

NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD

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TOUCH THE SKY

BY JANE DEDECKER & THE NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD

Bronze ed/17 ©1997 [edition sold out]

Scale: 9ft high, 5ft wide, 5ft deep

Site Location: William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center Entry

Commissioned by: the city of Little Rock, AR

Date commissioned: May 2004

Date installed/dedicated: November 14, 2004

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One of six sculptures placed by the National Sculptors' Guild as a portion of the Formal Pedestrian Walk from the River Market Shops to the Presidential Center. Numerous individual concepts by 14 NSG members were presented by NSG Executive Director, John W. Kinkade. Kinkade chose to pull key elements from President Clinton's speech "Bridge to the 21st Century" to organize the progression to the library. The Little Rock committee chose the final six. The artwork speaks to Arkansas' quality of life and thematic subject matter derived from President Clinton's speech to include diversity, the environment, education and the connectedness of the individual, the nation and the world. "Touch the Sky" complements President Clinton's ideals of family, cultural diversity and looking to the future. Three of the six sculptures placed were by DeDecker. The city of Little Rock has continued to work with NSG in placing 10 additional artworks as of 2008.



ABOUT THE ARTIST: 'Part of Jane's artistic genius is her ability to select a moment with which all of us can relate to in our lives. These recognizable moments skip over generations, each generation finding recognition with it. The scene is timeless in the human experience and each takes us to that moment causing us to reflect and evaluate the importance of love, relationship and achievement. Her surfaces bespeak her passion, integrity and honesty. Her practiced and studied craftsmanship coupled with her dedicated respect for others achieves the balance, which makes a hard metal come alive with spirit and soul. This is why her collectors never tire of her work. These are the reasons her peers recognize her as being at the forefront of this century's contemporary sculptors.' - John Kinkade, NSG

"I try to retain in the sculpture the beginning strokes and gestures, because for me they contain the truth of the spirit. The finished piece hopefully reveals my thoughtful study of the subject and the energy of the creative process."

Other placements: The William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center, Little Rock, AR; the Audubon Institute, New Orleans, LA; American Stores Properties, INC., Salt Lake City, UT; Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; Metro Phoenix Area, AZ; and the Cities of Glendale, AZ; Oxnard, CA; Prescott, AZ; Cerritos, CA; Ames, IA; Lakewood, CO; Loveland, CO

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCULPTORS' GUILD: Representing some of the most renowned sculpture artists in the nation, the Guild artists work as a team under the leadership of executive director John W. Kinkade. Our organization works closely with cities, municipalities, corporations and private institutions across the country to successfully enhance both indoor and outdoor venues with creative design and innovative artwork. The NSG design teams have enhanced public spaces in a timely fashion within budgets ranging from \$25,000 to \$2.8 million. When appropriate, the design team grows to include architects, landscape architects, structural engineers, designers and contractors from around the nation. Dependent on the nature of each project, the NSG draws upon this knowledgeable group of professionals with proven accountability in past projects.



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