NEW Temporary Public Art Installation

*Chuck Ginnever: Rashomon*

University Museums is pleased to announce the opening of a new, temporary outdoor sculpture exhibition titled *Chuck Ginnever: Rashomon* at Iowa State University, November 24, 2014 - July 1, 2015. The exhibition features 15 identical steel sculptures which can be placed in 15 different positions. The installation is on loan from the artist in association with Gayle Maxon-Edgerton, GME LLC, Santa Fe, NM and will be on view in the courtyard of the Food Sciences Building on Iowa State's central campus during the weekdays from 8 am - 5 pm. The contemporary sculpture exhibition is juxtaposed in the courtyard with Christian Petersen's famous bas relief panels titled *The History of Dairying* which is permanently installed in the location. *The History of Dairying* was one of the first sculpture projects funded by the New Deal Public Works of Art Project (PWAP) in 1934 and the realistic narrative sculpture and is a thought-provoking contrast to Chuck Ginnever's contemporary abstract sculpture.

For more than 50 years, Chuck Ginnever (American, b. 1931) has created large-scale sculptures in bronze and steel that challenge and expand visual perception. "Rashomon affords us the opportunity to reiterate all the ways balance, geometry, and topology form art," said Kate Greder, the exhibition's coordinator at Iowa State's University Museums. The title of the exhibition is borrowed from the seminal Japanese film *Rashomon*, in which one story is told from multiple perspectives. Each sculpture in the exhibition is identical but can be placed in 15 different positions.

"This phenomenon-how we look at one problem from 15 different perspectives-is central to the Iowa State land-grant educational experience," said Lynette Pohlman, Director of University Museums.
Chuck Ginnever's works of art can be seen in such places as Storm King Art Center (New Windsor, NY), the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York City, NY), Laumeier International Sculpture Park (St. Louis, MO) and the Walker Art Center (Minneapolis, MN), among others.

**Chuck Ginnever: Rashomon** is a collaboration of the Center for Contemporary Art in Santa Fe, NM and Chuck Ginnever in association with Gayle Maxon-Edgerton, GME LLC. The exhibition originated at the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (SJICA) San Jose, CA, with an outdoor installation at the Montalvo Arts Center, Los Gatos, CA, and is part of the SJICA On the Road Traveling Exhibition Program. The installation is presented at Iowa State with the support from the Estate of Shirley Held and is part of the University Museums 40th Anniversary Celebrations in 2015.

What others have said about Chuck Ginnever:

One of the most significant and little-celebrated innovations in late 20th century art: Charles Ginnever's "Rashomon" suite. ... Much important sculpture of our era has concerned itself with tensions between the bodily and mental grasp of the real. "Rashomon" goes to the heart of that matter, defying its viewers to compare its identical components by rotating them mentally.


In a world that prizes signature styles and instant recognition, Ginnever slows down and challenges the viewer's experience. He inculcates us with a nagging doubt, which becomes part of the pleasure of the work.


The few modern sculptors of importance, including Charles Ginnever, have provided their art with reasons for being that only it can demonstrate. Complex formal structures of striking coherence and energy, Ginnever's sculptures are something more. The foldings and unfolding of planar form mirror the work's effect of opening up unnoticed depths in the flow of mundane experience.


Working in heavy metal, Mr. Ginnever is lighter than air.


The reduction of the vocabulary to its essential form is one of the factors in the existential dynamics of Ginnever's work. ... These apparently geometric and minimal forms carry within them the entire memory of our civilization-our past, and our entrance to the future-and are not of an age, unless it is an imagined one: they are linked to the immemorial history of the space-time of our poetical thought. These are documents of vitalism in its pure state.


**Film Showings: Rashomon**

Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 pm, Food Sciences Auditorium, Room 2432 in the Food Sciences Bldg.

**Film showing: Rashomon**

Coordinated in conjunction with the temporary sculpture exhibit titled *Chuck Ginnever: Rashomon* on view in the Food Sciences courtyard, University Museums is showing the seminal Japanese film *Rashomon*, directed by Akira Kurosawa. Widely considered one of the greatest films ever made, the story is a riveting psychological thriller that investigates the nature of truth and the meaning of justice. In the movie, four people give different accounts of a man's murder and the rape of his wife, which is presented with striking imagery and an ingenious use of flashbacks. This eloquent masterwork and international sensation revolutionized film language and introduced Japanese cinema to the Western World. Film is
Tuesday, June 16th, 7:00 pm, Food Sciences Courtyard.  
**Outdoor Film showing: Rashomon**

Coordinated in conjunction with the temporary sculpture exhibit titled *Chuck Ginnever: Rashomon* on view in the Food Sciences courtyard, University Museums is showing the seminal Japanese film *Rashomon*, directed by Akira Kurosawa. Widely considered one of the greatest films ever made, the story is a riveting psychological thriller that investigates the nature of truth and the meaning of justice. In the movie, four people give different accounts of a man’s murder and the rape of his wife, which is presented with striking imagery and an ingenious use of flashbacks. This eloquent masterwork and international sensation revolutionized film language and introduced Japanese cinema to the Western World. Film is unrated with adult themes and content. Film Run Time: 88 minutes

**Media Information**

For further information about University Museums upcoming programming and location details contact Kate Greder, kcgreder@iastate.edu or go to www.museums.iastate.edu. To schedule interviews and/or to photograph events, please contact Allison Sheridan (515-294-3342 aclone@iastate.edu).

*Additional images available upon request.*

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