

AND LOVE WILL PREVAIL ... Daniel Pokorn - 1987

H. 60 x W. 44 x D. 27 cm (Italian alabaster, African wonderstone, Canadian steatite, tiles, paint, ebonized mahogany base)

The tile assemblage represents a computer keyboard, a symbol of productivity and, possibly, enhanced profits. However, in this competitive, efficiency-driven world of ours, love still flourishes. Dollar signs tumble down. Love spreads its wings. The love theme is expanded in the intertwining inscriptions of the English word LOVE and its French translation AMOUR. Such intertwining is also an appeal for more tolerance and understanding between the two founding peoples of Canada.

Daniel Pokorn, December 1987

ET L'AMOUR L'EMPORTERA Daniel Pokorn - 1987

II. 60 x L. 44 x P. 27 cm (Albâtre italien, stéatite africaine, stéatite canadienne, carreaux, peinture, socle d'acajou fini ébène)

L'assemblage de carreaux représente le clavier d'un ordinateur, symbole de productivité et, éventuellement, de profitabilité. Néanmoins, dans notre monde marqué par la concurrence et l'efficacité, l'amour s'épanouit encore. Les signes des dollars dégringolent. L'amour déploie ses ailes. Le thème de l'amour est amplifié par l'entrelacement des inscriptions du mot AMOUR et de sa traduction anglaise LOVE. Un tel entrelacement lance aussi un appel à la tolérance et à la compréhension entre les deux peuples fondateurs du Canada.

Daniel Pokorn, décembre 1987

For Daniel Pokorn, Secretary of State Department translator at AES Downsview for the past six years, it has been a busy year. In addition to crafting words to help AES employees express their thoughts in Canada's other official language, Daniel has achieved prominence on the Canadian and international sculpture scenes. In the spring of 1988 he had half a dozen of his very contemporary works displayed at an exhibition for francophone artists at York University, Toronto and at the same time he was the featured artist among a group of Canadians exhibiting "in steel and stone" in Chicago at an exhibition opened by Canada's consul general in the "Windy City".

Last year Daniel was elected president of the Sculptors' Society of Canada and, quite naturally, he will be exhibiting at a special show to commemorate the society's 60th anniversary in Toronto this fall.

Daniel, who has been exhibiting in Canada for some 16 years, works from a basement studio in north-west Toronto on evenings and weekends. His favorite material is stone - everything from alabaster to "pudding stone" (although he uses semi-precious metals to achieve contrast.) The subject matter of his sculptures varies from landscapes to humor. Right now, he is specializing in faces. His wrinkled stone bust of the "Wise Man" became a sort of "trademark" for the Chicago exhibition and appeared in several U.S. publications. A different kind of face illustrates another well-known Pokorn sculpture titled "And love will prevail". The torso resembles a skewed computer keyboard symbolizing the impersonal world of high-tech. But there are signs of romance everywhere - arms like flapping wings, a pathetic "Snoopy" face, even the words, "Love, Amour" highlighted on the keyboard.

Daniel has already had works exhibited as far away as Hungary. Now he hopes to be able to hold a show in his native France. A new museum of contemporary art is opening near St. Etienne. He has sent in an application to exhibit there and is keeping his fingers crossed.