

Brophy exhibits in conjunction with NCECA

3/10/05

Sculptor and former Fulbright scholar Aaron Quinn Brophy will exhibit his life-sized figurative sculptures for six weeks in the Top of the World Observation level on the 27th floor of Baltimore's World Trade Center. This exhibition was organized by the Baltimore Clay Works in conjunction with the annual conference for the National Council for Education of Ceramic Art. The exhibition will be displayed from February 19 to April 2, 2005. There will be a reception held on the evening of Friday March 18th from 6-9 pm. Brophy's mixed-media figures feature a combination of bronze, clay, wood, plastic, fiberglass, and cement. Through the visual transformation of materials, Brophy's artwork alludes to sculptural and bodily decay. Haunting and seductive, the sculptures are full of contradictions. Brophy's figures stand, sit, kneel, and recline, physically pathetic while maintaining a humble pride. In this work Brophy addresses the frailty of the human condition. His figurative sculptures rest between reality and myth, between heroism and cowardice, between wholeness and disintegration. This exhibition will also feature some of Brophy's recent translucent torsos which reflect light and cast flesh-like shadows. These plastic figure forms are sculpted by the heat of a propane torch. By process and presentation these translucent torsos embody the ephemeral quality of human corporeal existence. In the artist's own words, "It is the light that is important". Brophy arrived in Washington, D.C. five years ago after living for 10 months as a Fulbright Scholar on the island of Cyprus. Following a year-long fellowship at the Henry Luce III Center for Art and Religion, Aaron joined the art faculty at the Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland. Brophy is also an adjunct professor of ceramic art at Montgomery College in Rockville. Brophy has been awarded numerous grants and fellowships in his professional career. In 2003 he was awarded a Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Prize. He is one of twelve sculptors in the state to be recognized with this honor. Brophy's sculpture can be viewed online at www.aaronquinnbrophy.com