

Space inspires "Water Series"

By Kathryn H. Bogle

Created by Charles Tatum, Portland wood sculptor, the "Water Series" look like "something from outer space" as indeed the artist meant they should for they were born out of his interest in the "exploration of space and the first sightings of U.F.O." from other planets a few years ago.

"Space people (scientists) of Planet Earth," says Tatum, "were sending out space vehicles and rockets in all sizes and shapes, some were manned, others were not. "Star Trek" and "Star Wars," the popular movies, were part of the imaginative flow of the times.

"Going back to the Dogans," Tatum continued, "a cave-living people of Western Africa whose origin we do not know, we feel that space invasion were a part of their history. The Dogans were carvers of wood and they were different from ourselves. We stand apart in the present as "Watchers" to look at them.

"In this age it is difficult to tell where they UFOs come from and whether 'they' were watching us, or whether we were watching 'them!'" Tatum mused.

The artist made the first of the planned 12-piece series of "The Watchers" in 1974, using maple and poplar wood and some metal for most of them in the tradition of many ancient African artworks. With each piece measuring approximately two feet in height, the collection makes a sizable grouping.

Poetry, inspired by "The Watchers" has been written by a Black poet of Portland in appreciation of Tatum's concept of these space beings.

Ancil Nance, well known photographer, intrigued by "The Watchers," has made photographs of the entire collection.



"The Watchers," wood and metal sculpture series by Charles Tatum.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

A musician, of renown in the community, is expected to soon release a new composition, interpreting musically his, and the artists thoughts about "The Watchers."

Tatum expresses his pleasure and satisfaction with the response he has

had from other artists and now he has reached the point where I want to court the opinion of the public, especially the Black public, as to the cultural worth and value of these pieces."

What do you think?

By Paul McCoy

Q. How do you feel about being Black and living in Portland?

A. Sam Ezell - Telephone Co. Worker/student.

It's a strange feeling living here. You hear Blacks talk about all the prejudice, but I think most Blacks use it as a crutch. Most of my friends have never tried to better themselves and it seem they try to hold me down. Brothers here in Portland get into everything negative and don't try to do anything positive for themselves.

A. Synetta Morris - Worker - Federal Reserve Bank.

I feel Blacks in Portland are at a standstill. The Blacks here are pacified. They (the power structure) let Blacks go just so far, enough to keep us quiet. One or two of us are let by to make it look like we are achieving. This is only for a few and only window dressing. I'm from the south where it's different.

A. William Fay - Law enforcement Trainee.

It's comfortable here. I'm from Texas and have been here about six years. The attitude is much more relaxed and I feel much more accepted in Portland. I can't say anything about the future.

A. Benita Miric - Key punch operator U.S. Bank.

I feel discriminated against everyday. Not like in slavery days when they could do you anything they wanted to out front, but nowadays they camouflage it. We Black people in Portland have got to come together. We need to get some things going here for us to enjoy. There must be more positive interaction between Black people with

Black people.

A. Baba - Casual laborer.

Portland is a good city, it's the people here that aren't right. Portland is a place with potential for Black people to grow, but Blacks like everywhere else have some problems to overcome. One problem is our lack of communication. We don't have enough input into the media. There is a lack of Black leaders for us to identify with. There are not enough visible Black role models for our children to identify to build a positive image of themselves. All the potential is here and I can see that brothers and sisters are ready and waiting but not willing to go out and work for it. This is a problem.

A. William Singelton - Retired ship mechanic.

I feel good about being a Black man in Portland. I have to be a man anywhere I go. Portland is just as good as any city. I am from Louisiana where there is a lot of racism. I've been out here for about thirty years. And have never felt misused. Black people in Portland can get anything they want as long as they conduct and carry themselves in a rightful manner. I have no complaints about Portland.

Don Rollins - Cook - Downtown.

Its great. I have felt prejudice and discrimination here but not like where I come from, Washington, D.C. Portland has a lot of friendly people both Black and white. I try to get along with all people. This is a mellow city and people get along pretty well. I don't know why Black people don't have more businesses or a radio station, but, I do know there is a reason.

A. Bobby Jackson. Librarian - Albina Branch.

I feel good being a Black woman anywhere. Being a Black woman in this town can get very boring and depressing. There are not many types of activities for a person to get involved in besides working and raising kids. For most women here, there are really not many opportunities for us to grow. A woman can go to College then what? There is more to be enjoyed than disco. I guess you could say that there is just one type of environment for Black people here. There must be more outlets for Blacks to be able to socialize and enjoy life without having to go to the bar or across town to a disco. We need to get it together.

John Doe - Mail handler.

Blacks in Portland don't know what poverty or struggle is. I was born in Mississippi. A Black man from Portland would not last one week here. I see all these youngsters smoking dope and walking the streets and it makes me hurt inside. The white man has broken the negroes spirit in Portland, and he knows it. Why do you think all the Black people that are doing anything, are not from here? Blacks in this town may as well go back to sleep and keep dreaming that things will change, because they sure aren't trying. I'll be gone soon and won't have to worry about these young children out on the streets anymore. Parents have abandoned their children here in Portland and one cannot survive without the other - just you watch your young, you will see.

Olympic swimmers teach Portland youth

LOS ANGELES -- Mark Spitz, Don Schollander, and Shirley Babashoff, the three greatest American swimmers in history, will share the secrets of their success with the people of Portland on Friday and Saturday, July 18 and 19, when they visit the city for a series of in-store appearances and a swimming clinic.

The three swimming superstars will make two appearances at Osborn & Ulland Sports Specialists located in the Lloyd Center - from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Friday; and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday -- to answer questions, offer swimming tips, and introduce the latest in swimwear from Arena. Anyone who stops by can have his or her picture taken with the swimming trio free of charge, courtesy of Osborn & Ulland and Arena.

The free swimming clinic, which is open to boys and girls of all ages, will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday at the Portland State University pool, located on campus. The clinic will feature Spitz, Schollander, and Babashoff in the water with the young swimmers to demonstrate proper swimming techniques and offer personalized instruction. There is a limit to the number of people who can participate in the clinic and entry passes can be obtained at Osborn & Ulland on a first-come, first-serve basis.

During their amateur careers Schollander, Spitz, and Babashoff rewrote the record book and set a standard of excellence never before achieved by an American.

Schollander became the first American in history to win four gold medals in one Olympiad, accomplishing the feat at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo. Nicknamed the "Golden Boy" because of his gold hair and gold medals, his swimming career is one of the most remarkable in American swimming annals.

In addition to his four golds, Schollander was a triple gold medalist at the Pan American Games in 1967 and was a gold and silver medalist at the Mexico City Olympics in 1968. The prolific freestyler from Yale University registered 12 individual world records between 1963 and 1968, totally dominating the 200 meter event.

In all, Spitz won nine Olympic gold medals and five Pan American gold medals in his 13-year career that ended after Munich. He broke or equalled 26 individual world records and contributed to seven



MARK SPITZ



DON SCHOLLANDER



SHIRLEY BABASHOFF

relay world records during his prime from 1967 through 1972.

Spitz, probably the most famous competitor in swimming history, achieved seven gold medals and seven world records at Munich in 1972.

Babashoff's eight Olympic medals established her as one of the world's all-time great female swimmers. Her medal count is an Olympic record for women, equalled only by Australia's Dawn Fraser and East Germany's Kornelia Ender.

A freestyle specialist, Babashoff's Olympic triumphs included two silver medals and a gold in 1972 and four silvers and a gold in 1976.

During her phenomenal 11-year career, Babashoff established six world records and a host of American records. The 22-year old was named the America's top female swimmer for three straight years.

Use power mower with care

SEATTLE -- Perhaps as many as 80 million Americans cut their lawns every year with power lawn mowers. Of these, more than 60,000 persons are injured seriously enough to require hospital emergency room treatment each year as a result of a power mower accident, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Most victims are men, but women account for 20% of the injuries and children under fifteen for 18%. Many of these accidents are preventable...If you know what to do and what NOT to do.

Joan Bergy, Director of CPSC's

Seattle Office, lists some "Do's and Don'ts" that may keep the reader from being the next power mower victim. First, the "Do's":

1. Read the operating instructions and memorize them;
2. Clear the yard, every time. A rock, stick, wire, can or piece of glass may get into the mower and be thrown with great force.
3. Always watch your footing, particularly on slopes. Golf shoes or shoes with cleats can help keep the person from slipping. Steer a hand power mower across slopes, never up and down.
4. Fuel up before starting - and

out-of-doors. Wipe up gas spills.

Now, here are some important "Don'ts":

1. Don't allow young children to operate power mowers and don't let toddlers wander into the area while mowing.
2. Don't mow a wet lawn; you can slip and hit the blade.
3. Don't ever unclog grass from the mower while the blade is still moving.
4. Don't change the cutting height while the blade is moving. The blade rotates at nearly 200 mph.

These are only a few of the rules for safe mowing habits.

Hints for ash clean-up

Furniture, fabrics and floor coverings may be damaged by volcanic ash particles that are sharp-edged, according to Sonja Rue and Shirely Nilsson, University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service family living specialists.

The ash from the Mt. St. Helens volcano is different from ordinary house dust. Its sharp crystalline structure causes it to scratch surfaces when it is brushed for removal.

--After vacuuming carpets and upholstery, you may want to use a detergent shampoo cleaner. Avoid excess rubbing action because the sharp ash particles may cut the textile fibers.

--Glass, porcelain enamel and acrylic surfaces may be scratched if wiped too vigorously. Use a detergent-soaked cloth or sponge and dab or blot rather than wipe.

--High-shine wood finishes will be dulled by the fine grit. Vacuum surfaces and then blot with a cloth treated to pick up dust. A tack cloth used by furniture refinishers should work well.

Ash-coated fabrics should be rinsed under running water and then washed carefully. Remember:

--Soiled clothing will require extra detergent. Wash small loads of clothing, using plenty of water so the clothes will have room to move freely in the water.

--Do not mix heavily soiled clothes with garments that are lightly soiled.

--Be sure clothes are free of ash before putting them in an automatic dryer. Ash may scratch the inner surface of the dryer.

--During the next few months, filters must be replaced often. Air conditioner and furnace filters need careful attention.

--Clean refrigerator air intakes. Clean any surface that may blow air and recirculate the dust.

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