



News

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South Dakota Art Museum selected to receive gift sculpture

BROOKINGS, S.D. — South Dakota Art Museum is one of a select group of organizations chosen to receive a gift from New York art collectors Dorothy and Herbert Vogel.

The art piece is part of a national gifts program entitled “The Dorothy and Herbert Vogel Collection: Fifty Works for Fifty States.”

Gifted works from the Vogels' collection of contemporary art will be distributed throughout the nation with works going to a selected art institution in each of the 50 states.

“We are honored to be chosen as part of this program,” said Lynn Verschoor, director of the art museum. “The Vogels are very generous to share a piece of their collection with us.”

The artist whose work is being donated to the SDAM is Steve Keister, an American sculptor born in 1949 who annually visits archeological sites in Mexico and Central America to influence his work through links to Olmec, Maya and Toltec sculpture.

The SDAM gifted work, “Untitled,” created in 1992, renders a mask made of multiple types of wire, including galvanized wire mesh with metal fasteners.

Art critic Joe Fyfe calls Keister’s work a pursuit of “rhyming forms that link our culture and an ancient, adjacent one” in deeper more contemplative ways.

The best-known aspects of the Vogel Collection includes minimal and conceptual art, but these donations also explore works more figurative and expressionistic in nature.

Since 1991, the National Gallery of Art worked closely with Dorothy and Herbert Vogel to acquire a portion of their collection through partial purchase and gift.

After forming the association with the National Gallery, the Vogels collection continued to grow to include some 4,000 works, far more than can appropriately be placed in a single institution.

Works from the collection have appeared in numerous exhibitions throughout the world, including two major exhibitions organized by the National Gallery that included pieces selected solely from the Gallery's collection.

Distribution help for "Fifty Works for Fifty States" also came from the National Gallery of Art, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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Photo: The South Dakota Art Museum will receive this mask created by sculptor Steve Keister as a gift from Dorothy and Herbert Vogel in the couple's effort to bring modern art to select institutions around the country.

