patterning that brings varied texture to both the polychrome and black pieces.

It is also through this embracing of his material that Hayes’s work creates an interesting dichotomy. His sculptures are lyrical expressions of organic and natural forms, yet they are created in an industrial material, which is neither disguised nor overlooked. His works fully evoke trees, leaves, figures, and animals in spite of the heavily manufactured materials they are made of—and sit easily in natural environments and settings. Hayes’s sculpture successfully tackles the legacies of the artists who directly influenced him and simultaneously expresses the nuanced forms that deeply inspire him.

JENNIFER A. BAILEY
Curator of Exhibitions and Collections





Totem, 2006. Painted steel, 103 × 36 × 36 inches

Totem, 2005. Painted steel, 88 × 30 × 30 inches



14 · *Vertical Motif #18*, 1981. Painted steel, 86 × 31 × 32 inches



Vertical Motif #22, 1983. Painted steel, 88 × 32 × 34 inches



16 · *Screen Sculpture #101*, 2002. Painted steel, 70 × 80 × 26 inches



18 *Screen Sculpture #11*, 1977. Painted steel, 76 × 108 × 27 inches



Screen Sculpture #64, 1994. Painted steel, 73 × 49 × 21 inches . 19

DAVID HAYES
Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2007 Vero Beach Museum of Art; Vero Beach, Florida – *David Hayes Sculpture*
 Downtown Syracuse, New York – *Return to Syracuse*
 Albertus Magnus College, New Haven, Connecticut – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 Ross Art Museum at Ohio Wesleyan University; Delaware
 Ohio – *Small Sculptures, Drawings and Outdoor Sculpture*
- 2006 LSU Museum of Art; Baton Rouge, Louisiana – *David Hayes Sculpture*
 Erie Art Museum Annex Gallery; Erie, Pennsylvania – *Small Sculptures and Drawings*
 Longview Museum of Fine Arts; Longview, Texas – *David Hayes Sculpture*
- 2005 Mobile Museum of Art; Mobile, Alabama – *Eight Vertical Motifs*
 Hartwick College; Oneonta, New York – *12 Sculptures on Oyaron Hill*
 Krasl Art Center; Saint Joseph, Michigan – *Small Sculptures and Drawings*
 Yaeger Art Museum; Oneonta, New York – *Small Sculptures and Drawings*
 Erie Art Museum; Erie, Pennsylvania – *Art Around Erie*
- 2004 FIU Biscayne Bay Campus; Miami, Florida – *David Hayes Sculpture at Florida International University*
 James A. Michener Art Museum; Doylestown, Pennsylvania – *David Hayes Outdoor Sculpture Installation*
 Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County and Core Developers, Florida – *Exhibition Without Walls*
- 2003 Burt Reynolds Museum; Jupiter, Florida – *Inaugural exhibition*
 Orlando, Florida – *5 Screen Sculptures at the University of Central Florida*
 Sculpture Garden & Studio at Gidion's; Kent, Connecticut – *David Hayes Sculpture*
- 2002 Lyric Theater Sculpture Garden; Stuart, Florida – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 Bradley International Airport; Windsor Locks, Connecticut – *Small Sculptures*
- 2001 Geary Design; Naples, Florida – *David Hayes Sculpture, Graham Nickson Paintings*
 Lyric Theater Sculpture Garden; Stuart, Florida – *Outdoor Sculpture*
- 2000 Sasaki, Inc.; Watertown, Massachusetts; *Sculpture, Maquettes, Wall Relief*
 Fordham University Downtown; New York, New York – *Wall Sculptures and Drawings*
 Denise Bibro Fine Arts Inc.; New York, New York – *David Hayes Steel Sculpture*
- 1999 *Screen Sculpture Commission*, Nicotra Group; Staten Island, NY
- Colgate University; Hamilton, New York – *Sculpture, Maquette Relief*
- 1998 Mercy Gallery, Loomis Chaffee School; Windsor, Connecticut – *Drawings, Maquettes, Reliefs, and Screen Sculptures*
 City of Stamford, Connecticut and Stamford Town Center – *Stamford Sculpture Walk: 59 Sculptures in Stamford, Connecticut*
 Tremaine Gallery, Hotchkiss School; Lakeville, Connecticut – *Drawings, Maquettes, Reliefs and Polychrome Sculptures*
 Boca Raton Museum of Art; Boca Raton, Florida – *Vertical Motifs, Drawings, Maquettes and Large Vertical Motifs*
 The Appleton Museum; Ocala, Florida – *Large Vertical Motifs*
 Stamford Center for the Arts, Rich Forum; Stamford, Connecticut – *David Hayes: Paintings, Acrylic Landscapes and Studies*
 Downtown Stamford and Stamford Town Center; Stamford, Connecticut – *Sculpture in Stamford*
- 1997 100 Pearl Gallery; Hartford, Connecticut – *Sculpture, Drawings and Maquettes*
 The Gallery, University of New Haven; West Haven, Connecticut – *Sculpture and Paintings*
 Southern Vermont Art Center; Manchester, Vermont – *Screen Sculptures*
 Gulf Coast Art Center; Belleair, Florida – *Screen Sculptures*
 Orlando City Hall; Orlando, Florida – *Screen Sculptures*
 Hines Building; Boston, Massachusetts – *Five Screen Sculptures*
 Hayes Modern Gallery; Naples, Florida – *Sculptures, Drawings and Maquettes*
- 1996 Prudential Center; Boston, Massachusetts – *Screen Sculptures*
 Gulf Coast Art Center; Belair, Florida – *Screen Sculptures*
 The Pingry School; Martinsville, New Jersey – *Sculpture, Drawings and Maquettes*
- 1994 Anderson Gallery, Buffalo, New York – *A Survey of Screen Sculptures – Sculptures, Maquettes and Drawings.*
- 1993 Elaine Benson Gallery, Bridgehampton, New York – *Screen Sculptures*
- 1992 Gallerie Françoise; Baltimore, Maryland – *David Hayes—Outdoor Sculpture*
- 1991 Neville-Sargent Gallery; Chicago, Illinois – *Sculpture, Maquettes, Drawings and Installation Photographs*
- 1990 Indiana University Art Museum; Bloomington, Indiana – *Sculpture, Maquettes and Gouaches*
- 1989 Snite Museum of Art; University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana – *Sculpture, Maquettes and Gouaches*
 Exhibition travels to Indiana University Art Museum
- 1988 Station Plaza; Stamford, Connecticut – *Outdoor Sculpture*
- 1987 Albertus Magnus College; New Haven, Connecticut – *Outdoor Sculpture and Wall Reliefs*
- 1986 Shippee Gallery; New York, New York – *Vertical Motif Series*
- 1985 Visual Images Gallery; Wellfleet, Massachusetts – *Sculpture, Gouaches and Small Vertical Motifs*
- 1984 Visual Images Gallery; Wellfleet, Massachusetts – *Sculpture, Gouaches, and Painted Reliefs*
 Shippee Gallery; New York, New York – *Recent Sculpture and Works on Paper*
- 1983 Wesleyan Pottery; Middletown, Connecticut – *Sculpture, Drawings, and Ceramics*
 Visual Images Gallery; Wellfleet, Massachusetts – *Sculpture, Drawings, Ceramics and Small Bronzes*
 Rensselaer County Council for the Arts; Troy, New York – *Sculpture, Drawings, and Reliefs*
- 1982 Sunne Savage Gallery; Boston, Massachusetts – *Sculpture and Drawings*
 Elaine Benson Gallery; Bridgehampton, New York – *Sculpture and Models*
 Visual Images Gallery; Wellfleet, Massachusetts – *Sculpture, Drawings, and Ceramics*
- 1981 Bard College; Annandale, New York – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 Old State House; Hartford, Connecticut – *Sculpture on Old State House Lawn*
 June 1 Gallery; Bethlehem, Connecticut – *Sculpture and Drawings*
 Visual Images Gallery; Wellfleet, Massachusetts – *Sculpture, Gouaches, Ceramics*
 University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus; Catonsville, Maryland – *Cross Section, Drawings, Ceramics, Tapestries, Sculpture*
- 1980 Bethel Gallery and Bethel Library grounds; Bethel, Connecticut – *Sculpture Inside/Outside*
 Art Museum and City of Fitchburg; Fitchburg, Massachusetts – *Sculpture, Drawings, and Ceramics*
 Saratoga Performing Arts Center; Saratoga Springs, New York – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 Skidmore College; Saratoga Springs, New York – *Sculpture and Drawings*
- 1979 Amherst College; Amherst, Massachusetts – *Sculpture*
 Nassau County Museum; Sands Point, New York – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 The Gallery, G. Fox and Company; Hartford, Connecticut
 White Mountains Center for the Arts; Jefferson, New Hampshire
 Plymouth State College; Plymouth, New Hampshire
 University Library; University of Connecticut; Storrs, Connecticut – *Sculpture in the Library*
- 1978 Museum of Fine Arts and City of Springfield; Springfield, Massachusetts – *On Loan to Springfield: Sculpture, Ceramics, Drawings*
 Choate-Rosemary Hall; Wallingford, Connecticut – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 State University of New York; Albany, New York – *Sculpture and Drawings*
- Manchester Community College; Manchester, Connecticut – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 Dartmouth College; Hanover, New Hampshire – *Sculpture on Tuck Mall*
- 1977 Franz Bader Gallery; Washington, D. C. – *Sculpture and Ceramics*
 George Washington University; Washington, D. C. – *Outdoor Sculpture*
 Georgetown University Hospital; Washington, D. C. – *Five Sculptures*
 DeCordova Museum; Lincoln, Massachusetts – *Outdoor Sculpture*
- 1976 Danbury, Connecticut – *Sculpture in the City*
- 1975 Everson Museum of Art; Syracuse, New York – *Sculpture*
 Brockton Art Center; Fuller Memorial, Brockton, Massachusetts
- 1974 Copley Square and Dartmouth Street Mall; Boston, Massachusetts.
 Martha Jackson Gallery; New York – *Ceramics*
 Columbus Gallery of Fine Art; Columbus, Ohio
 Sunne Savage Gallery; Boston, Massachusetts
- 1973 Munson Gallery; New Haven, Connecticut
 Sunne Savage Gallery; Boston, Massachusetts
 Albany Institute of History and Art; Albany, New York
 Gallery Five East; East Hartford, Connecticut
 Harvard University; Hunt Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 1971 New Britain Museum of American Art; New Britain, Connecticut
 Agra Gallery; Washington, D. C.
- 1970 University of Connecticut; Storrs, Connecticut
 Manchester Community College; Manchester, Connecticut
 St. Joseph's College; West Hartford, Connecticut
- 1969 Bard College; Annandale-on-Hudson, New York
 Willard Gallery; New York
 Arizona State University; Tempe, Arizona
- 1968 Galerie De Haas; Rotterdam, Holland – *Ceramics*
- 1966 Lyman Allen Museum; New London, Connecticut
 Houston Festival of Arts; Houston, Texas
 Willard Gallery; New York
 David Anderson Gallery; Paris
- 1963 Root Art Center, Hamilton College; Clinton, New York – *Sculpture and Drawings*
- 1962 University of Notre Dame and Indiana University; Notre Dame and Bloomington, Indiana – *Retrospective Exhibition of Sculpture and Drawing*
- 1961 Willard Gallery, New York
- 1960 Sharon Creative Art Foundation; Sharon, Connecticut – Two-man show with Cleve Gray
 Lyman Allen Museum; New London, Connecticut
 Museum of Modern Art; New York – *New Talent Series*
- 1958 Wesleyan University; Middletown, Connecticut
- 1955 Indiana University; Bloomington, Indiana – *Thesis Exhibition*

DAVID HAYES
Selected Public Collections

Museum of Modern Art, New York	Indiana University; Bloomington, Indiana	Massachusetts	BKM, Inc.; East Hartford, Connecticut
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York	National Museum of American Art; Washington, D. C.	Wichita State University; Wichita, Kansas	Western Michigan University; Kalamazoo, Michigan
Addison Gallery of American Art; Andover, Massachusetts	Struktuur 68NV; The Hague, Holland	Gund Hall, Harvard University; Cambridge, Massachusetts	Hollister Corporation; Libertyville, Illinois
Currier Gallery of Art; Manchester, New Hampshire	Boston Public Library; Boston, Massachusetts	The Norton Company; Worcester, Massachusetts	Hartford Art School; West Hartford, Connecticut
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris	Dartmouth College; Hanover, New Hampshire	National Trust for Historic Preservation, Nelson Rockefeller Collection; Tarrytown, New York	University of Hartford; West Hartford, Connecticut
Detroit Art Institute; Detroit, Michigan	Everson Museum of Art; Syracuse, New York	Harry Guggenheim Collection, Nassau County Museum; Sands Point, New York	Mitchner Museum; Doylestown, Pennsylvania
Museum of Fine Arts; Houston, Texas	Dade County Art Collection; Miami, Florida	Fitchburg Art Museum; Fitchburg, Massachusetts	Gerwun Jewish Heritage Foundation, New Jersey
University of Michigan; Ann Arbor, Michigan	DeCordova Museum; Lincoln, Massachusetts	Ohio Wesleyan University; Delaware, Ohio	University of Connecticut Health Center; Farmington, Connecticut
Arizona State University; Tempe, Arizona	Williams College Museum of Art; Williamstown, Massachusetts	Hunter Museum of Art; Chattanooga, Tennessee	Westminster School; Simsbury, Connecticut
Carnegie Institute; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	George Washington University; Washington, D. C.	Albertus Magnus College; New Haven, Connecticut	Hartwood Acres; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Wadsworth Atheneum; Hartford, Connecticut	New Britain Museum of American Art; New Britain, Connecticut	Wilbraham and Monson Academy; Wilbraham, Massachusetts	University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut
Elmira College; Elmira, New York	Brooklyn Museum; Brooklyn, NY	Westmoreland County Museum of Art; Greensburg, Pennsylvania	Gulf Coast Art Center, Belleair, Florida
Brockton Art Center, Fuller Memorial; Brockton, Massachusetts	Price, Waterhouse, Inc.; Hartford, Connecticut	Wondriska & Russo Associates; Farmington, Connecticut	Picker Art Gallery, Colgate University; Hamilton, New York
Ringling Museum of Art; Sarasota, Florida	Russell, Gibson, Von Dolen, Inc.; Farmington, Connecticut	The Woodlands, Texas	Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center; Naples, Florida
Fleming Museum, University of Vermont; Burlington, Vermont	Thiokol Corporation; Newtown, Pennsylvania	Philbrook Art Center; Tulsa, Oklahoma	Emerson Gallery, Hamilton College; Clinton, New York
First National Bank of Chicago; Chicago, Illinois	University Art Gallery, State University of New York; Albany, New York	Pfeizer, Inc.; New York	City of Fort Pierce; Fort Pierce, Florida
De Porceleyne Fles; Delft, Holland	Lynch Motors; Manchester, Connecticut	Pepperridge Farms, Inc.; New Haven, Connecticut	Office of Charles Moore; Owensboro, Kentucky
University of Connecticut; Storrs, Connecticut	Housatonic Museum of Art; Bridgeport, Connecticut	Olin Corporation; Cheshire, Connecticut	Frost Art Museum; Miami, Florida
Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts; Columbus, Ohio	Boca Raton Museum; Boca Raton, Florida	Manchester Community College; Manchester, Connecticut	Vero Beach Museum of Art; Vero Beach, Florida
University of Notre Dame; Notre Dame, Indiana	Museum of Fine Arts; Springfield, Indiana	Hartford Public Library; Hartford, Connecticut	
Michael Schiavone and Sons; New Haven, Connecticut			

CHECKLIST of EXHIBITION

Screen Sculptures

1
Screen Sculpture #11, 1977
Painted steel
76 × 108 × 27

2
Screen Sculpture #64, 1994
Painted steel
73 × 49 × 21

3
Screen Sculpture #83, 1997
Painted steel
73 × 58 × 34

4
Screen Sculpture #101, 2002
Painted steel
70 × 80 × 26

Polychrome Series

5
Caryatid, 1999
Painted steel
88½ × 49 × 57

6
Exodus, 2001
Painted steel
78 × 66 × 56

7
Rooster, 2002
Painted Steel
71 × 36 × 38

8
Group, 2003
Painted steel
63 × 75 × 45

Vertical Motifs

9
Vertical Motif #18, 1981
Painted steel
86 × 31 × 32

10
Vertical Motif #22, 1983
Painted steel
88 × 32 × 34

Totems

11
Totem, 2005
Painted steel
91 × 24 × 24

12
Totem, 2005
Painted steel
88 × 30 × 30

13
Totem, 2005
Painted steel
99 × 26 × 26

14
Totem, 2006
Painted steel
103 × 36 × 36

*Dimensions are recorded
in inches, height precedes
width precedes depth.*

*Works in this exhibition
are courtesy of the artist.*



VERO BEACH
MUSEUM
OF ART

