

STOLEN ART



BRONZE SCULPTURE RECOVERED



Shrady's Monarch of the Plains

When a West Los Angeles couple returned to their home in March of 1996, they discovered they were the victims of the theft of their Henry Merwin Shrady bronze sculpture of a buffalo entitled "Monarch of the Plains." The bronze had been in the family since the 1930s and had always been kept outdoors near the back door. Later, the family was amazed to learn that another statue from the same cast was auctioned at Christie's in New York for \$123,500 in December of 1996.

There were no witnesses, clues or physical evidence at the time of the theft and the investigation languished for more than a year. However, an art dealer who was visiting a gallery thumbed through an art newsletter containing a description of the stolen bronze and remembered seeing it at a thrift shop in Mar Vista a year earlier.

This tip resulted in the arrest of the suspect and the recovery of the statue by the Art Theft Detail.

Career criminal Henry Benton Lightfoot III originally came in contact with the victims by going door-to-door, offering to paint house numbers on curbs. He was hired to perform additional painting and maintenance jobs around the house. The victims knew that Lightfoot had been in jail in the past but wanted to aid him in his rehabilitation by providing him with honest work.



Henry Lightfoot III

Unfortunately, Lightfoot took advantage of their kindness by stealing the bronze when they were not home. He immediately drove to several thrift shops along Venice Blvd. and eventually sold it for \$50. Luckily, the bronze was traced and recovered and Lightfoot is now in jail. He has been in prison twice before and has an arrest record for robbery, kidnapping, burglary, forgery, drugs, assault on a police officer, receiving stolen property, etc.

He later pled guilty to all charges and was sentenced to state prison.

Requesting any information on . . .

1. **Francisco Zuniga** - (20) etchings - 24" x 30" - in a black cloth & cardboard portfolio box - depicting Mexican women. (97-0820878 • 9-4/97)
2. **Lenore Beran** - bronze cold cast sculpture of upper torso of Indian brave with raised arms on a marble base - 12" tall - signed. (97-0728235 • 8-1/97)

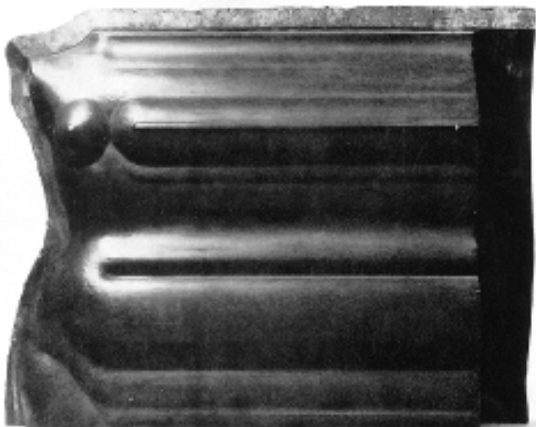
ADDITIONAL STOLEN ART

KAUBA, Carl
bronze sculpture
19th century



96-1731322

10-1/96



97-0819468

9-1/97

SUBIRACHS, Josep M.
1967
La Creacion de la Mujer
bronze sculpture
28" x 28" x 7"



97-0117847

7-3/97

BOROFSKY, Jonathan
1986
Flowers at No. 2984226
unique screen print with hand painting
44 1/4" x 35 1/2"



MENE, Pierre-Jules
bronze sculpture
1873
26" tall
depicting man with falcon

96-1731322

10-1/96

ADDITIONAL STOLEN ART



gilded porcelain vase
Dresden 1860
painted figures of Arabs on horses

96-1731322

10-1/96



Bohemian gilded Madonna
holding flowers
circa 1435
limewood

96-1731322

10-1/96



bronze sculpture of horse
19th century
11" x 17"

96-1731322

10-1/96

ADDITIONAL STOLEN ART

97-1529304 N.Hwd Robb



NISHIZAWA, Luis
1926-
abstract of cave and figures
mixografia print
approx. 40" x 30"



BEARDEN, Romare
1914-1988
Manhattan street scene
watercolor in blue, green & yellow
24" x 18"



TAMAYO, Rufino
1974
Nino Bailando (Dancing Child)
mixografia print
29" x 21"



REMBRANDT, Harmensz van Rijn
1658
Lieven van Coppenol, Writing Master
etching, drypoint & burin
5 5/8" x 5 1/4"



unknown
guitar player
oil on canvas
approx. 36" x 24"