

The Power of Creation

A visit to sculptor Erik Lemcke's studio

I have had a truly fascinating studio visit with the sculptor Erik Lemcke, who creates sculptures in stoneware, bronze, granite and marble. He is self-taught and has worked with sculpture since 1993, mastering the most demanding techniques. Here, stone and spirit meet in a song of life force and love, taking on a life-affirming and moving form. It is an art that opens sources of light and life force.

The artist works in the space between the pre-conceived, the visionary and the creative – a space that opens onto the unsayable. It is here, in these in-between spaces, where body, stone, life and heart meet, that the creative power of form intensifies. Transformations often occur when there is a resistance to be overcome. The sculptor Erik Lemcke has chosen materials that offer resistance, but which, in his hands, open onto the very hearth of the creative process – an encounter between the physical material, such as clay, granite and marble, and technique and spirit, as the force that can reveal the mutual, dynamic connections between the material and the spiritual.

The simple studio, with its beautiful light, holds a great number of different sculptures, among which one theme emerges as especially significant: the revealing of the very forces of life and creation. Erik Lemcke succeeds not only in creating beautiful and powerful expressions through his sculptures, but in opening onto the transformation itself, which sets the room and the viewer into a symbiotic resonance.

Art is by definition elevated above practical purposes, but it is not above having an effect on people's lives. When art is powerful, it touches the body, the heart and the mind all at once. Modern art cannot be confined to an aesthetic norm, but like all art, it can be felt. It has an effect. To feel art with the whole body, and to resonate with a work's particular expression, can open the way to new states and understandings.

Erik Lemcke's art is a cosmic art, eternally valid, in that it is above all life-giving. It deserves to be better known and could, with great benefit, stand in public spaces, as a realisation of the pulse of life – as light and love made real in material, form and spirit, like a stone's hymn to the possibility of life.

This artistic expressive power comes through wonderfully in the different materials, and perhaps most strongly in the hard materials such as granite and marble. It is as though the very nature of the stone calls to whoever is in the room, moving and tuning them to hear the song of the stone.

It is well worth a visit, and is warmly recommended. Erik Lemcke welcomes studio visits, tel: 35365111 or 61304427. See also his website: www.lemcke.dk

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Translated from Danish. Original article: Kunstavisen, November 2004.