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# LEONARD BASKIN

IN MASSACHUSETTS



MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
SPRINGFIELD

23 NOVEMBER 1974 - 5 JANUARY 1975

SUPPORTED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCILON ARTS AND HUMANITIES

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"Leonard Baskin in Massachusetts"

produced by

Museum of Fine Arts

executive producercinematographer

Scott Kurnit

cover illustration

Saint Anthony of Padua

Twenty-two years. One generation. Within his life, a lifetime of days spent in Massachusetts. During these days the works that Leonard Baskin carved, cast and drew into life have had an impact not only on the student and artistic communities of this area, but on the national and international art scene as well. In drawing together the exhibition "Leonard Baskin in Massachusetts," it was conceived as a regional retrospective for an artist whose dimensions exceed geographic lines, yet whose generosity and personal influence are still very much felt by persons who live and work within miles of his former home in Northampton.

Here was where we began building the collection, with people in the area who worked with Baskin, and lived with his works in their homes, galleries, and colleges. Several of these persons have graciously added their personal

comments to the video tape produced in coordination with the exhibit. My special thanks to Armando Balboni, Harold Hugo, Sidney Kaplan, Harold McGrath, Lee Sheridan, and to Producer-Cinematographer Scott Kurnit. My great appreciation is also extended to Henry Ramsey, whose contribution of film footage bringing us Leonard

Baskin at work in his studio, has added a personal dimension to this tribute.

Perhaps the most unexpected result of the search in collecting the various pieces of this exhibit was not only revealing the rich abundance of Baskin's work in Western Massachusetts. but more than that, suggesting the overwhelming diversity and virtuosity of the total work. These were intensely productive years. During this time, Baskin, the humanist, found inspiration for his images in the histories of art and literature. Woodcuts, lithographs, etchings, and Gehenna Press books exhibit his compassion for the human condition. Also as a sculptor, he carved life from stone and wood, casting bronze images of not the ideal man, but everyman - battered and exploited, victim and predator, yet resilient in his total struggle.

"Leonard Baskin in Massachusetts" is partially supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities.

My thanks are extended to both volunteers and to the many staff members involved in this endeavor; but my deepest appreciation goes to our gracious and generous lenders, without whose enthusiasm this tribute would not have been possible.

JEFFREY R. BROWN
Director

Anonymous Fred S. Baehr Armando Balboni Jack Bessel Lawrence H. Bloedel Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas D. Bonadies Mr. and Mrs. William Burrows Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Cohen Mr. and Mrs. William Davison Mr. and Mrs. Samuel N. Freedman Harold Hugo Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kamberg Emma and Sidney Kaplan Scott Kurnit Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lachman Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Lee



Mr. and Mrs. Harold McGrath Dr. and Mrs. Irving Meyer Francis Murphy Midge and Henry Ramsey Lee Sheridan Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith Mr. and Mrs. John W. Shute Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Throne Mr. and Mrs. Lester Wernick August Woicekoski Mrs. Lewis G. Woodbury Dr. and Mrs. Elton Yasuna Brockton Art Center, Fuller Memorial DeCordova and Dana Museum and Park The Gehenna Press William H. Lane Foundation Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, Museum of Art Rose Art Museum. Brandeis University Smith College Museum of Art University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College Worcester Art Museum



Measurements of sculpture are in inches, height preceding width and depth. Each work in this exhibition has been lent by the indicated owner. Asterisk designates works illustrated in the catalogue.

#### WOODCUTS

AGONIZED, 1969 John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College

AMOS, 1964 Mr. and Mrs. Lester Wernick

THE ANATOMIST, 1952 Anonymous

ANGEL OF DEATH, 1959 Gift of the artist, University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

CHILDREN AND STILL LIFE, 1956 Mr. and Mrs. William Burrows

JOSEPH CONRAD, 1966 Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kamberg

DEAD SAINT, c. 1964 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

DEIRDRE OF THE SORROWS, 1964 Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Throne

EAKINS Anonymous

EAKINS Gehenna Press

THOMAS EAKINS, 1965 Harold Hugo

EVERYMAN, 1960 Mr. and Mrs. John W. Shute

THE FOUR MYSTICS, 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith FRIGHTENED BOY AND HIS DOG, 1954 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Cohen

THE GREAT BIRDMAN Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

\*THE HANGED MAN, 1955 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

THE HUMANIST, 1952 John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College

THE HYDROGEN MAN, 1954 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

ICARUS, 1967 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

LIVE POULTRY, 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

MACDIARMID BROADSIDE, 1967 drawn by Leonard Baskin, cut by Takahara Emma and Sidney Kaplan

MAN OF PEACE, 1952 Anonymous

MANTEGNA AT EREMITANI, 1952 John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College

POMEGRANATE, 1966 Anonymous

ROMEYN DE HOOGHE Jack Bessel

SACRIFICE OF ISAAC, 1961 Dr. and Mrs. Irving Meyer

SATURN, 1970 Mr. and Mrs. Harold McGrath

SELF-PORTRAIT AET 29, 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lachman SELF-PORTRAIT AET 42, 1962 Harold Hugo

SON CARRYING FATHER, 1951 Gift of Henry Rox Estate, John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College

SORROWING AND TERRIFIED MAN, 1955 Mr. and Mrs. Harold McGrath

THE STRABISMIC JEW, 1955 Fred S. Baehr

THISTLE Mr. and Mrs. Harold McGrath

TORMENT, 1958 Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lachman

UNTITLED Mrs. Lewis G. Woodbury

#### WOOD ENGRAVINGS

BEATITUDES, 1955 painted by Ben Shahn, engraved by Leonard Baskin Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Cohen Armando Balboni (without color)

BIRDMAN, 1962 Mr. and Mrs. Lester Wernick

DEATH AMONG THE THISTLES, 1959 Mr. and Mrs. John W. Shute

DEATH OF THE LAUREAT, 1957 Armando Balboni

Illustrations from the TUNNING OF ELYNOUR RUMMYNGE, 1953 Mr. and Mrs. William Davison Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

MAN WITH FORSYTHIA, 1953 with blind intaglio Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith TWO BLIND MEN, 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kamberg

VIEW IN WORCESTER, 1953 Anonymous

#### ETCHINGS

BARLACH, 1962 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

BIRDMAN, 1968 Midge and Henry Ramsey

HERCULES SEGHERS John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College

NICOLAS HILLIARD PREPARING TO PAINT THE QUEEN, 1970 Midge and Henry Ramsey

PIG, 1969 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

PROPHET JEREMIAH Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lachman

PROPHETIC MAN/PROPHETIC IMAGE, c. 1968 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

REMBRANDT, 1963 Midge and Henry Ramsey

SPIDERWORT, 1970 Midge and Henry Ramsey

UNTITLED, 1961 Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Throne

UNTITLED, 1970 Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Throne

### LINOLEUM

GRIEVING WOMAN, c. 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith ROOSTER, 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kamberg

#### LITHOGRAPHS

AENEAS Scott Kurnit

CROW SCOUT, 1974 Midge and Henry Ramsey

\*THE STAGE/WEST PRINT (HAMLET), 1970 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel N. Freedman

QUANAH-PARKER, 1974 Midge and Henry Ramsey

RODIN, 1963 Anonymous

YELLOW MAGPIE, 1973 Lee Sheridan

## DRAWINGS

ANGEL, 1972 August Woicekoski

BIRD CREATURE, 1972 August Woicekoski

BIRD TALKING, 1960 Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Lee

CENTURION, 1964 Anonymous

CHASSIDIC FIGURE Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

CROW DeCordova and Dana Museum and Park

THE CRY, 1960 Brockton Art Center, Fuller Memorial THE DEATH OF GALBA PETRONIUS, 1964. William H. Lane Foundation

DUTCH ARTIST, 1964 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

EAGLE, 1966 Gift of George Abraham and Gilbert May, University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

IMAGINARY ARTIST, 1966 Gift of George Abraham and Gilbert May, University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

LETTER TO HAROLD HUGO, 1962 Harold Hugo

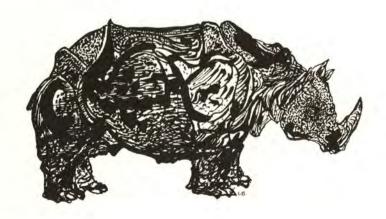
MAN WITH HAT, 1972 August Woicekoski

MAN IN PROFILE, 1972 August Woicekoski

FANTASY PORTRAIT, 1972 August Woicekoski

MARAT, 1958 Smith College Museum of Art

\*MICHAEL'S BOOKPLATE, 1961 Anonymous



PORTRAIT OF HAMAN, 1955 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Cohen

RENAISSANCE ARTIST, 1965 Gift of George Abraham and Gilbert May University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

SHERIFF, 1965 University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

SKETCHES FOR BETSY, 1955 Anonymous

STANDING MALE NUDE, 1963 Dr. and Mrs. Elton Yasuna

STUDY FOR CROSS-EYED JEW, II Worcester Art Museum

STUDY FOR JOB, 1962 University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

THREE HEADS Given by Mrs. Walter A. Robb (Anne Bell '57), June 1972, Smith College Museum of Art

THREE MEN, 1959 Dr. and Mrs. Elton Yasuna

\*TOBIAS AND THE ANGEL, 1957 Anonymous

TWO FIGURES, 1953 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

UNKNOWN POET, 1966 Gift of George Abraham and Gilbert May, University Art Collection, University of Massachusetts

UNTITLED WATERCOLOR, 1970 Armando Balboni

UNTITLED, 1974 Midge and Henry Ramsey VELASQUEZ, 1962 William H. Lane Foundation

WEEPING MAN, 1956 Worcester Art Museum

#### WOOD

STANDING CROW, 1960 pine, 46¾ x 17¼ x 15¾ Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Lee Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University

EAGLE
oak, 19 x 10 x 12
University Art Collection
University of Massachusetts

GRIEVING ANGEL, 1958 black walnut, 761/4 Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute Museum of Art

PORTRAIT OF YOUTH cherry, 60 x 17 x 8 Anonymous

\*ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA, 1970 cherry, 21 x 10 x 10½ Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas D. Bonadies

# BRONZE

\*\*BARLACH 7 x 5 x 6¾ Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

\*\*WILLIAM BLAKE, 1955 7½ x 5½ x 7 Anonymous

DEAD BIRD 24½ x 8 University Art Collection University of Massachusetts DEAD MAN, 1956 (b) 26½ Emma and Sidney Kaplan

DEAD MAN, 1956 31 Gift of Dr. Allan Roos and Mrs. B. Mathieu Roos Worcester Art Museum

JOHN DONNE IN HIS WINDING CLOTH, 1955 21 Emma and Sidney Kaplan

HANGED MAN, 1956 7½ x 2½ x 1¼ Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

HEAD OF DEAD MAN, 1967 (a) 4 x 4 Francis Murphy

MOURNING WOMAN Armando Balboni

ONE LEGGED MAN 9½ x 3½ x 2½ Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

OWL AND POMEGRANATE 6½ x 4 x 5 Harold Hugo

POET LAUREAT, 1956 9 x 12½ x 7 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

SEATED FAT MAN, 1956  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 10$  Anonymous

# BRONZE RELIEFS

ANDROMACHE, 1969 6½ diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes APOLLO, 1969 6½ diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

ATHENAS SHIELD, 1969 6½ diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

OVAL BIRDMAN, 1962 13¾ x 8½ Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Baskin Smith College Museum of Art

CERBERUS, 1969 6½ diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

DEAD CROW, 1961 19 x 40 Lawrence H. Bloedel

# GUTENBERG GROLIER COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

3 diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

HOMAGE TO GUSTAV MAHLER, 1959 21 x 11 Anonymous

HOMAGE TO THE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, 1959 12-15/16 x 111/4

Smith College Museum of Art

ICARUS, 1969 6½ diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

IN MEMORY OF LEWIS BLACK, 1959
81/4 x 171/4
Given by Mrs. Henry T. Curtiss (Mina Kirstein '18)
in memory of Henry T. Curtiss
Smith College Museum of Art

MINOTAUR, 1969 6½ diameter Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes MOTH AND CRAB, 1959 5½ x 3½ Mr. and Mrs. Lester Wernick

HAROLD HUGO, PRINTER, 1970 23 x 14½ Harold Hugo

THE SUN
6 x 5½
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

THISTLE, 1959
9½ x 9
DeCordova and Dana Museum and Park

TO COMMEMORATE THE RESTORATION OF THE HOUSE AND STUDIO OF THOMAS EAKINS, 1972
2½ diameter
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel N. Freedman

#### PLASTER

ARMANDO BALBONI, SCULPTOR, 1972 relief, 21 x 16 Armando Balboni

LAZARUS, before 1960 29½ Emma and Sidney Kaplan

THISTLE, 1955 relief, 8 diameter Harold Hugo

# GEHENNA PRESS BOOKS

AUGURIES OF INNOCENCE BY WILLIAM BLAKE, 1968 facsimile printed by The Meriden Gravure Company Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

BRESDIN TO REDON, 1969 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel N. Freedman CANCELLERESCA BASTARDA, 1965 Harold Hugo

CAPRICES AND GROTESQUES, 1965 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

CASTLE STREET DOGS, 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

CONRAD'S MANIFESTO: PREFACE TO A CAREER, 1966 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

FLOSCULI SENTENTIARUM, 1967 Harold Hugo

FOUR PORTRAIT BUSTS BY FRANCESCO LAURANA, 1962 Harold Hugo

HORNED BEETLES AND OTHER INSECTS, 1958 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith

A LETTER FROM WILLIAM BLAKE, 1964 Harold Hugo

SAMUEL SEWALL: THE SELLING OF JOSEPH, 1968 Harold Hugo

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: TITUS ANDRONICUS, 1970 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

TERMINALIA, 1972 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hughes

Original wood blocks, linoleum blocks, line cuts, bookplates, selected proof impressions and Gehenna Press ephemerae Gehenna Press
Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kamberg
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith
John and Noah Warbeke Gallery, Mount Holyoke College



