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Raoul Hague

Sculpture

June – July 2000
Tuesday-Saturday 10-6

This exhibition presents five sculptures. These large-scale carved wood sculptures were made between 1969 and 1978, a period during which Hague executed his most monumental sculptures. The sculptor was already in his sixties when he engaged with a larger size in his work, a significant change for an artist whose abstract sculptures referred strongly to the size of the body and the rhythm of its movements. Influenced in part by the natural features of the wooded mountain landscape of the Catskills where he lived and worked, his sculptures of this period surpass the scale of our bodies. Exhibited on low wood dollies, as Hague himself kept them, the upper surfaces of the sculptures rise above eye-level and their girth invites contemplative circumambulation. Every side offers a fresh view, and no one side reveals the entirety of the form.

Over the years, Raoul Hague's sculptures have been photographed by artists such as Rudy Burckhardt, Robert Frank and Lee Friedlander. The exhibition includes a selection of photographs by these and other photographers whose pictures offer a range of interpretations of Hague's sculptural work and document its development over five decades. The photographs have been selected from the archives of the Raoul Hague Foundation, established after the death of the artist in 1993.

An exhibition of Raoul Hague will take place at the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at the State University of New York in New Paltz in the fall of 2001. Since the time of our last gallery exhibition in 1997, sculptures by Hague have been added to the collections of the Akron Art Museum and the Arkansas Art Center.