reform

GALLERY

6819 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90038 T 323.938.1515 F 323.938.1516 www.reform-modern.com

thelanding

The Landing's upcoming exhibition to feature sculpture by Robert Strini

Show's opening to coincide with the launch of the Highrose Art and Design District

Robert Strini: Fluidity in Wood
Opening Reception: Thursday, April 11th, 6 - 9 pm
On Display: April 11th - July 13th

On Thursday, April 11th, the Landing—the fine art gallery housed within the rare furniture gallery Reform—will launch its third exhibition, *Robert Strini: Fluidity in Wood*. The exhibition will show the large sculpture Sheridan Piece by celebrated sculptor Robert Strini, a recipient of the Prix de Rome fellowship whose work is in the permanent collections at the Smithsonian, the Oakland Museum of Art and the University of Virginia Art Museum, among many others. Completed in 1975, Sheridan Piece hasn't been shown since the late 1970s, and Strini calls it one of his favorite pieces.

The exhibition's opening will correspond with Open Door Thursday, a neighborhood event that marks the official launch of the Highrose Art and Design district, which Reform Gallery and the Landing are a part of. On the night of April 11th, the furniture, art and design galleries that cluster near the intersection of Melrose and Highland Avenues—including Galerie Half and The Window, among others—will keep their doors open late and offer food and drinks, and those who attend the Strini opening are invited to explore the other galleries in the district following their visit.

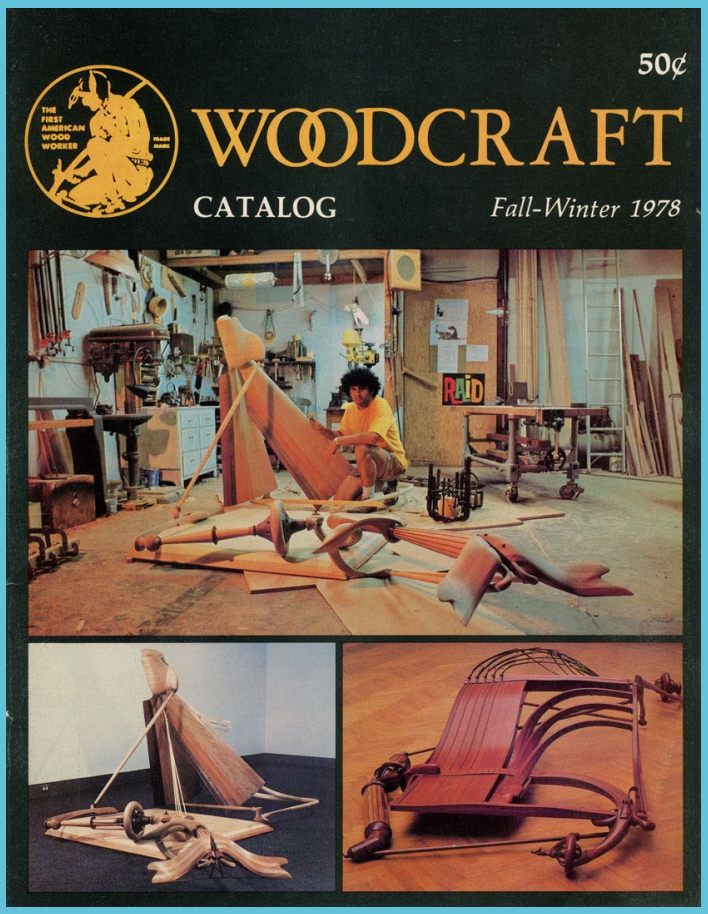
Robert Strini made Sheridan Piece while serving as an artist-in-residence at Canada's Sheridan School of Design and Technology. "Sheridan Piece developed from a series of demonstrations about laminating wood into bent shapes," Strini says. "As you are creating the forms, certain techniques are used to connect them to each other. All these are shared in a workshop situation. Ideas are bounced off the students in the workshop. I did a lot of these workshops all over the country.

The most important thing was the process of how the idea develops. Through this process, the idea can change many times with the potential of becoming a much stronger one.

"As I would explain to the students, I don't draw on paper, I draw with the materials I am using," says Strini. "I start out with one random shape and it grows from there. I always ask the question, What if? What if I add this shape to that shape? This process is what it's all about."

Gerard O'Brien, owner and curator of both the Landing and Reform galleries, was a fan of Strini's ceramics before he became aware of Strini's work in wood. "I'm drawn to Bob as an artist, so whatever medium he's working in, I like," says O'Brien. "He's doing something in his woodwork that's incredibly fluid and kinetic—these pieces feel animated even though they're not. He's taking the wood out of the context that you're used to seeing it in and invoking machines, and that's a part of the work that I really admire—that sense of movement."

A native of Santa Clara, CA, Strini earned an MFA in Art from UC Berkeley before heading to Rome to practice sculpture for two years as a Prix de Rome fellow. Since the 1970s he's taught sculpture at many institutions, including the Rhode Island School of Design, the Art Institute of Chicago, Boston University, UC Santa Cruz and the Corcoran Museum School. He now makes his home in Charlottesville, VA.



reform

GALLERY

Robert Strini
"Sheridan Piece"
Oak, cherry and maple woods

USA, 1974
96"W x 60"D x 48"H

55,000

6819 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90038 T 323.938.1515 F 323.938.1516 www.reform-modern.com

Reform Booth at Design Miami/Basel 2008

REFORM GALLERY

Reform Gallery showcases rare and handcrafted Modern furnishings and decorative arts, with a specialty in California Modernism from the latter half of the 20th century. Owned and curated by Gerard O'Brien, Reform displays works by the most seminal and sometimes underappreciated designer craftsmen of these movements, including Sam Maloof, Charles and Ray Eames, J.B. Blunk, Paul McCobb and Arthur "Espenet" Carpenter, among many others.

In 2006, Reform hosted the exhibition R.M. Schindler: The Gingold Commissions, which featured 31 of Schindler's one-of-a-kind handmade furniture pieces. In 2005, Reform mounted the exhibition California Design: A Celebration of California Design from 1956 to 1976, which brought together works by over 30 groundbreaking designers. Both of these shows were documented by Julius Shulman.

Founded by O'Brien in 2003, Los Angeles-based Reform was first located on La Brea Avenue and later on La Cienega's gallery row. In 2010, Reform moved to its current 3,000-square-foot location on Melrose.

CONTACT

6819 Melrose Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90038

T 323.938.1515
F 323.938.1516

Gerard O'Brien
gerard@reform-modern.com

Nicole Disson
nicole@reform-modern.com