

# ISABEL FOLB SOKOLOW

1934 - 2006

by Joseph V. Lubrano



Isabel Folb Sokolow, a long time member and Director at the American Society of Contemporary Artists, died of leukemia on Friday, May 19, 2006. She was a professional artist working in New York, Florida and Italy. She was a sculptor who made large scale figurative

abstractions in welded steel, as well as marble, clay and other material. She worked with the Educational Alliance on the Lower East Side in New York for many years, and also wrote poetry.

Exhibitions of her work were held at Atlantic Gallery in New York since 1988, and at Sarah Lawrence College in 1977. She led "Art Study Vacations" in Pietrasanta, Italy, where she returned each year to work. She also had studios in Westchester and Miami. Her work was exhibited in museums and galleries both nationally and internationally.

She has been the recipient of several awards including the "Silver Medal Audubon Artist Award" and "Best in Show, National Association of Woman's Award." She produced and hosted cable shows in Westchester, "Art Scene Through An Artist's Eye." Sokolow also taught art therapy at the "Aged Jewish Guild for the Blind."

Isabel Folb Sokolow is survived by her two daughters, Cheryl in New York and Helene (Gregory) Pokrywka in Maryland, and two loved grand children Hillary and Josh.

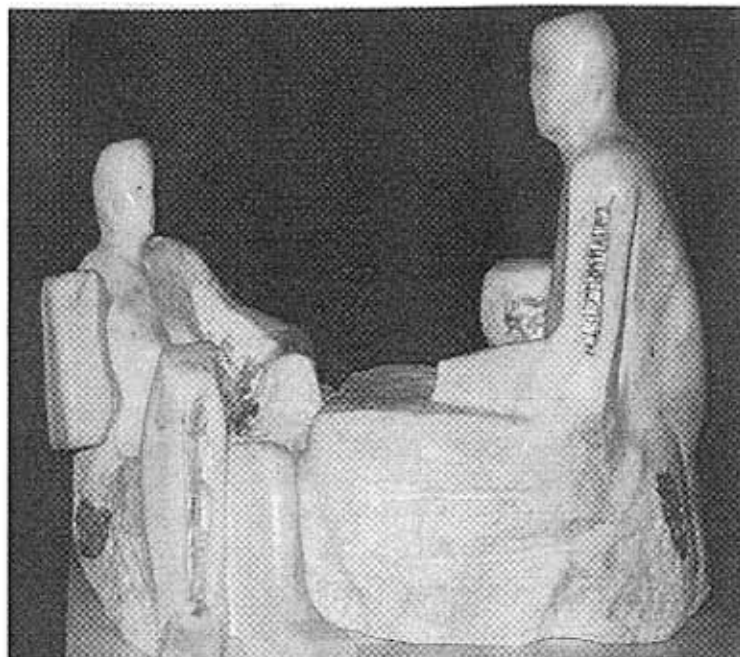
Here is one of her poems, entitled, "My Art."

*My art owes a debt to the methods and traditions of sculpture passed down from antiquity that I have absorbed during my study and work over many years in Italy.*

*These methods and traditions inspire me and influence my work. They are the reasons that I return to Italy for a time each year to explore and expand my ties to the ancient concepts of creativity.*

*I try, in my work, to combine the universal and fixed qualities of being human, that bind us to the past, with the effects of ever advancing technology that thrusts us into the future.*

*I work in several different materials to express my ideas. I work in welded steel, welded and cast bronze, marble, terracotta and raku.*



Isabel Folb Sokolow, "Evening: Reflections," marble, steel, clay sculpture

## A recent review of the work of Isabel Folb Sokolow by Licio Isolani, Professor of Sculpture at Pratt School of Art.

Isabel's art confronts us on many different levels. The various materials that she uses to express her ideas speak to us in different ways. The welded steel pieces are full of movement and excitement. They seem to dance around us in exaggerated form demanding that we heed them. And we do. They are gods and goddesses, heroic images that inspire us.

The clay works tell us stories. They embrace lyrically. They sing. They are joyous, quiet and serene. In marble we have clay translated into another dimension. Now, white and cool, the story evolves in hushed tones with majesty and power.

Isabel's art shows her love of the mediums she uses and the unique touch that she brings to each of them. We come away filled with the magic and emotion of the sculptures for we have not only seen them we have been made to feel them.

## NEWSLETTER SURVIVAL

We need volunteers to help continue the survival of our ASCA Newsletter. We are looking for art-related articles, review of exhibitions, (museum or personal). We will publish your upcoming shows if you give us complete information (name of gallery, full address, sponsor, title of show (if any), dates and year.) Also, please send us your contrast, black and white color photos, laser prints with an arrow indicating which side is UP. We prefer horizontal works of art. Send your material to: Joseph V. Lubrano, 5170 Maris Ave., Apt. 200, Alexandria, VA 22304.