



FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park

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FIRST RETROSPECTIVE OF JIM DINE'S SCULPTURE OPENS AT FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK IN JANUARY

Pop Art master Jim Dine will show his prolific, yet less well-known, sculptural efforts in the first-ever sculpture retrospective. This exclusive exhibition, opening January 28, traces the origins of his three-dimensional efforts from rarely seen work of the late 1950s and early 1960s through his most current work.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., — January 13, 2011 — Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park is the exclusive venue for the first retrospective of sculptural works by Pop Art master Jim Dine. As one of the most revered American artists, Dine has been a major force across the contemporary scene since the advent of the Pop Art movement. Celebrated for his paintings and graphic work, Dine's equally prolific and profound efforts as a sculptor are less well-known. ***Jim Dine: Sculpture*** will be on display January 28 through May 8, 2011.

The exhibition traces the origins of Dine's sculpture from the early work of the late 1950s and the early 1960s through his most recently completed efforts. Many of Dine's iconic themes are explored including his use of tool and tool imagery, the Venus figure and the heart motif. Most recent is his exploration of the Pinocchio theme.

"Dine has a vast creativity and willingness to turn to a variety of images, many derived from found objects and popular or consumer culture," said Joseph Becherer, Vice President and Chief Curator of Sculpture. "His sensitivity for textures and surfaces coupled with his mastery of materials allows him to create works in a range of materials from cloth to bronze, straw to wood."

With more than 20 works, it is Dine's largest sculpture exhibition to date. It will encompass all three of Meijer Gardens' gallery spaces as well as non-traditional exhibition spaces. *The Technicolor Heart (The Big One)*, a 12-foot painted bronze heart will be displayed on the adjoining Keeler Sculpture Terrace. *Venus in Five Colors*, five-foot bronze female figures in a variety of hues, will be installed in the five-story Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory. Visitors can experience the depth and breadth of the artist's efforts by also visiting *The Thunder*, part of the organization's permanent collection, on display in the Sculpture Park.

"Dine is one of the most important artists in our collection and we're proud to host this complete and breathtaking survey of his sculpture," said Becherer. "He has the ability to create a body of iconic imagery. While frequently personal in initial inspiration and use, his work speaks to a broad and diverse audience."

Jim Dine: Sculpture has been organized in cooperation with the artist, the Pace Gallery, New York and Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago. This exhibition is sponsored the Meijer Foundation and the Botanic and Sculpture Societies of Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

Jim Dine will speak at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park on April 14 at 7 PM as part of the 2011 Midwest Art History Society Conference. The event is open to Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park members and conference attendees.

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Images available upon request. [View thumbnails](#)

About Jim Dine

A native of Cincinnati, Dine studied at the Boston Museum school before attending Ohio University. In 1959 he lived in New York and immersed himself in the downtown scene – both the art world and the realities of the street. In the 1960s he garnered initial international attention as a leading figure in the Pop Art movement. In the ensuing years, his reputation solidified and increased as he translated numerous themes into visual icons that both appealed to and helped define contemporary culture. His imagery and innovative techniques earned a worldwide reputation. Dine’s work is featured in museum and private collections across the United States, Europe and Asia. He has been the subject of many exhibitions at prestigious museums including the Guggenheim, the National Gallery of Art, and the Gerry. The exhibition at Meijer Gardens is the premier survey of his sculpture.

About Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

One of the world’s most significant botanic and sculpture experiences, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park serves more than a half-million visitors annually. Meijer Gardens was recently ranked in the top 100 most-visited art museums worldwide by *Art Newspaper*, the leading publication in global art news. The 132-acre grounds feature Michigan’s largest tropical conservatory; one of the largest children’s gardens in the country; arid and Victorian gardens with bronze sculptures by Degas and Rodin; a carnivorous plant house; outdoor gardens; and a 1900-seat outdoor amphitheater, featuring an eclectic mix of world-renowned musicians every summer. The internationally acclaimed Sculpture Park features a permanent collection including works by Rodin, Oldenburg, Moore, Bourgeois and Plensa, among others. Indoor galleries host changing sculpture exhibitions with recent exhibitions by Picasso, Degas, di Suvero, Borofsky, Calder and Chadwick.

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