

FRANCE - LANDREAU SCULPTURE GARDEN - M. LANDREAU.

1922 Landreau born. (11)

ca. 1936

At the age of 14 Landreau became an ^{baker's} apprentice so he could eventually fulfill his dream of becoming a pastry chef. During WWII pastry-making was inhibited because of rationing and subsequent food shortages. The time he spent in Indochina gave him an appreciation of ^{the design of} temples, pagodas, etc, which would be later reflected in his pebble sculptures. After the war he resumed his career as a baker for 12 years. Partly because he found pastry-making to be too demanding for his liking, he changed jobs and began working for the railroad. He eventually became a train manager (?), collecting pebbles ^{from the} in his spare time. Inspired by the shape and color of the pebbles, Landreau began ^{gluing the pebbles together, first} constructing mushrooms, then animal figures.

The first figure he animated was a person, whose arms would move when a string was pulled; others were animated by a motor. His sculptures include a drunker man whose son searches for him; ^{"one orange too many"} a child with two oranges in hand, the third having fallen to the ground, while a man tells him he should be content with what he has; a blind man without a pension; and the largest, the "Chink and Wedding". ^{"figures about 15" tall"} For some of the ^{100 or so} figures he used real people, ^{the models -} prominent men such as Giscard, Pompidou, de Gaulle and Charles Chaplin (Charlot). He dislikes the thought of selling his pieces, because "how can one easily price this type of work"

Exhibits

Maison de la culture à Nantes (2 wr.)

Musée Dubouffé - Switzerland

a gallery of art - Paris, rue Jacob (2 pieces donated?)

Books

J. Verroust (photos)

Pat Sherman

M. Scheyt (11)

#"ballast"

1958

A large mechanism
 piece outside the spring
 lobby will smoke pipe
 (with the aid of several motors)
 the fella extracted mine.