Expressive Form in Cast Sculpture

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THE EXPRESSION OF FORM IN CAST SCULPTURE

being

An Abstract Presented to the Graduate Faculty of the Fort Hays Kansas State College in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Art Education

by

William James Leach, B. A.

Fort Hays Kansas State College

Date 7-31-63

Approved

Major Professor

Approved

Chairman, Graduate Council
THE EXPRESSION OF FORM IN CAST SCULPTURE

The problem was the technical relation of form to casting of sculpture. The media used were colored plaster and concrete.

The artist discovered the importance of relating the aesthetic qualities of design to the limitations of the media and the technical skill processes.

An Abstract

Presented to

Dr. Joel Moss

and the Faculty of the Graduate School

Fort Hays Kansas State College

In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

Master of Science in Art

by

William J. Leach

July, 1963
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The problem was the technical relation to form in casting of sculpture. The media used were colored plaster and concrete.

The artist discovered the importance of relating the aesthetic qualities of design to the limitations of the media and the technical processes.

The quality of the final sculpture depended greatly upon the care that was taken in the final construction of the molds.

The adding of color to the plaster media helped to enliven the final cast, but due to the chemical content of the color additive, the plaster would weaken if more than five percent were used.

The artist also found that the plaster would cure to a harder consistency if he used very cold water when mixing the plaster. After the cast was thoroughly dry, wax was used in order to add a luster to the piece as well as increasing the quality of the color.

When using concrete the artist first used the direct plaster method of constructing the figure. It was found that the surface texture of the direct plaster was aesthetically suitable for concrete as the media for the final cast. Marble and limestone chips were used as a color agent in the concrete pieces. A gelatine mold was used for the first concrete piece, Discovery. The second reclining figure, Disconsolate, was cast in white Portland cement with sand and hand crushed limestone as an aggregate.

Latex rubber was used for the mold and proved very satisfactory as a molding media. All the concrete pieces were taken from the mold.
twenty-four hours after casting, then allowed to cure in wet wrappings for fourteen days.

The artist feels that he has only begun the process of aesthetic expression in his sculpture, and believes that working with the plaster to concrete method of casting, is for him a most suitable means of self-expression. The artist hopes that he may continue to explore other media and methods of expression in sculpture.
"LLOYD"

18" high.
Colored plaster.
"FAYE"

18" high.
Colored plaster
"DISCOVERY"

26" high.

Concrete.
"DISCONSOLATE"

Reclining figure 36" long.
"DISCONSOLATE"

Detail.
"STANDING FIGURE"

36" high.

Plaster
"EVE AND ADAM"

12" high.

Colored plaster.