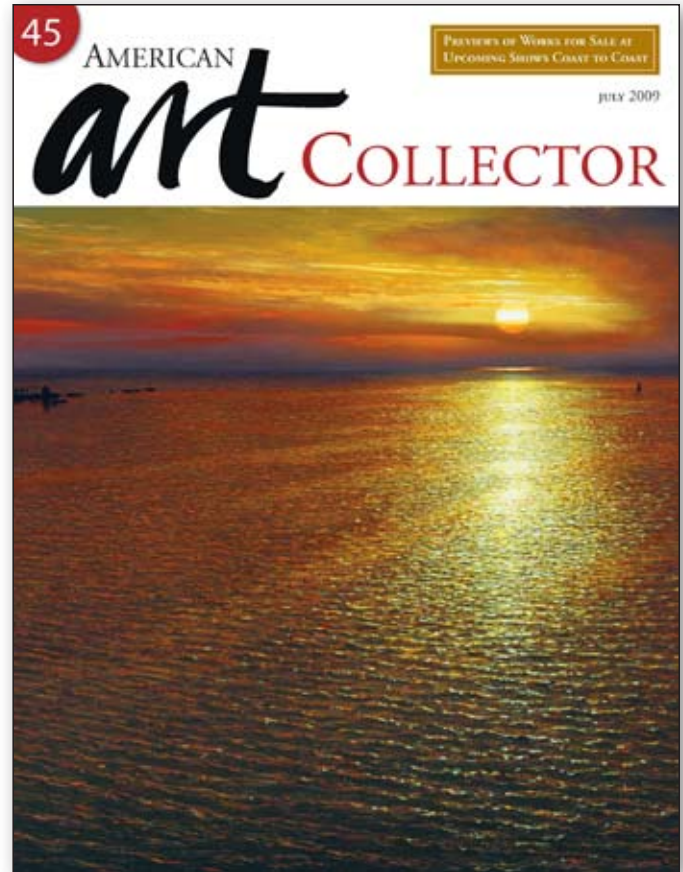


As seen in the
July 2009 issue of

 AMERICAN
art COLLECTOR



UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 10 works on show

July 1-31, 2009

LeQuire Gallery

4304 Charlotte Avenue

Nashville, TN 37209

(615) 298-4611

ALAN LEQUIRE

In dreams begin creativity

Alan LeQuire's *Dream Forest* is one of his most ambitious and innovative sculptural projects to date. And, as it dates back to recurring dreams he had as a child and through adolescence, it has been in the works the longest as well.

"I've talked about it so much that I ended up having to do it," says LeQuire. "I've always liked working on a colossal scale, and this is my latest colossal project. It's different in that it is my own idea. There is no client. These pieces are modeled directly in plaster but I hope some day to make them more permanent by casting them in bronze."

Dream Forest, when exhibited this month, will consist of nine 12-foot tall human torsos that stretch above the gallery floor like trees. Viewers will walk among the structures, somewhat replicating feelings that LeQuire remembers from a childhood dream that have proven to be quite significant to both his personal and artistic growth. The exhibit will also include 8-foot tall woodblock prints for the wall with textures that relate to the sculptural pieces.

"I wrote a narrative on this one dream because it is so important to me," says LeQuire. "When I had the dream as a child, they were very frightening and

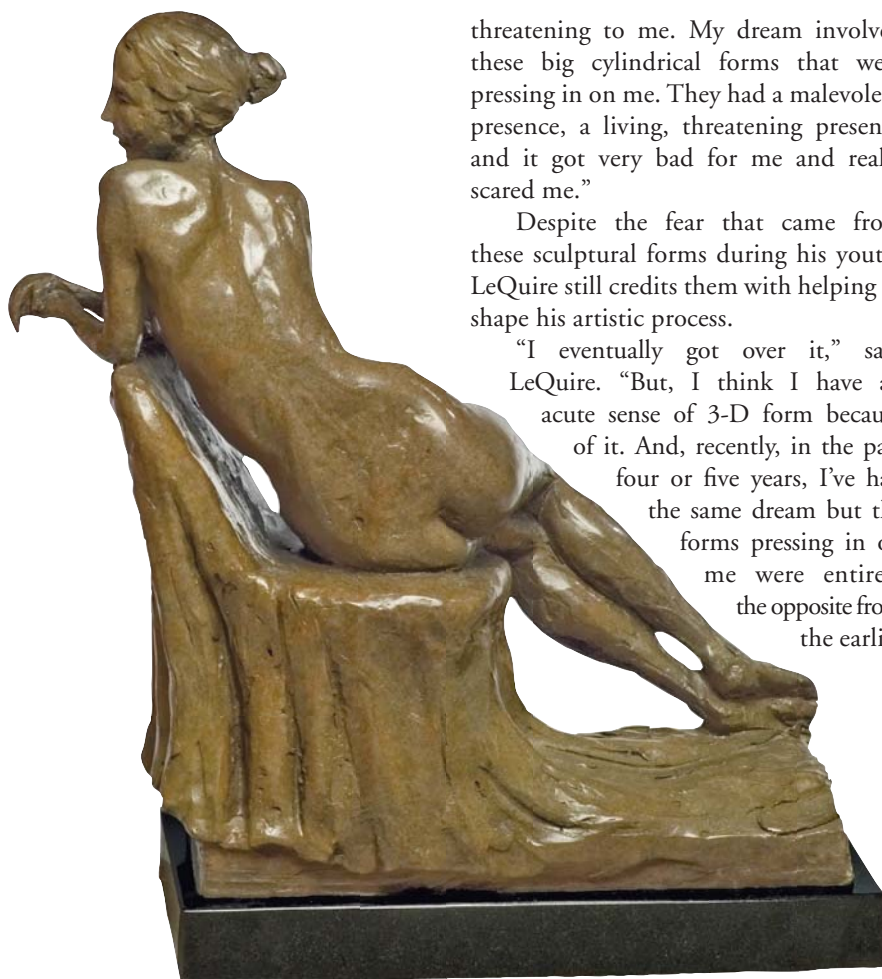


DREAM FOREST WILL CONSIST OF NINE ELONGATED, INTERPRETIVE HUMAN TORSOS, ASSEMBLED TOGETHER ON A COLOSSAL SCALE, WITH TREE-LIKE STATURE.





MUSICA, BRONZE, 40', GROUP OF NINE FIGURES, IS ONE OF THE LARGEST BRONZE FIGURE GROUPS IN THE WORLD.



threatening to me. My dream involved these big cylindrical forms that were pressing in on me. They had a malevolent presence, a living, threatening presence and it got very bad for me and really scared me.”

Despite the fear that came from these sculptural forms during his youth, LeQuire still credits them with helping to shape his artistic process.

“I eventually got over it,” says LeQuire. “But, I think I have an acute sense of 3-D form because of it. And, recently, in the past four or five years, I’ve had the same dream but the forms pressing in on me were entirely the opposite from the earlier

dreams. They were welcoming, nurturing spirits, each with a personality, but they were wishing me well and not wishing me ill.”

LeQuire grew up on a farm just south of Nashville, and, during his childhood, he became friends with Madison Smartt Bell, now a celebrated novelist. For this exhibit, Bell’s interest in dreams helped motivate LeQuire to create *Dream Forest*.

“Over his career, he has kept a dream notebook, and I had told him once that I would like to read some of his dreams,” says LeQuire. “So he sent me 40 pages of dream narrative that was just from one summer. He edited the one I sent him and I edited some of his, and he combined these to create a more poetic and condensed text of the dreams.”

This text will also appear in the exhibit. The text will be used in part to create texture on the sides of the sculptures and the words will follow the forms up the sides of each of the pieces.

“My primary focus from the beginning has always been on form, using form as a language to communicate

DELANEY, BRONZE, ED. OF 12, 13 X 12 X 6”



LITTLE BARBARA,
BRONZE, ED. OF 12, 20 X 7 X 5"



STUDIO PHOTOS BY DEAN DIXON

WITH LEQUIRE'S FINISHED PIECE, VIEWERS WILL WALK AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTED, 12-FOOT TALL HUMAN TORSOS AS IF THEY ARE IN A DREAM FOREST.

The Gallery Says . . .

"Alan LeQuire's work leaves an enduring impression. He is best known for his colossal public sculptures and his portraits, but even his small figures are captivating—drawing you into the mood and the living presence of the model. I am especially impressed with the unusual surface textures of Alan's sculptures, which, for me, create further intrigue."

— Elizabeth Cave, Director, LeQuire Gallery

feeling," says LeQuire. "This is a further exploration of form, blending human and vegetal form with the deep emotion that comes from my personal dreamscape."

While the work draws from deep emotional and psychological issues from LeQuire's life, the piece is also meant to relate to nature as a whole and man's

connection to it. There are important issues in this piece that come from LeQuire's ideas about the environment.

"I feel lucky to have grown up on a farm and to have had all the experiences I've had outside and in the woods," says LeQuire. "This work is about my dreamscape, but it's also about the

landscape. It's an ode to the disappearing forest ecosystem. These sculptures are like old growth trees in that they welcome and support us with a living presence." ●

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