

In Pictures - Nova's Ark Project Unveils New Sculptures

July 13, 2013 by Pat Rogers

The eleptical house seems to smile as it looks outward upon travelers in cars, on bicycles and on foot that pass by on Scuttle Hole Road or Millstone Road near to where the two country roads meet besides a relatively new traffic circle. The house is kept company by numerous towering steel sculptures that dot the perimeter of the property and are prominent throughout most of the 95 acre property. There's also grazing sheep that remind that Bridgehampton is farm country.

Welcome to Nova's Ark Project where thousands have been thronging all weekend visiting <u>ArtHamptons</u> 2013. Like last year, Nova's Ark Project has unveiled new sculpture plus an outdoor sculpture walk to showcase works that were previously exhibited inside one of its onsite art galleries.

Nova's Ark Project is the lifelong pursuit of the artist Nova Mihai Popa (1928-2009), who is more commonly known as Nova. During his lifetime, Nova eschewed exhibiting his sculpture in favor of creating a legacy of work that was designed to be installed as a collective whole at The Ark project. The installation known as The Ark Project is designed to embody Nova's concept of Integral Art-a description he coined to encapsulate the unity and diversity of elemental cosmic forces such as waves, spheres, matrices, gravity and pulsations expressed in forms that connect with human experiences and their dreams.

Of all his works, *The Astronauts* may be the most famous. The work is a series of seven towering steel sculptures (each 20 to 22 foot tall) that Nova created to be "the Stonehedge of our time." The work also celebrated Nova's belief that humans were intimately connected to the stars and to the universe.

Since his passing, artworks on the Ark Project are being rotated so new sights can always be seen. For ArtHamptons 2013, a new sculpture walk was created so artfair goers can have an additional art experience. The Sculpture Walk features works from the "Homage to Africa" Series and leads deep into the property alongside a pond. Also new is the reinstallation of the "War" Series elsewhere on sculpture park.

Following is a look some of Nova's sculptures on permanent display. The property is open only by appointment.

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"The Chief with Many Eyes" by NOVA from the "Homage to Africa" series.
Lioness" by NOVA from the "Homage to Africa" series.
*African Dancers" by NOVA from the "Homage to Africa" series.
Detail of "African Dancers" by NOVA.
Following are works on view at Nova's Ark Project:
Sculpture by NOVA.
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BASIC FACTS: Nova's Ark Project is located at 30-60 Millstone Road, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. For information, visit www.novasarkproject.com. The sculpture garden is open by appointment and for special events.

In addition, Nova's work is currently installed at the outdoor sculpture park at Peconic Landing in Greenport, NY.

RELATED: "Nova's Ark Project Unveils New Sculpture" by Pat Rogers. Published July 9, 2012.

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