

Museum of Fine Arts Outdoor Sculptures

Jonathan Borofsky
Cyrus Dallin
Willem de Kooning
Antonio Lopez Garcia
Joel Shapiro
Ah Xian

465 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115



Appeal to the Great Spirit (Cyrus Dallin)



Untitled (Joel Shapiro)

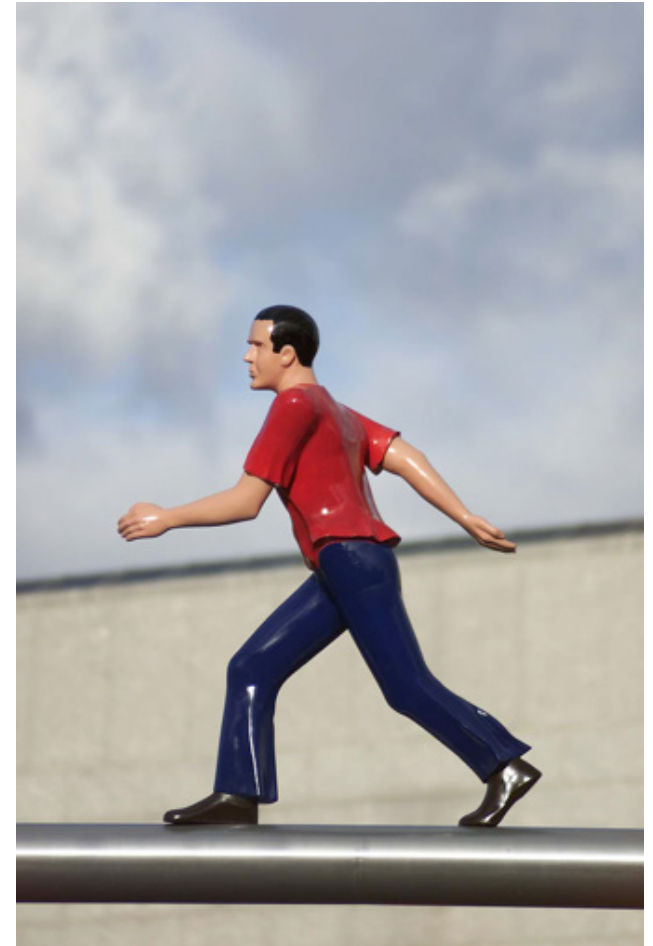
Essay by Alex Roberts



Untitled (Ah Xian)



Night and Day (Antonio Lopez Garcia)



Walking Man (Jonathan Borofsky)

The museum's first building was completed in 1908 in the Neoclassical style, featuring a 500-foot granite façade with a grand rotunda reaching out towards Huntington Avenue. The Fenway wing opened in 1915, followed by two additions by I.M. Pei in 1981 and Foster + Partners in 2010. The Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) outdoor art collection is comprised of a group of sculptures from the 19th century to the present. They are placed around the exterior of the museum complex. Sculptures in a broad range of techniques and materials include works by Cyrus Dallin (p. 1), Jonathan Borofsky (p. 2), Antonio Lopez Garcia (right) and Joel Shapiro (p. 1). The works frame both entrances to the museum and anchor the corner points of the Huntington Avenue and Fenway façades. The sculptures on the lawns surrounding the MFA accentuate the museum's mission and add a higher level of connection with the public.



“Indian Hunter” and “Pronghorn Antelope” (Paul H.anship)

The MFA’s outdoor art collection validates the intense range of possibilities in sculpture. Between Antonio Lopez Garcia’s enlarged castings of an infant’s head and Taihu Rock with natural perforations, a corralled stone from the Chinese Qing dynasty, the spectrum is broad. Noteworthy is the popular appeal of “Night and Day” sculpture, which is popular with visitors posing for photos.

The narrative of this space is conducted in a manner of possibility, experienced by passing pedestrians and from moving traffic on the streets surrounding the museum. The works in bronze that accentuate the two main entrances and the sculptures that anchor each corner the site offer content and meaning to the place, blending contemporary art and classical American sculpture.