Bring "Sound of the Woods" to theNate

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"Sound of the Woods"

A s a young artist, the sculptors featured at theNate were part of my foundation, and as my art matured and developed, I could still point back to their influences and inspiration. Now, with a lifetime of exhibitions and commissions, I am honored for this opportunity to have my work included in the permanent collection of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.



When completed, the sculpture will be located within a beautiful, grassy, circular, outdoor "room", enveloped by a canopy of trees, and positioned to maximize the visitor experience – complimenting, and contrasting, with the sequence of other artworks nearby. The work **"Sound of the Woods"** will be eight feet tall, a large version of a sculpture from one of my most important bodies of work. The site is beautiful, and the permanence of cast bronze will allow the work to span generations.

I hope that in a hundred years from now, another sculptor will be equally moved by the works at theNate, inspired as I was to create new works of sustenance and quality. As we move forward, we look back, and it is both a privilege and an honor to have my work recognized as a prospective new acquisition, and to potentially join the ranks of the distinguished artists represented in the collection at theNate.

~ Neil Goodman, Sculptor







t isn't often that we consider adding new artwork to the collection. Our mission concentrates our resources toward the conservation of the existing artwork and the land on which it resides, our education and outreach to area schools, community groups, and art lovers around the world, and special exhibitions of visiting artists. A contender for the permanent collection must complement the existing works while adding a unique point of view, to justify those valued resources. **This is a rare and exciting project.**

Neil Goodman is the consummate educator, speaking eloquently about artwork – his own, and that of others – inspiring those who are lucky enough to encounter his work and his words. Getting to know Neil and his work through his two exhibitions at theNate, his regional exhibitions and talks, and his reputation as an influential contemporary artist, naturally and unanimously led us to agree to pursue acquiring a Neil Goodman Sculpture for the permanent collection at theNate.

Neil's legacy is a treasure.

"Sound of the Woods" responds to the natural setting at theNate and the specific wooded site. The undulating lines, that echo back to themselves in the sculpture, invite us to trace our path of discovery within and beyond ourselves, to our inner world and our outer surroundings.

The open forms hint at the way tree branches divide the summer sky, or cast shadows across the snowy ground, the positive and negative shapes sharing equal importance in supporting our perceptions. Because of its reference to auditory perception, *"Sound of the Woods"* will be a valuable and unique addition to the visitor experience.

~ Jeff Stevenson, Director and Curator for theNate



Goal: \$80,000 to commission the artwork.

Covers: costs of materials, fabrication, transport, installation, and presentation.

Opportunity: Be a part of history!

The first three donors who contribute \$10K or more will receive a small sculpture by Neil Goodman as recognition.



theNate is part of The Governors State University Foundation which is a 501c3 – all donations are tax deductible



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