

DIANE BROWN GALLERY

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ART

Galleries: Vital Sculptures, And Mature Artistic Vision

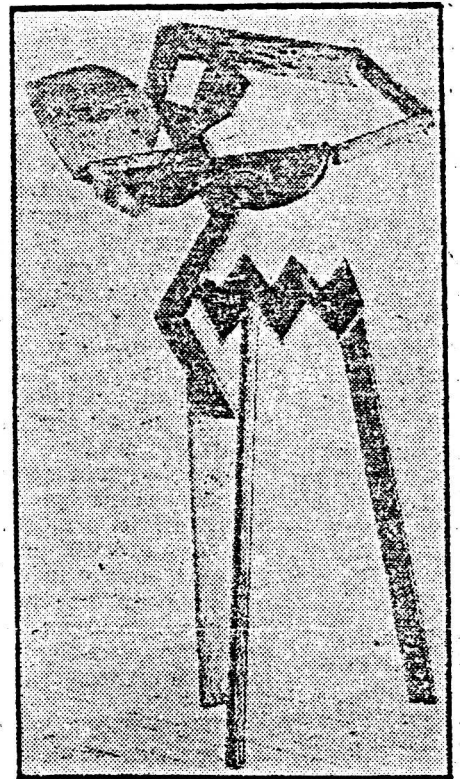
By Benjamin Forgey

In his exhibition at the Diane Brown Gallery (2028 P St. NW) Peter Reginato presents us with a remarkable family of sculptures — each piece bearing the undeniable genetic marks of the familial group, yet each possessing its own personality and character.

The comparison to human traits is not an idle one, for Reginato's sculptures do indeed remind one of the human anatomy: long, narrow, stiff legs, pelvic "bones" twisted in vibrant contraposto, spines of linked "z"-shapes in steel. The metaphor should not be pressed too far, however, for they remind one distantly of other things as well — skewed music stands, tables supporting lively still-life arrangements, things that used to move and have a purpose, but no longer do.

In the end, the vitality of these pieces is not associative; it is, quite simply, something innate, some in-built quality having to do with a pleasing, dynamic contrapuntal arrangement of parts. Two of the pieces, "Toranga" and "Player Queen," are affably active giants, seven or eight feet high. The others are more modestly scaled at about five feet or so. All of them show an artist manipulating his own distinct vocabulary of shapes and his own sense of spatial progressions with a special sense of surprise and assurance. The show continues through June 15.

"Player Queen," by Peter Reginato.



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