

What can we do? In a time when we often feel overwhelmed by nearly constant reports of conflict and disaster all around us, what can we do to help? What difference can each of us make?

We can, of course, give of our resources – our money, our time, and our talents – whatever we have to give, whether great or small. But there is something else we can all do, as well. To truly triumph over evil – in all its forms – it is essential for us to maintain our hope for a better tomorrow. We can continue to have faith in ourselves and in our fellow human beings, and in the Creator of the universe.

As we have contemplated the fear and sadness that seem so prevalent in our world, we have re-committed ourselves to doing all we can to be a positive and uplifting influence in our families and our communities, and with our collectors. With that in mind, we would like to dedicate this newsletter to some of the most hopeful and enriching thoughts and letters we possess. We hope you will enjoy – and find hope – in each of them.

Thoughts From the Artist –

When Mark Hopkins contemplates his role in the workings of the earth, the elements that are indispensable in his mind are creativity, faith, and hope. He recently said, *“I am always amazed at the strength of the human spirit, the resiliency and ability to overcome hardships. I think Americans, especially, are blessed with an incredible determination to shape our own destiny. We refuse to be defeated by nature, man, or whatever challenge we may face. We have a legacy, a uniquely American talent for survival. Our nation’s history is a testament to that fact.*

“For an artist, this gift is really important. It’s pretty rare for an artist to have early or easy success. There are always setbacks, whether financial or artistic or personal. To make it as an artist, you have to be absolutely driven to create.

“On the other hand, trials and setbacks are an important part of creativity. Out of opposition comes growth, which becomes part of us – in my case, it also becomes part of my art.”

Favorites from our Collectors –

Mark Hopkins’ collectors are constantly drawn to his encouraging themes. The following are some of our favorite

excerpts from the many letters we have received over the years:

One new collector wrote, *“... Yesterday, I saw your work for the first time and it touched me... My wife and I decided to purchase Faith and Calming the Tempest... I thought you might appreciate knowing how your art can affect people... Thanks for being a tool in God’s hand to touch people in this way.”*

From a collector in California: *“...I have never seen a piece that touched me as deeply... I knew Faith would be a part of our lives... The piece captures the essence of the ministry we will direct... the power of God we believe is behind all healing.”*

A collector from Ohio said of *What the Future Holds*, *“I was captured by a picture of the statue I saw in a newspaper ad and was more impressed when I actually saw the statue in the gallery. I am a principal at an elementary school and feel the sculpture captures the essence of teaching, taking the hand of youth and leading them toward knowledge and understanding, one generation to the next... Thank you for your skill and vision of*

creating. You have blessed me with this work.”

A pastor who loves Mark’s *Calming the Tempest* wrote to tell us why: *“I find many of my people... suffer through many... ‘storms’ in their personal and family experiences... As your eyes sweep over this piece, you feel the movement of the Master’s*



Innocence



"Mark's newest sculpture *Crack the Whip* – Life size"

Favorites from our Collectors – (continued)

*hand... What begins as a great storm ends in a great calm. This piece speaks to my life because of the many personal storms I have experienced. Regardless of the day before me, whether calm or stormy, as I view *Calming the Tempest*, I KNOW that the Master of the wind and waves has everything under His control."*

A woman from Chattanooga, TN praises her *Grandma* sculpture: *"Impressive work displaying endearing sentiment. Suggests a feeling of love and security still exists in these chaotic, troubled times. Thank you."*

A couple facing unsettling changes in their lives wrote, *"We saw the photo of Faith in an ad for a gallery... and were moved by it. When happening upon the gallery, we found ourselves once again drawn to it. The title being Faith is very appropriate for us because we were preparing to make a major leap of faith in making a drastic career move... we decided that Faith was the perfect centerpiece for our new inn and a wonderful way to share our faith with our guests in a quiet and comfortable way..."*

In the months following several hurricanes, we received some very interesting letters. One collector from St. Petersburg wrote, *"I have several of your pieces... just wanted to let you know how much I love them. When trying to decide what to protect during the recent hurricanes, my sculptures were at the top of my list just below the family photos. Thank you for such beautiful work."*

Another collector with a home near Pensacola had a harrowing but interesting experience. She said, *"I took the threat of a hurricane very seriously and prepared... We were in an evacuation zone... We secured the house, put up the hurricane shutters and drove (away)... Unfortunately we left behind so many things fully expecting to come home... the storm made a last minute turn and came ashore... 25 miles west of me. That immediately changed the scenario, placing my home in the most dangerous eastern eye-wall area... my house is completely gone... only the pilings remain. We did find in a vacant lot adjacent to my property... a few pieces of silverware and my *Treehouse* sculpture! It was sticking up out from under a collapsed tree and... was completely intact. I am so thrilled to have it... it is one of my most treasured possessions..."*

More thoughts from Mark –

Mark views his work as fulfilling an important destiny. He says, *"I figure there are two ways to see life. You may think it's 'survival of the fittest' and everything we do is driven by instinct, to satisfy our base needs, without any real choice. Or else you can decide that there is a higher purpose governing everything we do, and our choices are either in line with that purpose or at odds with it. My better nature says to my heart and mind that there is more to our existence than primitive instinct – the idea of purpose rings true to the human soul. One thing that truly seems to separate us from the natural world is our capacity to feel joy, to experience deep abiding happiness and fulfillment. That capacity for joy is not necessary for survival - it is unique to the human race, and makes our existence meaningful. Unlike animals, we have a sense of what is good and true. It is up to us to act on that awareness in a creative way, to improve our lives and the lives of other people, as well."*

Again from our Collectors –

For many collectors, Mark Hopkins' work enhances their lives by reminding them of past joys or comforting them in times of devastating loss. This letter was sent from a collector in Arizona, a retired USAF officer. He writes, *"I have your bronze *Battle Worn*, which I acquired as a gift in 1996. The Civil War is my passion, and I hope one of these days to acquire another of the Mark Hopkins' Civil War masterpieces. My Great-Grandfather... fought for the Confederacy under Lee through many of the great battles of the Civil War... finally being badly wounded and captured during the battle of Spotsylvania Court House... He was released at the end of the war and died a few weeks later. He was 32 years old. I have sometimes dreamed of him..."*

*"One morning in 1996, I unexpectedly received a large crate through UPS. Sitting in the middle of my living room I opened it and removed the packing. When I saw that *Battle Worn* face, that unforgettably tired, exhausted face, I burst into tears and cried. I couldn't stop... There I was, a thirty-year military veteran, a survivor of the Vietnam War, crying for those long dead veterans of the Civil War... To this day I look at the sculpture and am swept up in a sea of emotion. I'm not the only one. My friends feel the same way."*

Again from our Collectors – (continued)

From another collector in Austin about Mark's *Day's Work*, "I am a Texas farm boy, and this could be my grandfather - it really captures the essence of a true working man."

Many collectors have fallen in love with *Last One In*. Said one, "Love this piece. It is my sons every summer in our home swimming pool. Every detail is perfect."

Another said, "... wonderful and enjoyable! The sculpture captures every detail of childhood summers - frozen in time."

A woman from Maryland, said of *Hangin' Around*, "The little girl is 'me.' I spent all of my elementary school years on the monkey bars. I had to have this sculpture! (I'm sixty-nine!)"

From a new collector in Michigan, who had lost a much-loved son at an early age: "My sculpture arrived last Tuesday. Thank you! I held it for a while, then put it on the kitchen table, then on the piano... Then it went to one foyer table... Finally it has found the right place on the right table in the entryway. I walk by and admire it and smile many times a day... There is something of God in your gift to organize and create, from wax to bronze, a piece that touches my soul so deeply. I feel a peace about my son that transcends this world. *Tall Tales* testifies of that peace for me. Please know that I love the sculpture and will always admire the God-given gift of the sculptor."

Another mother who lost her young son wrote of Mark's *What the Future Holds*, "I never owned a 'real' sculpture before... Just putting this sculpture out on the display table in our home, and seeing it several times a day, has had a healing effect I never would have imagined - every day I felt more attached to it than the

previous day... It has given me a better perspective on the purposes of art and the divine characteristics attached to it. Being a 'creator,' the Lord can flow through you, as a tool, to teach and express his power... When I see your sculpture, and when I feel sad at our loss, I visualize that I WILL be able to hold his small child's hand one day again. I almost feel that God had you create this sculpture and name it that particular title just because He loves me and wants me to know that His promises are sure, and be comforted... Thank you for the comfort you have given us through the work of your hands."

Two other grieving parents sent Mark a photo of a beautiful memorial they had constructed, saying, "We thought you might like to see how we used your sculpture *Daybreak* on the memorial for our son David, who was killed in the World Trade Center... The theme... was taken from Psalm 91 (And I will raise you up on eagles' wings)... The memorial is in the courtyard of our church... The members of our congregation are so please with this addition to our church. We really thank you for producing this wonderful sculpture that was so perfect for our need at a most difficult time."

A woman speaking of *Gathering Wisdom* related, "I have never seen a female depicted... with such sensitivity. All too often artists... create their impression of females rather than depicting women as they truly are. Thank you for your obvious openness to femininity."

Another collector from Texas was moved to tears, "When I first saw the sculpture... it made me cry right in the store. I told my husband about it and he gave it to me for Valentine's Day. I cried again, but this time with joy and gladness in my heart."

"Last April my wife and I were celebrating our 5th wedding anniversary... and after dinner slipped into (a gallery)... When we saw your sculptures displayed, we stood transfixed. We knew almost immediately that we 'had to have' one of these miraculously mobile, spiritually soothing works. Our only problem was which one(s), for we are not a family of great means. We were both drawn to the jazz musicians... we moved from one to the other, with... stops at the different scenes of children at play. Finally, we decided on our own jazz trio, to be expanded in years to come... Thank you for sharing your marvelous gifts with us!"

Another collector from Napa, CA, says of *Grandmother's Blessing*, "Love the flow and design - Fantastic. The face just talks to you."

"Mr. Hopkins' work literally takes my breath away. The series of children captures the joyful abandon..."

A collector from Las Vegas said, about *First Steps*, "This is my first bronze sculpture, given to me by a dear friend. I am in the process of adopting a child and was overwhelmed with emotion when I saw this sculpture. Thank you."

And from Rixeyville, VA, "When my wife saw *Gathering Wisdom*... she began to cry... (Mark's) work makes you stop for a moment and reflect on the power of the human spirit and the beauty of nature."

Mark's final thoughts –

"Creativity, to me, is a divine gift that is part of the grand purpose of our lives. When I can lift a heart or revive a weary soul or cause a spark of excitement by creating something beautiful, I feel like I'm living in line with my purpose. If the Creator who made us endowed us with the ability to appreciate beauty and feel joy - and to share those things with others, I consider it a great honor and blessing to be able to play a part in His plan."

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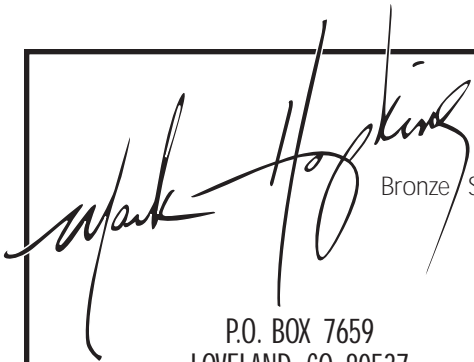
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Mark Hopkins Sculpture, Inc. Secondary Market Report – October, 2005

Note: Listed values reflect updated collector purchases from authorized Mark Hopkins Sculpture dealers.

Piece	Introduced	Sold Out	Elapsed Time in Months	Edition Limit	Total Sold	Issue Price	After Market Value		
							High	Average	\$ Difference
Aviator	1/92	12/93	14	250	250	775.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	2,725.00
Broken Treaty	10/93	5/95	19	450	450	1,100.00	4,600.00	3,383.33	2,283.33
Cartwheeling	9/92	1/00		950	950	335.00	1,200.00	435.00	100.00
Catch of the Day	1/94	6/95	18	550	550	1,150.00	4,800.00	3,866.67	2,716.67
Cry of the Wolves	2/92	3/93	13	950	950	850.00	4,200.00	2,030.00	1,180.00
Downriver Run	7/93	9/95	26	450	450	950.00	5,200.00	2,283.33	1,333.33
Eagle Majesty	1/92	2/94	25	950	950	525.00	1,450.00	908.33	383.33
Eagle's Catch	10/97	9/98	11	450	450	1,275.00	1,800.00	1,450.00	175.00
Earth Mother	1/94	12/97	35	750	750	1,250.00	3,800.00	2,168.75	918.75
Firestarter	7/96	9/98	26	450	450	1,100.00	4,200.00	1,300.00	200.00
First Buffalo	5/91	7/92	14	250	250	1,498.00	3,800.00	2,300.00	802.00
Fishing Grizzly	7/92	3/93	9	450	450	875.00	3,100.00	2,171.67	1,296.67
Garden Birds (large)	1/92	5/95	Retired	250	51	930.00	4,500.00	2,000.00	1,070.00
Gathering Wisdom	7/94	12/97	41	450	450	995.00	4,200.00	1,600.00	605.00
Iron Road	6/91	10/96	65	450	450	975.00	2,800.00	2,400.00	225.00
Last One In	8/89	12/97		2500		795.00	1,250.00	1,000.00	205.00
Legend Keeper	4/95	1/98	33	450	450	925.00	4,800.00	1,400.00	475.00
Medicine Man	1/92	9/96	Retired	750	241	650.00	3,200.00	900.00	250.00
Melanie						4,800.00	7,800.00		
Mother's Nature	4/94	3/95	12	2nd Annual	410	685.00	3,300.00	1,325.00	640.00
Mountain Overlook	7/93	8/94	13	550	550	975.00	3,200.00	2,175.00	1,200.00
Mud Buddies	10/00	12/01		50	50	8,500.00	12,000.00	900.00	250.00
Northwoods	7/97	6/03		450	450	975.00	1,200.00		
Phantoms of the Forest	4/93	3/94	12	1st Annual	494	685.00	2,800.00	1,300.00	615.00
Release, The	1/95	12/97	23	450	450	1,095.00	3,800.00	1,716.66	621.66
Resurrection	5/89	7/91	Retired	25	6	5,555.00	18,000.00		
Soaring	7/93	1/95	19	450	450	975.00	4,200.00	1,250.00	275.00
Song of the Warrior	5/91	3/94	Retired	750	146	575.00	4,800.00	800.00	225.00
Sons and Brothers	1/93	1/97	48	250	250	1,250.00	4,800.00	3,042.86	1,792.86
Stalking Cougar	7/92	2/93	8	450	450	750.00	2,000.00	1,664.29	914.29
Survival	4/95	3/96	12	3rd Annual	608	795.00	2,600.00	1,250.00	455.00
Take, The	7/98	10/99	15	450	450	1,195.00	4,200.00	1,404.35	209.35
Untamed Grace	10/96	5/97	7	250	250	1,275.00	3,600.00	2,525.00	1,250.00

All secondary market sales have been reported by dealers or collectors. Sales can be verified by those reporting with bona fide sales documentation.



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Editors: Laurie Hopkins, Ralph Rush, Eli Hopkins, Todd Mackey
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