



SCULPTURE GARDEN SERIES LES BRUNING

MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA ART

2401 Central Ave. • Kearney, NE 68847 • (308) 865-8559 • mona.unk.edu
Hours: Tue-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun 12-5 p.m., closed Mon & major holidays

Image: *Duet*, galvanized steel, LED lights, 2017, Collection of the Artist



May 17 – October 6, 2019

SCULPTURE GARDEN SERIES LES BRUNING

The 2019 featured artist for MONA's Sculpture Garden Series is Les Bruning, a nationally recognized sculptor who works in metal casting and welding. The focus for this exhibition is his large, totemic works, some that emit sound as well as light. Based in Omaha, Bruning's career spans over 40 years.

1. Duet

galvanized steel, LED lights, 2017, Collection of the Artist

Duet features two cut-out faces in perforated steel that face each other. In between is a voice bubble that reads "Duet." On each side are strings of LEDs programmed to change colors. The patterns always begin at the mouth of each face. At the same time, a voice track with a man's voice and a woman's voice sing notes. The voices are of a controlled volume so that the viewer needs to be within 10 feet of the sculpture to hear them.



2. Dreams of Extinction

galvanized steel, 2011, Collection of the Artist

This sculpture features a hostile face filled with fragments of the artist's name. Inside the head is a swimming man – a symbol of man in harmony with nature; and a pallid sturgeon – an endangered species in the Missouri River. Man is responsible for the survival of all species including himself.

3. Yellow Trap

galvanized steel, 2011

Humans co-exist with all the other creatures of the world. A frequent icon that the artist uses is the swimming figure that represents man in harmony with his environment. The pallid sturgeon in the trap is on the endangered species list in several states.

4. Blue Totem

galvanized steel, 2017

This sculpture is a totem of heads being both physically positive and physically negative in the use of space. It is meant to be viewed from both the exterior and the interior.



5. More Love With Face

galvanized steel, 2015

The words "More Love" became a structural envelope with a somewhat large confrontational face. The viewer must search in order to read the message.