

A SELECTION OF SCULPTURES BY SVEN BOVIN (1915-2000)

Sven Bovin's art is characterized by an honest naturalism, in which identification and material quality go hand in hand. In his stone sculptures, Bovin would "listen" to the rock and eventually cut out the animals or other figures that the stone was carrying. In his portraits he used his fine craftsmanship in showing both the physical and the personal character.

Bovin, Sven. Three Generations (Tre generationer), 1988. Plejehjemmet Havgården, Brændingen Løkken

The closely knit family of three generations reflects the values most important to the residents of the nursing home; family, closeness, and comfort.

Bovin, Sven. Minister of Transportation Thomas Larsen (Trafikminister Ths. Larsen), 1944. Borgergade, Vrå

Thomas Larsen was closely associated with Vrå, and the town raised this memorial to one of its sons who rose to the top in politics.

Bovin, Sven. Hinkepigen, 1971. Jernbanegade / Østergade, Vrå

This little girl at play is an example of Bovin's simplified stylistic language. The girl is completely engrossed in play, and the peace and harmony she exudes gives the sculpture a similar sensibility.

Bovin, Sven. Rhinoscerous (Næsehorn), 1973. Tårs School, Vrejlev Klostervej, Tårs

The rhino is rooted in place, and oversees the children on the playground. Children may safely crawl on its back, this animal became used to them long ago.

Bovin, Sven. Freedom Monument in Boleje (Frihedsmonument i Boleje), 1945. Bolejevej / Skærumvej, Lendum

The monument was erected in memory of a fight between Danish freedom fighters and German soldiers in Boleje, May 1945. Three Danish freedom fighters were killed.

Bovin, Sven. The Hares (Harerne), 1980. Lendum School, Enghavevej 2, Lendum

These soft, young hares are symbols of spring and of childhood. This sculpture by Bovin is thus a charming parallel to the children of this school, who must learn to go out into the world, and also still need protection.

Bovin, Sven. Representative Jørgen Wendelboe Larsen (Etatsråd Jørgen Wendelboe Larsen), 1940. By the forest pavilion, Bakkevej 5, Tolne Forrest, Tolne

Jørgen Larsen was one of the area's most influential citizens, who started a large number of initiatives, including the planting of Tolne forest. A group of citizens created this memorial in the forest in appreciation of his work.

Bovin, Sven. Fishermen's Memorial (Fiskermindesmærke), 1951. Hirtshals Churchyard, Kirkevænget, Hirtshals

The boy lays a bouquet on the grave of his loved one, who died at sea. The inscription under the boy describes loss and the realism of a harsh life, "In memory of those- who remained out there." On the other stones appear the names of over 50 townsfolk from Hirtshals who since 1905 have lost their lives to the sea.

Bovin, Sven. Sea Horse (Søhest), 1972. Hirtshals gl. Rådhus, Jørgen Fibigersgade 20, Hirtshals

The sea horse is one of Nature's strange creatures. With its trumpet

mouth and curly tail it seems quite extraterrestrial, even when it is made from solid granite.

Bovin, Sven. Fisherman's Son (Fiskerdrengen), 1982. Kystvejen / Havnegade, Hirtshals

The young man who looks out to sea is a well-known part of Hirtshals' history, where generation after generation was dependent on the sea for a living. Bovin's simplified style reinforces the impression of a young man who knows what the future has in store for him.