

Billy Lee

Billy Lee was born of Chinese and Dutch parentage in Uitenhage, South Africa. As a child, his parents emigrated to England, where he later received his BFA, 1st class honours, from Birmingham College of Art and Design, and his MFA at the Royal College of Art, London (RCA). Upon graduation from the RCA, he received the prestigious award of Kennedy Scholar, to attend the Centre for Advanced Visual Studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and was later named a Fellow. He remains the only artist ever to receive the award of Kennedy Scholar. Thanks to the considerable and growing international reputation, Lee is consistently invited to exhibit and place works throughout the world. In 1991, he received the Giacomo Manzu Special Prize at the '7th Henry Moore International Sculpture Exhibition' in Japan. At the Fujisankei Biennale in 1993, he was awarded the Rodin Prize for his work exhibited in the Hakone/Utsukushi-ga-hara Open Air Museum, Japan. Lee was invited to participate in 'Thinking Big: 21st Century British Sculpture' at the Guggenheim in Venice. He was one of five international sculptors to attend the '11th International Steel Sculptors Symposium' in Hungary. His large-scale outdoor work is now part of the Dunaferri Art Foundation's permanent collection in the city of Dunaujvaros. His sculptures are represented in public collections across the globe, including Yuzi Paradise Sculpture Park, Guilin, China; The Hakone/Utsukushi-ga-hara Open Air Museum, Japan; Shanghai Sculpture Park, China; The Memorial Rose Garden, Chin Pao San, Taipei, Taiwan; Dunaujvaros Sculpture Park, Hungary; Cementerio Carretas, Putaendo Sculpture Park, Chile; and many others in the United States. Recently, he has been working in China creating large outdoor sculptures. In addition, he continues to exhibit in the USA, UK, Europe and the Far East. Lee currently resides in the United States and is a professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Education

- 1973 Fellow M.I.T. Center for Advanced Visual Studies, Boston
- 1972 M.F.A. RCA Royal College of Art, London
- 1969 B.F.A. 1st Class Honours. Birmingham College of Art and Design, Eng-

Academic Positions

- 1984-Present Professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- 1973-1980 University of Michigan

Professional Affiliations

- Associate member of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, London
- Member, Tate Modern, UK
- Member, The Metropolitan Museum
- Member, Nasher Museum
- Member of the International Sculpture Center, Washington DC
- Advisor to: The Dunaujvaros Fine Art Foundation, Hungary
Shanghai Sculpture Park, China
- Juror/Panelist: NC percent for Arts, State Building Program, Umstead Hospital Project
NC percent for Arts, Old Revenue Building Project, Raleigh, NC
NC Visual Artist Fellowship

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2002 "Ochreous Earth", Royal Society of British Sculptors, RBS Gallery, London.
- 1998 MB Modern, New York, NY
- 1996 "Dos Esculturas" Galeria Zero, Barcelona, Spain
- 1996 Lee Hansley Gallery, Raleigh, NC
- 1992 Yoshiaki Inoue Gallery, Osaka, Japan
- 1991 Southeast Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC
- 1989 St. John's Museum of Art, Wilmington, NC
- 1988 Meridian Museum of Art, Mississippi
- 1986 Weatherspoon Gallery, Greensboro, NC
- 1977 Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- 1976 Gilman Gallery, Chicago
- 1969 Ikon Gallery, England

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2008 Olympic Fine Art International Exhibition, China International Exhibition Center, Beijing.
The exhibition will tour Nationally and Internationally for two years and end up in the permanent collection of the Olympic Fine Art Museum, Tai Miao Temple, Forbidden City, Beijing
- 2007 "Little Rabbit" Zhongkun Corporation, 10 international artists, Beijing
International Sculpture Exhibition, Gifu Prefectural Museum, Seki-City, Japan.
Amelia Johnson Contemporary, Hong Kong
- 2006 XXIX Olympiad Exhibition, Beijing China. Merit Award
Yueyuanyuan, Shanghai Sculpture Park. China
Newby Hall Sculpture Park, North Yorkshire, England
- 2005 Toyamura Biennale, Hokkaido, Japan
Sculpture at Goodwood, West Sussex, UK
Chin Pao San, Memorial Rose Garden, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2004 International Sculpture Symposium, Yuzi-Paradise, Guilin, China
Sculpture at Goodwood, London Gallery
- 2003 International Exhibition, International Sculpture Center/Grounds for Sculpture.NJ
The 1st Yuzi Paradise International Sculpture Awards Exhibition, Guilin, China.
- 2003 Cementerio Carretas, Putaendo, Chile
Raleigh Outdoor Sculpture Expo, NC, USA
- 2002 'THINKING BIG' 21st Century British Sculpture, Guggenheim, Venice
- 2001 Lee Hansley Gallery, Raleigh, NC
- 2000 'Concepts for New Sculpture' Goodwood Sculpture.UK
8th International Sculpture Symposium, Guilin, China. One of 15 sculptors from around the world.
- 2000 Trish Higgins Fine Art Gallery, Wichita, Kansas
- 1999 Toyamura International Sculpture Biennale, Japan
Pier Walk '99, Chicago International Sculpture Exhibition, Navy Pier
Pier Walk '99, Maquette Exhibition, Vedanta Gallery, Chicago
'Small Is Big II,' Galleria D'Arte Zero, Barcelona, Spain
- 1998 Pier Walk '98, Navy Pier, Chicago

- 1997 Pier Walk '98, Maquette Exhibition, Wood Street Gallery, Chicago
 "Espacio Curado," Ayuntamiento de Madrid
- 1996 Maquettes and Small Works, Uitz Gallery, Dunaujvaros, Hungary
 The 11th International Steel Symposium, Dunaujvaros Sculpture Park, Hungary.
 Fabricated sculpture for the permanent collection celebrating Hungary's millennium cen-
 -tenary.
 Shared Passions, MB Modern, New York, NY
 Sacred Matters: Works on Paper, MB Modern, New York, NY
 SignosY Sugerencias, Gallery Zero, Barcelona, Spain
 MB Modern Preview (3 person), Babcock Gallery, New York, NY
 MB Modern Gallery Artist, Babcock Gallery, New York, NY
- 1995 Toyamura International Sculpture Biennale '95, "Microcosm in Your Hands," Hokkaido,
 Japan
 Art is Personal, International traveling exhibition, Centro Civico "La Bolsa,"
 Bilbao, Gexto, Zarautz, Spain
- 1994 The 2nd Fujisankei Biennale-Maquette Exhibition, The Hakone Open-Air Museum,
 Japan
 The Garden Matrix, Abington Art Center Sculpture Garden, PA.
 Sculpture South '94, SC State Museum, Columbia, SC
- 1993 Southeastern Juried Exhibition '93, Fine Arts Museum of the South, Mobile,
 Weatherspoon Gallery, Greensboro, NC
 The Fujisankei Biennale, International Exhibition for Contemporary Sculpture,
 Utsukushi-ga-hara Open-Air Museum, Japan. Received Rodin Prize.
 Alabama Biennale 1993, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Purchase prize.
- 1992 Shaping Sculpture, Weatherspoon Gallery, Greensboro, NC
 38th Annual National Exhibition, San Diego Art Institute, CA
 Galerija Daut Pashin Aman, Skopji Macedonia, Yugoslavia
- 1991 The 7th Henry Moore Grand Prize International Exhibition, The Hakone/Utsukushi-ga-
 hara Open-Air Museum, Japan. Received The Giacomo Manzu Special Prize.

Awards

- 2008 Visual Artist Fellowship, North Carolina Arts Council
 2008 UNCG Kohler Fund, International Travel Grant
 2005 University of North Carolina-Greensboro Faculty Grant
 2004 UNCG International Travel Fund Award
 2003 OUTSTANDING PRIZE- Yuzi Paradise International Sculpture Awards, China
 2003 Kohler Fund, International Programs Travel Grant
 2002 Outstanding Artistic Achievement Award - Southeastern College Art Conference
 2001 North Carolina Arts Council Regional Grant
 1999 UNCG Research Excellence Award
 1993 The Rodin Prize, The Fujisankei Biennale, International Exhibition, Japan

Permanent Collections

Olympic Fine Art Museum, Tai Miao Temple. Forbidden City, Beijing
 Zhongkun Corporation, Beijing, China
 Yueyuanyuan, Shanghai Sculpture Park, Shanghai
 Goodwood Sculpture, UK
 Chin Pao San, Memorial Rose Garden, Taipei
 Parque Escultorico, Putaendo, Chile
 Yuzi Paradise Sculpture Park, Guilin, China
 The Fujisankei Biennale 1993, The Hakone/Utsukushi-ga-hara Open-Air
 Museum, Japan
 Dunaujvaros Sculpture Park, 11th International Steel Symposium, Hun-
 gary
 The 7th Henry Moore, Utsukushi-ga-hara Open-Air Museum, Japan
 University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Bibliography

Ming Pao Weekly, issue 1927, page 56/57. Hong Kong
 Chinese Contemporary Art News, 2005/08. Vol.7. page 63
 World Sculpture News, Spring 2003. vol. 9 number 2, p. 42
 Sculpture, September 1998. vol. 17, no. 7, p. 70. NY Review
 Sculpture, March 1997. vol. 16, no. 3, p. 14.
 Dunaujvaros Hirlap, "The 11th International Steel Symposium." Hungary, October 25, 1996.
 p. 4-5; October 9, 1996, p.5.
 Hungarian Nations, "Steel Symposium," Hungary, October 21, 1996.
 The Sankei Shin Bun Newspaper, "Fujisankei Biennale." Tokyo, July 18, 1993. p.12.
 The Sankei Shin Bun Newspaper, "The 7th Henry Moore International Exhibition." Tokyo,
 August 26, 1991, p.6.
 Untitled sculpture was one of the fourteen sculptures featured in the video "The
 World of Sculpture," made by the Hakone Open-Air Museum and Fujisankei Television,
 sponsored by the Japan Broadcasting Corporation, NHK, Japan Satellite. Aired December
 18, 1991 in Japan.
 "Prize Winners of the 7th Henry Moore International Exhibition," Interview with the artist aired
 on national television in Japan, June, 1991.