



Sculpture In The Wild Symposium gets underway



KEVIN O'DWYER
IRELAND

"You really do have to put it out there and really get out of the box. And doing something, like we found in Ireland, such as coming in with artists who approach their contemporary art practice very differently from what would be the norm in an area...that breaks down a lot of boundaries and it makes people think about other ways of approaching their art form as well."



STEVEN SIEGEL
UNITED STATES

"I think you've got the opportunity to see something pretty special happen...I've never really seen this in this country, it happens a lot in Europe where they have these kinds of sculpture parks for artists who work with natural materials and natural settings and all that, but we don't really do this in this country, so who would have figured Lincoln Montana? Pretty great."



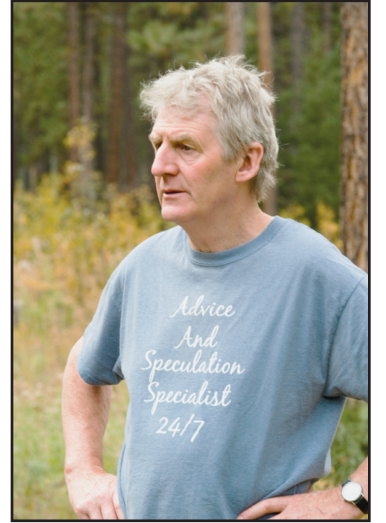
JAAKO PERNU
FINLAND

"I got a message from Kevin and he asked me if I am interested about this symposium and I said of course. I'd like to come here. I didn't know him before. I think I had quite correctly understood what kind of place is this because I saw (on the Internet) many pictures... It is a little bit like Lapland in Finland, the same atmosphere."



JORN RONNAU
DENMARK

"Well you know it's incredible it's really very, very interesting. I've never been to America, to the states before so...Lincoln, Montana is my first place to land in America. So I'm still taking in all the many things. I'm amazed that this town and this area could do the idea and the people and the volunteers for this project, so it's really impressive."



ALAN COUNIHAN
IRELAND

"It feels like being invited here you're not just being invited to make work; you're being invited in the adventure of realizing something pretty special. And that nobody's got a preconception of what it might be, it's gonna happen organically, according as the work is made and that's really the best way to do something, you know."



Volunteers are briefed on what to expect during the project at an orientation meeting Monday morning.



Becky Garland talks to volunteers Sue Howsmon and Ginger Stocks outside one of the tents set up for shelter at the site.



Artist Steven Siegel explains the technique for laying out and nailing the layers of newspaper that will form his sculpture.

Story, photos by Roger Dey
 BVD Editor

With all five of the visiting artists in Lincoln, and volunteers who are ready to help them create their works of art, the Sculpture in the Wild International Sculpture Symposium got underway Monday, Sept. 15.

The symposium took nearly a year and a half of dreaming, planning, fundraising, bureaucratic hurdles and hard work to become a reality.

From the outset, it was known that inviting some of the world's top artists to Lincoln to create site-specific, monumental abstract work would be something completely unique

in Montana, but according to the artists, it quite likely to be the first of its kind in the United States, both in content and in structure.

Ireland's Alan Counihan took note of the distinctive nature of the project.

"I lived in California for 20 years and I worked as an artist for most of that time and I've never come across a symposium like this anywhere in the United States," he said. "When people in the United States talk about a symposium, they normally refer to what in Europe they call a conference. People come for two or three days, they talk and they show their work.

A symposium... when it's used in Europe it means working together and living together."

Counihan believes the way in which it came about is also unusual.

"I think what's amazing about the project is it's a community venture and that the community decided they wanted to do it," he said. "Most times these things come through some kind of state funding state organization, the money's in place and the people put it together, but because this is almost a spontaneous thing 'lets do this' and they've made it happen."

LOCAL EVENTS

Sept. 15 - Oct. 4
Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild International Sculpture Symposium

SEPT. 22 : Artist Talk: Kevin O'Dwyer
 Moose Joose - 7:30 p.m.

SEPT. 24: Artist Talk: Jaako Pernu
 Lost Woodsman - 7:30 p.m.

SEPT. 29: Artist Talk: Jorn Ronnau
 Great Divide Gallery - 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 20-21
Lambkins Rod Run and Wilderness Car Show
 Downtown Lincoln

Sept. 28
Annual Helmville Turkey Shoot
 Helmville Community Center dinner starts at noon

Nov. 8
Community Benefit
 Lincoln Community Hall

Nov. 9
St. Thomas Craft Bazaar
 Four locations in Helmville

Calendar brought to you by Becky



Call 431-0325 to have an event added to the calendar