

the Sculpture World of
MICHAEL PARKES





See No Evil | 9.5" x 25" x 5" • Bronze Sculpture by Michael Parkes

The Gift. In Michael Parkes' Words

From the very beginning, Mark Eaker, President of Swan King International, had a dream. When we started working together, almost immediately he asked about new sculptures and how soon I could begin. I explained that after Piero Bertelli retired as head of the foundry in Italy where I had done previous sculptures, I was not comfortable working anywhere else. But Mark persisted and took me to meet Piero and Rose Mussi, the owners of ArtWorks foundry in Berkeley, California where we did a couple of small experiments. Although their craftsmanship was superb, I was still not comfortable in making larger sculptures without the help of Piero Bertelli.

Then Mark had a rather outrageous suggestion: why not see if Piero Bertelli would come from Italy to the United States and integrate the experience of the Italian foundry with that of the American one? I dismissed the idea completely until a large sculpture project became available. We thought we would give it a try and called Piero in Italy with a proposal. Much to my surprise he was not only willing to come out of retirement and fly to America but decided to bring along his daughter, Antonella, a sculptor in her own right.

Piero and Rose Mussi graciously opened the foundry, their home, and hearts to the idea. The time that followed was a divine intervention that happens rarely in one's life. The first results of this wonderful collaboration are here in this brochure and a part of this exhibition. Truly a Gift. ~Michael Parkes



On Front & Back Cover: Angel of August | 19" x 12" x 6.5" • Bronze Sculpture by Michael Parkes

Moonstruck
27.5" x 20.5" x 10"
Bronze Sculpture
by Michael Parkes





Bella Blue &
Bella (*inset*)
32" x 12" x 16.5"
Bronze Sculpture
by Michael Parkes



Night Flight

20" x 12" x 10.5"
Bronze Sculpture
by Michael Parkes



Isabelle and Bella. Lifesize Bronze

Isabelle is inspired from the Stone Lithograph “The Letter” that Michael Parkes created in 2005. The Stone Lithograph has become one of his most successful images in his storied career. When Michael created the image he had envisioned an angel reading St. Paul's famous text on love to the Corinthians. The angel is reading it for the first time and is deeply touched as she reads the last line:

“...and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing...”.



Isabelle and Bella

62" x 42" x 40"

Bronze Sculpture by Michael Parkes





Last Lion
Study for Sculpture
~
2012



Parke

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