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Contact: Locks Gallery  
T 215-629-1000/F 215-629-3868  
info@locksgallery.com

## Standing on the Edge: 20th Century Sculpture

April 1–May 13, 2011

Opening reception:  
Friday, April 1st, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Gallery hours:  
Tues - Sat: 10am - 6pm



Isamu Noguchi, *Untitled*, 1946, unique slate, 19 x 10 x 8 inches

March 2011, Philadelphia, PA – Locks Gallery is pleased to present *Standing on the Edge: 20th Century Sculpture*, on view April 1st through May 13th, 2011. There will be an opening reception on Friday, April 1st, from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

*Standing on the Edge* explores the sensation of vertigo and the fragile balance of an individual when facing war, the forces of Nature, or nostalgia. The exhibition gathers three groups of standing sculptures with elongated forms by Louise Bourgeois, Isamu Noguchi, and Bryan Hunt as well as a mobile by Alexander Calder, a table piece by Anthony Caro and figures by Alexander Archipenko, Reg Butler, Lacques Lipchitz, Roberto Matta, Auguste Rodin, and Ossip Zadkine.

Louise Bourgeois' *Persistent Antagonism* (1949) and *Friendly Evidence* (1950) are among the first sculptures she made upon arrival in New York. She said that she was sculpting her emotions by shifting the pain onto the sculpted material. She was experiencing deep homesickness, as she was isolated from her family and especially missing her son. She portrayed him in *Portrait of Jean-Louis* (1947-49) with two legs suggesting fragility and the ranges of windows in the upper part evoking a house.

Isamu Noguchi's slate sculptures date from 1945-46, with society coping with the horrors of World War II and when the artist began to experiment with free association and the intuitive methods of the Surrealists. The intertwined shapes of thin stone slabs evoke the fragility of the human psyche and the uncertainty stemming from the world at war. He de-

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600 Washington Square South  
Philadelphia PA 19106  
tel 215.629.1000 fax 215.629.3868  
info@locksgallery.com  
www.locksgallery.com

scribes them as memories of humanity: “The very fragility gives a thrill... It’s like life - you can lose it at any moment.” (I. Noguchi, March 1960)

Bryan Hunt’s bronze waterfalls, *Mysterion* and *Rite of Spring* suggest figurative subjects as well - a caryatid with contorted draped forms. The adjoining cast bronze armatures in severe, narrow profiles act as architectural frames. Hunt’s sculpture from this period reveal his adept hand with diverse materials (wood, bronze, clay) and the traditions of modeling, carving, metal casting and patination.

Locks Gallery is located at 600 Washington Square South in Philadelphia, PA. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 6pm. For additional information, please contact Locks Gallery at 215.629.1000 voice, 215.629.3868 fax, or [info@locksgallery.com](mailto:info@locksgallery.com).

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