

Bruce Campbell

Represented by Mitchel Giddings Fine arts

Public Opinion

Opening Bid: \$2,100

Artist's Statement:

My sculptures reflect my curiosity about how things work. They attempt to illustrate, in the simplest way possible, events and conditions that surround us. The sculpture in the show, "PUBLIC OPINION", depicts 4 weathervanes that move in different directions and at different speeds. This illustrates to me what was going on in the 60's with so many social conventions that were rapidly changing. Public opinion about youth, drugs, sex, and war protesting changed depending on one's age, education, and geographic locale. This is not a new concept. The weathervanes are made from 1930's Vermont license plates- a time when Americans opinions about Italians (Sacco- Vanzetti), Germans and others were being tested. The sculpture base is a section of an 8th century hand hewn beam reflecting once again how changing public opinion has always been with us.

Biography:

Bruce Campbell was born in 1946 in Huntington, New York and spent his early years observing and sketching animals in the woods near his home. As an eleven-year-old, he completed a course at the Northwestern School of Taxidermy, much to his mother's chagrin. Following his 1968 graduation from Syracuse University with a BFA in printmaking, he received an MFA from Indiana University, where he combined printmaking with graphic design to produce his own limited-edition books. In 1980, he started his own company, Bruce Campbell Design, specializing in the design of art museum books and exhibition catalogues. Mr. Campbell was named design director for The Library of America in 1981 and in 1983 began designing books for The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where for 30 years he designed many of the exhibition catalogues. In addition, he has designed books for the Whitney Museum, The National Gallery of Art, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and The Chicago Art Institute, among many others. His work has won awards in numerous shows, including the AIGA Book Show, the AAUP Book Show, and the New England Book Show. He began working in wire in the early 1990's and thinks of his pieces as three dimensional line drawings. Fascinated with the mechanics of

movement, he began experimenting with kinetic wire sculpture in 2001. His work is currently on view at the Mitchell Giddings Fine Art and the Vermont Artisans Gallery in Brattleboro, VT. Mr. Campbell lives in Brattleboro, VT.