

“SEA THE FUTURE – CIRCA 20,000 A.P

Featured in this aquarium-like exhibit is an assortment of strangely realistic fish swimming in circular motion. Their forms may remind us of fish we know. Upon closer examination it becomes apparent that their bodies are composed of the same everyday plastic refuse that litters the colorful “ocean” floor. This is a hypothetical vision of a stage in the regeneration of life on the planet after humanity has become extinct. Life evolved again and, due to unforeseen atomic capabilities, evolution has incorporated molecularly stabilized manmade objects into the new “primordial soup” and then into new oceanic life forms.

Why would this happen?

For one or more reasons man has become extinct. Some of these may be:

1. Cataclysmic changes in the planet’s structure causing surface destruction or rearrangement
2. Meteoric or asteroid impact causing darkness and atmospheric changes
3. Major shifts in the planet’s magnetic polarity force fields
4. Unleashing of destructive nuclear energy (possibly by man upon himself)
5. Deterioration and complete breakdown of ecological life support systems due to rampant pollution and toxic contamination by humanity

When might this happen?

Some of these influences might be imminent or even ongoing at the present time. We live in a rapidly evolving and volatile world environment where things may happen quickly and long-range effects are unpredictable. In terms of Earth’s history 20,000 years after the present (A.P.) may not seem to be long enough for life’s demise and subsequent resurgence. Who’s to say that atomic mutation couldn’t speed the timetable? Impossibilities of today may become realities at another time.

What is the importance of this artistic hypothetical scenario?

This is one of my most important works to date. It expanded my perception of the miracle of infinite life and gave me a humbled sense of our place in that huge picture. Even the most strangely diverse concepts, places, people and objects are all a part of each other.

What is the lighter side of this, if any?

Passion and humor seem to be part of my creative process. I freely combine collected objects according to my own rules or lack thereof. Things that look like other things may “become” them. Form is a guiding factor. Out of this process figurative human, animal and other sculptures are created. While working in this mode I unexpectedly came up with several seemingly silly-looking “fish”. After weeks of seeing them as ridiculous, I awoke late one night excited at having the “revelation” that those fish are REAL!!! They look strange only because they are from the future! The next few weeks were spent noticing all things looking like fish parts and assembling the collection of “future fish”. I was driven to materialize the concept to be able to share it with others.