

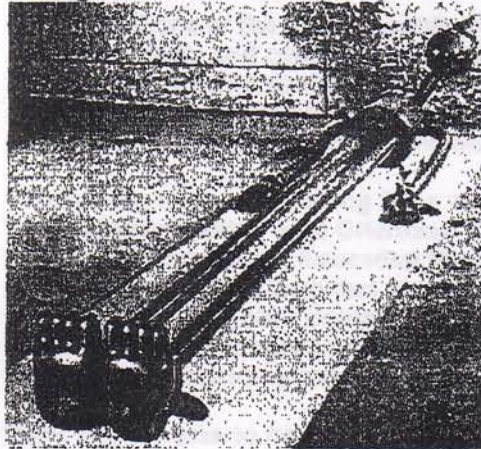
# Inside Indiana Business

FEBRUARY 4, 2005

## *Indianapolis Lands Major Otterness Art Exhibit*

The Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission, the Arts Council of Indianapolis, the Deborah Joy Simon Charitable Trust and Marlborough Gallery are pleased to announce Tom Otterness in Indianapolis, an exhibition of 17 sculptures by New York sculptor Tom Otterness.

The works will be on display in public spaces throughout downtown Indianapolis from April 15 through July 31.



Tom Otterness in Indianapolis

represents the largest public art exhibition to ever be hosted in the Indiana capital. It also brings this world-renowned artist from Kansas back to his Midwestern roots.

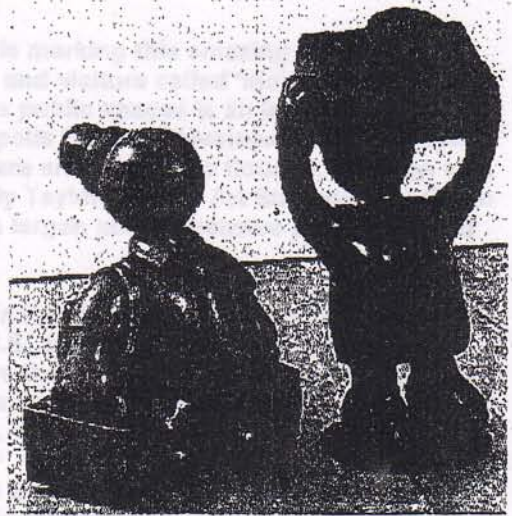
Otterness' most recent show was the highly successful, Tom Otterness on Broadway, which spanned five miles of New York City's Broadway. The city extended the exhibition for four months due to

popular demand. The show will travel directly from New York City to Indianapolis in mid-April.

We pursued this blockbuster exhibition for Indianapolis because Tom's original style and humor makes the art appealing to a wide variety of audiences," said Greg Charleston of the Arts Council of Indianapolis.

"We're honored to be the only city besides New York to host the exhibition. There's no better time for it in Indianapolis because this year marks a unique point in our city's growth. Never before have we had so much investment at cultural institutions come to fruition in one year and so many prestigious national arts-related conventions meeting here," said Mayor Bart Peterson.

"In addition to Tom Otterness in Indianapolis, just a few of the





developments in the city this year include the opening of the Indianapolis Museum of Art's (IMA) massive expansion, including new exhibition spaces, a Wolfgang Puck eatery, and the development of an art and nature park; the celebratory re-opening of the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art following the donation of the Gund Collection of Western Art, as well as a major gallery expansion and sculpture garden addition; a \$27 million new facility for the 100-year-old Herron School of Art + Design; and the opening of a new outdoor arts studio at the Indianapolis Art Center designed by renowned architect Michael Graves, who grew up just blocks away. In addition, blockbuster exhibits in the city this year include the "International Arts and Crafts" exhibit making its first U.S. stop at the IMA, "Rockwell's America" and "Dinosphere" at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, the world's largest children's museum; "Georgia O'Keeffe: Visions of the Sublime" at the Eiteljorg; and "The Lord of the Rings" at the Indiana State Museum.

Indianapolis also will host the American Association of Museums Conference in May, the Association of Children's Museums Conference in April, and the National Association of Music Merchants in August.

"The Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission is marking this amazing cultural convergence with a citywide celebration for residents and visitors called 'Indianapolis 2005,'" said Mayor Peterson, "and highlighting art in our city's public spaces is an important part of that celebration." Mayor Peterson created the Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission in 2001 to support and encourage an environment where art and culture flourish. Working with its partners, the Arts Council of Indianapolis and Mindy Taylor Ross of Art Strategies, LLC, the commission secured the Otterness exhibit as part of a larger, comprehensive program called Public Art Indianapolis.

Considered one of the premier public artists working in the United States, Tom Otterness has exhibited widely and completed commissions in the U.S. and abroad. His stylized bronze figures combine into sculptural ensembles that explore the range of human experience, from grand ambition to common foibles, plucking imagery and themes from popular culture and subtly transforming them into humorous commentary.

"I'm looking forward to seeing if the works will take on a new meaning as they move from New York to Indianapolis," said Otterness. Tom Otterness in Indianapolis will include *Marriage of Real Estate and Money*, *Educating the Rich on Globe* as well as more recent works such as *Free Money* and *Mad Mom* that draw characters from fairy tale and myth. Reflecting the artist's use of scale to establish complex relationships between his sculpture and their surroundings, the featured work ranges in size from *Fallen Dreamer*, which measures a mere 30 inches tall, to *Escaping Leg*, standing over 20 feet tall.

Many of the works to be displayed in Otterness in Indianapolis were featured in Tom Otterness on Broadway; four works, *Computer Pile*, *Tree of Knowledge*, *Male Tourist* and *Female Tourist* will be included in this show for the first time. *Male Tourist* and *Female Tourist* will come from Tom Otterness' personal collection.

"Marlborough Gallery is proud to support this exciting and unprecedented public exhibition of Tom Otterness' work in Indianapolis—we're hoping that Indianapolis residents and visitors alike enjoy these wonderful works of art," said President of Marlborough Gallery, Pierre Leval.

Otterness' work has been exhibited in communities across the globe. In addition to Tom Otterness on Broadway, Otterness has just completed a commission for Public Art Puerto Rico, *El Coqui Gigante de Las Cavernas del Rio Camuy*, in Camuy, Puerto Rico and will have an exhibition of his work at Marlborough Gallery in New York in the fall of 2005. His work is in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art in New York, The Whitney Museum of American Art in New York and The Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, among others. Public



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Public art commissions include installations at the United States courthouses in Minneapolis and Sacramento, in Battery Park City, and a large scale commission at the 14th Street A/C/E/L subway station in New York City. He has recently completed an extensive public commission for Museum Beelden aan Zee in The Netherlands. Otterness, a New York resident since the 1970s, works from a studio in DUMBO, Brooklyn.

# American City & County

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Art to touch, sit, climb ...

Downtown Indianapolis is the next stop for Tom Otterness, a Brooklyn, N.Y., based artist who is bringing his Broadway sculptures exhibit to Indiana's capital. According to the Indiana Star, the bronze sculptures are popular because viewers are allowed to touch them, sit on them and even climb on the works. [Indiana Star](#)