

P.O. Box 42534
Washington, DC 20015
www.washingtonsculptors.org

W A S H I N G T O N S C U L P T O R S G R O U P

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Contact: Kyan Bishop
E-mail: washsculptorsgroup@gmail.com
Tel: (301)891-1728

SCULPTURE 1275: Craig Kraft

On view January 18 – March 19, 2010

Washington, DC: The Washington Sculptors Group (WSG) is pleased to announce the opening of the seventh exhibition in a series of sculpture solos featured in the lobby of 1275 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. In cooperation with the Axent Realty Group, the WSG is presenting this series of curated sculpture exhibitions to showcase the work of their membership.

This exhibition features the sculpture of **Craig Kraft**, who, over the past 35 years, has gained national recognition for his innovative neon light works. Mr. Kraft has been working with rolled aluminum and neon to create monumental public art works for the last 10 years, and his sculptures have been featured in over 120 exhibits throughout the US, 13 of them in solo shows. He has been commissioned to create light sculptures for several DC-area communities, most recently a large-scale sculpture for the Watha T. Daniel Library in the Brookland neighborhood of Washington, DC. A member of the faculty of the Smithsonian Institution Studio Arts Program for 17 years, Mr. Kraft received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He lives and works in a converted historic firehouse in Washington, DC.



Craig Kraft,
Aerial Delineation (detail)
Rolled aluminum and neon, 2006

Mr. Kraft's work was chosen by **Peter Winant**, who was selected by the WSG to serve as a juror for the 2010 series. Mr. Winant is the Associate Director of the School of Art at George Mason University and, since 2006, has been a panelist on WETA's "Around Town" program, which offers reviews of Washington-area arts and theater events and programs. He has been active in the DC-area arts community since the 1980s and is best known for his abstract figurative steel sculpture, and for his groundbreaking work in installations and other media with Art Attack, Workingman Collective, and Floating Lab Collective, collaborative artists' groups whose work questions ideas of authorship, context, and the locus of artwork. Speaking about Mr. Kraft's work, he stated, "Craig's art creates a perfect interface between function, pure aesthetics, architecture and sculpture. As such, it speaks in a rich language that engages us in a variety of meaningful ways. I felt the scale and radiating color of the piece, even the hum of the lights would act as a beacon for people passing in the street and as powerful, yet playful presence for those who work in the building and will pass by it daily."

The show will be on view January 18 – March 19, 2010.

A closing reception with the artist will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2010 from 6:00 until 8:00 pm.

All are welcome to attend and the exhibition is free and open to the public. The building lobby is accessible Monday through Friday during the hours of 8 am - 8 pm.

For more information about this exhibition or for further details about the WSG, visit www.washingtonsculptors.org.

Additional images are available upon request for reproduction.