



Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art

Walter Redinger | Return to the Void: The Ghost Ship and other tales from the ether

During the late 1960s and 70s **Walter Redinger** was one of Canada's most prominent and internationally known artists. In particular, his large-scale, eccentric, pod-shaped, fibreglass sculptures were exhibited in prestigious galleries, museums and public spaces across Canada and in various places around the world. In 1972 Redinger represented Canada at the Venice Biennale.

Sometime during the 1980s he experienced what might be considered an existential re-evaluation of his life and of his artistic practice. Re-invigorated since the mid-1990s, however, Redinger has produced a remarkably prodigious body of innovative work, mostly in sculpture, drawing and installation. His most noteworthy and inspirational creation from this period is the massive, 42 foot-long, behemoth, *The Ghost Ship*, which will be publicly exhibited for the first time at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art. Made of fibreglass and wood, this sculptural *tour-de-force* is possibly the most significant crowning achievement of his long career. At once an imposing physical presence and a metaphorical embodiment of the ethereal and ephemeral aspects of existence, *The Ghost Ship* is an undeniably powerful visual spectacle. Along with *The Ghost Ship*, MOCCA will present a choice selection of Redinger's numerous prints, drawings and "digital drawing collages" from various series and dates ranging from the mid-1990s through 2006. and *The God-Seekers*, a series of black totemic sculptural "figures" that received favourable response in *The New York Times*, while on exhibit at the Mitchell Alpus Gallery in 2006.

During the course of the exhibition, MOCCA will release an illustrated publication on the recent work of Walter Redinger with texts by David Liss, Gary Michael Dault and Anna Hudson.