

Norton Simon Museum For Immediate Release

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Richard Hunt: *Details*

February 28–July 4, 2022

Pasadena, CA—The Norton Simon Museum presents *Richard Hunt: Details*, an exhibition featuring 17 lithographs that the artist created during a residency at the Tamarind Lithography Workshop in Los Angeles in 1965. While Hunt is renowned as a sculptor, the prints on view demonstrate how working in lithography complemented and advanced the artist's aesthetic interests. By forging a dialogue between these two mediums, Hunt draws our attention to the complexity of depicting three-dimensional form and the process of perceiving it.



Richard Hunt (American, b. 1935), *Untitled*, 1965, lithograph, Norton Simon Museum, Anonymous Gift, P.1967.20.077, © Richard Hunt

Chicago-based artist Richard Hunt (b. 1935) emerged in the late 1950s as one of the foremost practitioners of “direct-metal” sculpting, an additive process that involves manipulating material directly rather than carving or casting it. By welding together scrap metal, such as discarded automobile mufflers and table legs, Hunt creates expressive and intriguingly organic structures that mobilize the space around them.

Hunt explored the graphic potential of these forms during a residency at the Tamarind Lithography Workshop in Los Angeles in 1965. Working with master printer Kenneth Tyler, he produced a suite of 8 lithographs entitled *Details*, along with 17 independent prints, which use a range of visual strategies to engage with the artist's sculptural practice. Spare line drawings stress the linear profiles of sculpture, activating uninked white paper to define shape and space. Gestural, painterly compositions suggest the surface textures of welded metal, and employ an acid-based technique

pioneered by Tyler to create tonal gradations and a sense of depth. In the few color prints, muted tones of ochre, maroon and teal allude to metallurgical processes of melting, corrosion and patination. These lithographs position us within Hunt's sculptures, using closely cropped views to heighten their surrealistic effects while underscoring the impossibility of seeing three-dimensional objects all at once.

Richard Hunt: Details is organized by Chief Curator Emily Talbot. It will be on view in the Museum's focus gallery on the main level from February 28 through July 4, 2022. A virtual curator-led walkthrough of the exhibition and a transcribed interview with the artist will be available on nortonsimon.org in late winter 2022.

About the Norton Simon Museum

The Norton Simon Museum is known around the world as one of the most remarkable private art collections ever assembled. Over a 30-year period, industrialist Norton Simon (1907–1993) amassed an astonishing collection of European art from the Renaissance to the 20th century, and a stellar collection of South and Southeast Asian art spanning 2,000 years. Modern and Contemporary Art from Europe and the United States, acquired by the former Pasadena Art Museum, also occupies an important place in the Museum's collections. The Museum houses more than 12,000 objects, roughly 1,000 of which are on view in the galleries and gardens. Two temporary exhibition spaces feature rotating installations of artworks not on permanent display.

Location: The Norton Simon Museum is located at 411 W. Colorado Blvd. at Orange Grove Boulevard in Pasadena, Calif., at the intersection of the Foothill (210) and Ventura (134) freeways. For general Museum information, please call (626) 449-6840 or visit nortonsimon.org. **Temporary Hours:** The Museum is open Thursday through Monday, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. **Admission:** General admission is \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors. Members, students with I.D., and patrons age 18 and under are admitted free of charge. The Museum is wheelchair accessible. **Parking:** Parking is free but limited, and no reservations are necessary. **Public Transportation:** Pasadena Transit stops directly in front of the Museum. Please visit <http://pasadenatransit.net> for schedules. The MTA bus line #180/181 stops in front of the Museum. The Memorial Park Station on the MTA Gold Line, the closest Metro Rail station to the Museum, is located at 125 E. Holly St. at Arroyo Parkway. Please visit www.metro.net for schedules. **Covid-19 Protocols and Guidelines:** For up-to-date information on our Covid-19-related protocols, please visit nortonsimon.org/visit.