



The Zodiac Screen: A Hidden Treasure at New York's Port Authority

At the dawn of the Jet Age, when people dressed up to travel and airlines presented menus, WorldPort architect Walther Prokosch commissioned sculptor Milton Hebard to create a dramatic gateway to New York and the United States. Hebard created the Zodiac Screen, a sculpture that's fanciful creatures, symbolic of the passage of time and of our place in the cosmos, deserve to romp again in public view.

WorldPort: The Pan Am terminal at New York's John F. Kennedy International airport was created in 1960, and in 1961 Hebard began creating the prolific sculpture that spanning at 24 by 220 feet would become the largest sculpture in the world. This would give people a lasting impression of their arrival and departure from the United States' entryway to the world.

Thirty-six years later, Pan Am filed for bankruptcy and the conservative Delta Airlines took over the terminal, ordering the historic sculpture to be removed. Now, after almost two decades, this treasure still rests in a hanger of the vast New York Port Authority awaiting return to its previous glory.

The Zodiac Screen is Hebard's legacy. Known for his various sculptures throughout the world, Hebard's dream is to find the Zodiac Screen a new home. Created in bronze, there are 12 unique pieces, Aries, Aquarius, Cancer, Capricorn, Gemini, Leo, Libra, Pisces, Sagittarius, Scorpio, Taurus and Virgo. Each piece is a representation of Hebard's vision, and his unique contemporary baroque style.

The 91-year-old Hebard states, "The creation of this sculpture took the greater part of my life. I felt that it truly related to all people. For some it spoke to astrology, others history, but even more so it spoke of beauty, love, and aesthetic gratification. I have never been more proud of one of my creations. I can happily go to my resting place knowing that people can once again enjoy the Zodiac".

Background on Milton Hebard:

After winning the Prix de Rome at the American Academy in 1953, Hebard settled in Bracciano, Italy. Remaining committed to his roots in New York; Hebard was commissioned for various public works for the city including the iconic "Romeo & Juliet" bronze that stands in front of the Delacorte Shakespeare Theatre in Central Park.

Hebard also has a great presence throughout the rest of the United States and abroad,

including many public works in Los Angeles, Florida and Italy. Perhaps one of Hebdal's most prized sculptures is the headstone he was commissioned to build by Lee Nordness as a gift to the family of James Joyce. As a scholar of Joyce and his works, Hebdal's sculpture is a famed rendition of the renowned writer. The sculpture still rests on top of Joyce's grave in Zurich, Switzerland.

Currently, Hebdal is represented by the Harmon-Meek Gallery in Naples, FL. For more information on Milton Hebdal's available works, please go to www.harmon-meek.com.

For press inquires or for more information on the Zodiac Screen and Milton Hebdal, please contact Cara Morrissey at Ballantines PR.

To listen to Milton Hebdal's most recent interview on the Growing Bolder radio show, please see the link below:

<http://growingbolder.com/media/entertainment/arts/milton-hebdal-217356.html>

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