Tropical Beauty *by* Roberta Peck (On Sale!)

Handcast Paper - Main Subject: Figurative

Item Number
6326155802

Retail Value
$750

ArtRev.com Price
$350
You Save 53% Off [-$400.00]

Dimensions (As Shown)
28W x 20H Inches
71.12W x 50.8H cm

Medium
Handcast Paper

Edition
- Edition Size is Unknown
- Hand-Signed
- Numbered

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About Roberta Peck
Roberta Peck has won four national competitions with her delicately sculptured art. She captures the beauty, grace and power of the human figure. She is presently planning a trip to study various Arts of China, granted by Colgate Palmolive in a recent competition.

Born in Cleveland Ohio, Roberta Peck graduated from Kent State University with a double degree in Fine Arts and Art Education in 1969. Thereafter, she spent two years studying European art, focusing primarily on classic sculpture and bas relief.

After predominantly working in traditional casting and sculpting media, Roberta began to seek media and methods that would allow for sculptural images that were not heavy and cumbersome. She was not satisfied with mechanical devices, such as vacuum forming or intaglio, which do not allow for deep sharp detail. After much experimentation she and her husband, Asa, worked out a method of hand casting that allowed for the creation of dramatic, yet delicate sculptural relief that seem to float within a frame. At last, she achieved the lightweight wall sculpture she was after!

Today, she is well known for her nudes of both male and female figures and her feminine images of dancers and ladies in various states of motion and relaxation. The wonderful texture and dazzling contrast of the white hand cast paper she uses adds to the drama of her instantly recognizable pieces.

Roberta's works enjoy global acclaim and continue to delight both critics and collectors.

Handcast Paper

Hand cast paper sculpture is the result of a lengthy three stage process requiring both creative and technical skills. First an original clay sculpture is done, after the sculpture is completed a mold is then made from the original sculpture. Carefully removing the mold, the sculpture is then set aside

Pulp is made by cooking and beating plant fibers or cloth. Most artists use pulp made of cotton linter, the young cotton fibers which are found closest to the seed of the cotton plant. To help the fibers bond together, an adhesive called methyl cellulose is added to the pulp. It also helps to harden the dry paper.

The resulting paper is Archival, it has no acids and no impurities.

Casting is done by placing the pulp directly into the mold which is made of a nonabsorbent material such as terra cotta, or plaster which has been varnished. The pulp is patted into the mold with the hand, and then the excess water is removed with sponges. The artist continues to sponge the paper, all the time squeezing the sponge to remove the excess water. At the same time, he slowly begins to press the paper into the mold. The casting is allowed to dry in the air, and when it's completely dry, the finished sculpture is removed from the mold.

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