

RUSSELL-MARTI CONSERVATION SERVICES, Inc.

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October 16, 1998

Dr. Gayle Seymour
Art Department
University of Central Arkansas
Conway, AR 72035

Dear Gayle:

It was great to talk to you the other day, and to hear a bit more of your award. I'm so happy for you! What an honor and adventure!

The sculptures looked really great this year, and I feel sure that the maintenance will continue to go well. Terry and Ray are doing a great job, and I always enjoy working with your enthusiastic students.

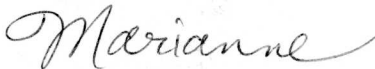
To help with the yearly record-keeping of condition, I highly recommend going ahead and getting four good overall views of each sculpture (from each of the cardinal points) and making photocopies of them so that they can be marked as necessary to visually record areas of concern. The photocopy you provided for us of the painted steel piece made it so much easier to record where the damages were. It really is the way to go with these abstract pieces – using copies of photographs to diagram any problem areas.

Another suggestion is to use a camera to record notable areas, and keep the images in the permanent maintenance file. We started that with Amy's photography of the bronze piece – you and Terry and Ray can look at the resulting pictures and decide whether this method will be helpful in maintaining a story of the sculptures' condition, and gauging how they hold up year by year. To consider, however, is whether photography will significantly slow down Terry and Ray's work and make it more difficult for them to fit maintenance into their busy schedules. If that's the case, it would be better not to try to have them incorporate taking pictures into the maintenance routine. In any case, being able to jot down problem areas on photocopies of images of the sculptures should really expedite the examination process.

Please don't hesitate to call me if there are ever any questions about the sculptures.

I had a wonderful time working with you on this project, and thank you for being such a great colleague in this important undertaking.

Sincerely,



Marianne R. Marti
Sculpture Conservator

enclosures

cc: Mark Christ
Lizzie Firczuk