

PRESS RELEASE

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JONATHAN BOROFSKY'S "TURTLE CLOCK"
A KINETIC INSTALLATION ON THE FACADE OF
REMBA GALLERY TO BE UNVEILED

—Exhibition of Related Works Also on View at the Gallery—

West Hollywood, 2 August 1999—Remba Gallery is pleased to announce the unveiling of *Turtle Clock*, a major new work by Jonathan Borofsky produced by Mixografia and permanently installed on the façade of the Robertson Boulevard gallery. Also on view at the gallery will be *All is One*, an exhibition of sculptural multiples by Borofsky repeating the turtle motif. The exhibition opens Thursday, October 28th from 6 to 8 PM with the inauguration of *Turtle Clock* and a reception for the artist. The exhibition runs through January 8, 2000.

A working timepiece measuring 15 x 40 x 1 feet, *Turtle Clock* consists of seventy-two interlocking copper turtles. Eleven columns of six turtles each—with the first column on the left being one o'clock, the next, two o'clock and so on—mark the hours by moving their heads in and out of their shells. At Noon all the turtles wag their heads simultaneously for one hour.

Conceived by the artist and fabricated by Mixografia Workshop, Borofsky's ingenious and charming device resonates with symbolic meaning. Using the turtle as a metaphor, Borofsky explores the mythic as well as formal qualities these gentle animals embody. Designed to tell time, it nevertheless has a timeless

feeling as the artist has incorporated partial castings of turtles at the beginning and end of the installation. The “ruby” shape fashioned for the turtles’ backs implies enlightenment and heart, while the grid of turtles seems to be “holding hands”—suggesting friendship and camaraderie.

Intended to transmit an ethos, the artist endows turtles with laudable and anthropomorphized qualities: Turtles don’t hear, but they are sensitive. They personify longevity, and as the children’s fable relates—they are slow, but sure. Like humans they have an outer, protective shell that hides a vulnerable, softness inside.

Turtle Clock and its accompanying exhibition, *All is One*—smaller turtles in geometric configurations installed on the gallery walls—continue Borofsky’s search for an authentic connection between the personal and political, the formal and spiritual in his work. Internationally acclaimed for more than two decades for his installations and large-scale public art commissions, the artist’s signature warmth and humor is telegraphed in *Turtle Clock*, his second collaborative project with Lea and Luis Remba of Mixografia Workshop and Remba Gallery.

“*Turtle Clock* presented new challenges for Mixografia,” says Luis Remba. “We are particularly gratified that we were able to translate the artist’s vision of the piece so precisely, and are delighted that its witty presence will be available for all to see as they drive down Robertson Boulevard.”

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Gallery hours: Tuesday – Friday, 10 AM to 5:30 PM, Saturday, 11 AM to 5:30 PM or by appointment.