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NEWS

From: W. J. Greene

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AMERICAN SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

FOR U.S. PAVILION AT N.Y. WORLD'S FAIR

New York, April 20 -- An exhibition of contemporary American sculpture will be featured on the John F. Kennedy Plaza at the United States Pavilion, New York World's Fair, it was announced today by Norman K. Winston, U. S. Fair Commissioner.

Nineteen recent works by American artists have been chosen for the exhibition by Campbell Wyllly for the Department of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions of The Museum of Modern Art.

In selecting the exhibition, Commissioner Winston said, an effort was made to present an introduction to the variety and vitality of American sculpture by reflecting the current diversity of styles, materials and techniques.

The artists included in the exhibition are John Anderson, Leonard Baskin, Alexander Calder, John Chamberlain, Herbert Ferber, Joseph Goto, Dimitri Hadzi, Raoul Hague, Edward Higgins, Ellsworth Kelly, Alexander Liberman, Jacques Lipchitz, Seymour Lipton, Reuben Nakian, Louise Nevelson, Isamu Noguchi, Toshio Odate, Richard Stankiewicz and George Sugarman.

John Anderson is a 36-year old artist from the state of Washington. His sculpture, "Where am I going?" (1963) is one of four wood pieces in the show. He studied in Los Angeles and New York. Anderson works in mesquite wood, found only in the Southwest part of the United States and in Mexico. He is currently working there while on a leave of absence from Pratt Institute where he is an instructor.

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One of America's best known artists, Leonard Baskin was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey in 1922, studied at New York University and the School of Fine Arts at Yale University. In 1950 he attended the Academie de la Grande Chaumiere and later the Accademia di Belli Arti in Florence. For a number of years he has been an Associate Professor of Art at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, where he lives. He is represented by the wood sculpture, "Apotheosis" (1964).

"Pregnant Whale" (1963), a painted steel stabile, is the work of one of America's best known sculptors, Alexander Calder, whose work is in public and private collections in many parts of the world. Calder was born in Philadelphia in 1898; he now divides his time between Roxbury, Connecticut and France.

One of the young innovators in the exhibition is John Chamberlain, who works with welded auto metal. Born in Rochester, Indiana in 1927, Chamberlain studied architecture at the University of Illinois and later at Black Mountain College in North Carolina. He has had one-man shows in Chicago, Boston and New York and his work is owned by The Museum of Modern Art and the Albright-Knox Gallery in Buffalo. He is represented by the welded metal assemblage, "Wildroot" (1959).

The copper sculpture, "Caligraph K.C." (1963-64), is by Herbert Ferber, one of the originators of welded metal sculpture. A native New Yorker, Ferber's work was shown in the I Bienal in Sao Paulo (1951), the U.S. Pavilion at the Brussels World's Fair (1958), and the American exhibition in Moscow in 1959, and is included in many collections.

Joseph Goto, was born in Hilo, Hawaii in 1920 and now lives in Providence, Rhode Island, where he teaches at the Rhode Island School of Design. His steel sculpture, "Number I" was in London's Battersea Park exhibition last summer. In this country his work has been exhibited in Scottsdale, Arizona; Pittsburgh; University of Illinois; Louisville, Kentucky; Denver Art Museum; and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Dimitri Hadzi was born in New York in 1921, graduated from Brooklyn Technical High School and attended Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. He now lives in Rome. Hadzi is represented by the bronze, "Thermopylae II" (1961). He received a Fulbright Fellowship to study in Greece, and has won the Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, a Guggenheim Grant and an award from the National Academy of Arts and Letters. His work has been exhibited here and abroad.

Raoul Hague was born in Constantinople in 1905, the son of Armenian parents. At sixteen, travelling alone from his native Turkey, Hague came to the United States and enrolled at Iowa State College. He became a citizen in 1930; now lives in Woodstock, New York. His carved wood "Walnut-Mink Hollow" dates from 1960-61. His work is owned by The Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Born in Gaffney, South Carolina in 1930, Edward Higgins attended the University of North Carolina, lived for a time in Long Island City, and now lives in Easton, Pennsylvania. His untitled bronze sculpture was done last year. His work is owned by The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Chase Manhattan Bank.

Alexander Liberman, who is also well-known as a painter, photographer and art director of Condé Nast publications, is represented by an aluminum sculpture, "Orestes" (1964). Liberman was born in Russia in 1912, came to the United States in 1941 after studying and working for several years in Paris. He now lives in New York City where he had his first one-man show in 1960. His work has been exhibited at the Guggenheim Museum, the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D. C. and at The Museum of Modern Art.

The earliest work in the exhibition is "Song of the Vowels" by Jacques Lipchitz, one of the originators of Cubist sculpture. Originally cast in 1931-32, the work was intended for an edition of seven. The work included in this group is a new aluminum casting. Lipchitz was born in Lithuania, then part of Tsarist Russia, in 1891. He came to New York in 1940 and moved to Hastings-on-Hudson, New York in 1947 and has

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been an American citizen since 1958. His work has been exhibited in major museums in this country and Europe and is owned by The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The Museum of Modern Art, among others.

Seymour Lipton is a native New Yorker, born here in 1903. A self-taught sculptor, Lipton first started working in wood in the mid-thirties; ten years later he started using sheet steel and other metals. In 1950, he developed his present style brazing with an oxyacetalene torch. His brazed steel "Manuscript" dates from 1960. In 1957 he won the "Acquisition Prize" at the Sao Paulo Bienale and in 1958, his work was exhibited at the Venice Biennale.

The monumental, painted steel "Mars and Venus" (1959-60) is the work of Reuben Nakian, who was born in College Point, New York in 1897. Nakian was one of the two artists chosen for one-man shows at the 1961 Sao Paulo Bienale; that exhibition later was shown at the Los Angeles County Museum and the Washington Gallery of Modern Art. His sculpture is included in the collections of the Los Angeles County Museum, New York University, The Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Louise Nevelson was born in Kiev, Russia in 1900 and came to the United States at the age of five. She lived in Rockland, Maine until the late twenties when she moved to New York to study at the Art Students League. Her painted wood construction "Night Silhouette - New York," was completed earlier this year. She had her first one-man show in 1941 and since then has exhibited frequently in this country and abroad.

Isamu Noguchi, well-known artist, is an American, born in California in 1904, the son of the Japanese poet, Yone Noguchi, and the Scotch novelist, Leonie Gilmore. His early childhood was spent in Japan but he returned to the United States at the age of thirteen to attend school. He is represented by the bronze sculpture, "Cronos" (1962). He studied in New York, in Paris in the atelier of Brancusi, and in the Orient. He is also noted for his garden designs.

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Toshio Odate was born in Tokyo in 1930, and came to the United States in 1955. He now lives in New York. His wood sculpture, "King Solomon" was completed in 1962. His work is represented in the Rochester Museum of Art and the Bundy Art Gallery, Vermont.

Richard Stankiewicz was born in Philadelphia in 1922, moved to Detroit in 1929 and came to New York after the second World War to study with the famous teacher Hans Hofmann. His untitled sculpture of welded iron and steel dates from 1961. Stankiewicz is best known for his assemblages made from discarded materials. His work has been shown at the Whitney Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, the Art Institute of Chicago and at the Boston Fine Arts Festival.

George Sugarman, born in Manhattan in 1912, studied sculpture with Ossip Zadkine in Paris after World War II under the GI Bill. His work has been shown in Buffalo and Chicago and in 1961, he was awarded second prize for sculpture at the Pittsburgh International at the Carnegie Institute. Sugarman's untitled wood sculpture dates from 1958-59.

The works cover a wide range of individual styles and include such materials as bronze, copper, steel, wood, aluminum, welded metals and brazed steel. Though the Plaza is covered, the lack of control over temperature and humidity conditions precludes showing certain kinds of the wood and plastic constructions which have been important contributions by other contemporary American sculptors.

The Pavilion, designed by Charles Luckman, Associates, stands some twenty feet above the ground, resting on four large pylons thus creating an open Plaza beneath. The special setting has made it possible to select works of a monumental nature -- more than half are over seven feet high, the largest being a construction by Louise Nevelson which measures 15 feet.

René d'Harnoncourt, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, in his introduction to the exhibition, writes "Certainly one of the most striking phenomena in art since World War II has been the development of a 'new' sculpture in the United States as

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well as throughout the world. In recent years we have seen an extraordinary outburst of talent, which has developed new forms, new techniques and materials, and a widened range of expressive power." Thus, in selecting the works for this exhibition, an effort was made to include primarily new works, and, with the exception of the sculpture by Jacques Lipchitz, all of the pieces date from the last six years.

Included in this selection are the works of five foreign-born Americans: Raoul Hague, who came to this country from Turkey; Alexander Liberman, Louise Nevelson and Jacques Lipchitz, who were born in Russia; and one artist -- Toshio Odate, from Japan -- who is now in the process of becoming a United States citizen.

For additional information please contact Lynn Traiger, Assistant Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. CI 5-8900, or Bill Green, Public Relations Department, United States Commission to the New York World's Fair, 60 West 49 Street, LT 1-6610.