

For Immediate Release
December 5, 2011

Andy Moerlein: Avian Language
January 4 – February 5, 2012

Opening reception: Friday January 6, 5 – 8 p.m.
Gallery Talk: Saturday January 21, 3 – 5 p.m.
Closing Reception: Friday February 3, 5 – 8 p.m.
Gallery hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 12 – 6 p.m.

Boston, MA: Avian Language is a debut solo exhibition for Andy Moerlein at Boston Sculptors Gallery. This show features a forest of shaped wood, altered trees and ceramic birds in conversation.

Moerlein's work has a story teller's attitude - that tightrope walk between naturalism and symbolism. The ceramic birds fill the wooden structures with a communication that is evident yet ambivalent. Some snuggle together; others turn their backs to each other while harnessed together by bonds of tension. The birds seem ordinary - an embodiment of stillness - frozen in place, yet each conveys a gesture that implies movement. It seems that there is more to be understood than is portrayed. Stones convey, birds imply dialogue, and materials whisper of contradiction and illusion. These birds at rest are prone to startle and fly at any moment.

“My work lately has embodied birds because they seem so innately expressive. We mammal-human-types possess a conceit about our creative uniqueness. Considering that by evolutionary science we are no more nearly related to a bird than a stone cold lizard, I find the emotional/musical affection we project upon avian kind curious. The parallels between avian and human - warm bodies, social complexities, and a passion to communicate - fascinate me. Birds see a kinship between our worlds and speak to me personally.”

Andy Moerlein has a home and studio in Bow, New Hampshire. He is known regionally and nationally for his large scale outdoor sculptures and installations. This past summer he was in residency at Verbier Switzerland. Moerlein has been selected to be the 2012 Artist in Residence at Fruitlands Museum in Harvard MA. He will have a season long show that will present his prints, drawings, six large outdoor sculptures and he will create a new permanent piece for the Museum's collection.

Avian Language will be shown concurrently with the sculpture of Donna Dodson.

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