

Felix de Weldon

Lithographs

Felix de Weldon will be remembered as the last Great Master of Sculpture.

Until his death at the age of 96 (June 3rd, 2003), he created over two thousand public monuments on all seven continents, which made him the most prolific monumental sculptor in the history of the world.

Felix de Weldon's (1907-2003) reputation for consistent quality provides the foundation for a good investment. De Weldon is considered the last great master of sculpture.

Acquiring these splendid lithographs by Felix de Weldon is a smart move. These large de Weldon's prints have a billboard quality because of their size and economy of line. By purchasing artwork that is most emblematic of an artist's, you will ensure that you have selected one of the most valuable examples of his work. Rarity is the prevailing influence determining the greater value of a work of art. These rare signed Felix de Weldon works are the only lithographs, which Mr. de Weldon ever produced and we are privileged to have exclusivity on them.

Art binds us to the imagination of the artist who creates from within and expresses their feelings through art. We, then, are the lucky recipients who have the opportunity to surround ourselves with the magic of art. Even though art can be interpreted in a variety of ways, a high quality work will always express itself to you in a manner that is clear and meaningful. At the present time, affordable originals and fine prints seem to be wise investment choices, based upon recent history and market trends, and because the art and artist have withstood the test of time, we can assume they will continue to remain prudent choices.

These works bear important historical significance and are both powerful and rare. They are treasures that can be handed down from generation to generation. We are delighted to offer you the opportunity to acquire these magnificent works.

Felix de Weldon (1907–2003) is considered the last great master of sculpture. With more than two thousand public monuments, Felix de Weldon was not only the most prolific monumental sculptor in history, but until his death, on June 3rd, 2003, he was known to be the only sculptor in the history of the world with monuments on every continent (Admiral Byrd in Antarctica). He completed thirty-three monuments in Washington, DC alone, while his closest competitor completed only three.



Born in Austria in April 1907, his first giant step to fame was in 1924. At age 18, he received the commission to do a monument to commemorate President Hoover's Children's Relief in Europe (The Call of Youth). Upon its completion in 1927, he received worldwide recognition.

After earning his PhD in 1929, he decided to broaden his knowledge of ancient and modern art. He went to Florence and Rome where he had the opportunity to study the impressive works of Greek and Roman masters, like Phydias, Polyclitus and Myron, as well as the geniuses of the Renaissance: Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and Donatello. Next he went to Spain where he studied the works of Goya and Velazquez. Then he moved to Paris where he studied intensely the works of Rodin, Maillol and Bourdelle.

After studying archeology at Oxford, he settled in London. There he established his art studio and members of the royal family attended his first one-man exhibit. His bust of King George V was honored by being placed in the National Portrait Gallery and won him the title of Sir Felix de Weldon. He was invited to Canada to sculpt Prime Minister McKenzie who recommended de Weldon to travel to the United States. In America, he was deeply impressed by the friendliness of the people and extensive studies of early American art. He developed a deep understanding of the country and undertook numerous national as well as international commissions.

After proving his attributes as an artist, in 1950 he was appointed Commissioner of Fine Arts by President Truman, where he served in order to raise awareness of art and sculpture. Felix de Weldon was Commissioner of Fine Arts under five Presidents.

His love for humanity and understanding of the human condition prompted many organizations to seek his works.

He created national monuments, such as the International Red Cross Monument, which is a statement to the selfless actions of people who crossed borders to change lives. He also sculpted the International AIDS Monument to commemorate the lives lost to that terrible disease.

His love for humankind and empathy toward suffering inspired him to create the Peace Monument, a sculpture dedicated to the dream of a world without war.

Felix de Weldon was responsible for creating the most recognizable monument of the 20th Century, the Iwo Jima War Memorial, which is the largest bronze sculpture in the world to date.



In 1945, while serving in the U.S. Navy, Felix de Weldon undertook one of his greatest and most famous works, which catapulted him to fame, "The Flag Raising on Iwo Jima", known officially as the "U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial" in Arlington, VA.

It was a project, which came to occupy almost a decade of his life! In his own words: "A baby usually takes nine months, this took nine years. But it was a very big baby!"

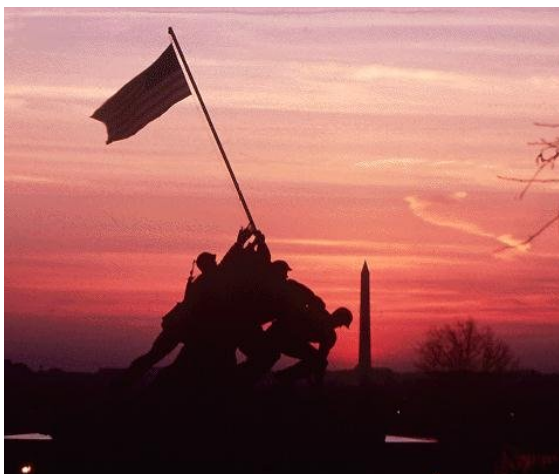
He recalled that he was stationed at the Patuxent Naval Air Station in Maryland, when he saw Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal's Pulitzer Prize winning photograph of the six Marines, who fought their way up Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi to raise the American flag. He was so moved that he began sculpting the first model immediately. Within 48 hours he had finished his first wax model, standing 52 inches high.



As soon as the Marine Corps Commandant, General Shepherd saw the model, he transferred Mr. de Weldon immediately from the Navy to the Marine Corps and commissioned the first bronze monument where the figures were 16 feet tall.

Then the 78 feet-high masterpiece for Washington, D.C. was commissioned with every detail hand done. All figures were first sculpted in the nude and then the clothing was meticulously damped over the muscle formations, giving it such a life-like feeling. The scale is immense with canteens large enough to hold 64 quarts of water and fingers as large as a man's leg.

The monument was dedicated in November, 1954 at its present site in Arlington, Virginia. It became the world's largest sculpture ever cast in bronze and is visited by literally hundreds of thousands of people each year.



Felix de Weldon viewed this memorial as a symbol of unity, action and determination: the will to make the ultimate sacrifice and the dedication to maintain peace, freedom and hold our flag high.

This memorial is by far the most recognizable monument in the history of the world. The famous inscription, witnessing their glory, speaks for itself:

" Uncommon valor is a common virtue"



Iwo Jima Memorial
Hand Pulled Lithograph
Medium: Graphite ink on reeves paper
Limited Edition
Size (inches)
30 h x 44 w

The Iwo Jima War Memorial created by Felix de Weldon is the most recognizable, most visited monument of the 20th Century and the largest bronze sculpture in the world to date.

Mr. de Weldon worked on this monument from 1945 to November 10, 1954. The raising of the flag on Iwo Jima was the first time an American flag was raised on Japanese soil. One third of the Marines lost in World War II were lost on the island of Iwo Jima. Joe Rosenthal's Pulitzer Prize winning photograph was taken on the fifth day of the battle. The battle lasted thirty six days. Three of the six Marines who raised the flag were killed on Iwo Jima.

IWO JIMA MEMORIAL FACTS

Unveiled: November 10th, 1954

Size: The 32-foot-high figures are shown erecting a 60-foot bronze flagpole from which a cloth flag flies 24 hours a day in accordance with Presidential proclamation of June 12, 1961. The figures, placed on a rock slope, rise about 6 feet from a 10-foot base, making the memorial 78 feet high overall. The M-1 rifle and the carbine carried by two of the figures are 16 and 12 feet long, respectively. The canteen would hold 32 quarts of water. **Who is who?:** Pfc. Ira Hayes is the figure farthest from the flag staff Pfc. Franklin R. Sousley to the right front of Hayes Sgt. Michael Strank on Sousley's left PhM. 2/c John Bradley in front of Sousley Pfc. Rene A. Gagnon in front of Strank Cpl. Harland H. Block closest to the bottom of the flagstaff.

Cost: The entire cost of the statue and developing the memorial site was \$850,000--all donated by U.S. Marines, former Marines, Marine Corps Reservists, friends of the Marine Corps, and members of the Naval Service. No public funds were used for this memorial.

Location: The U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial is administered by the National Park Service, it is located in Arlington Va.

Materials: Bronze. The base of the memorial is made of rough Swedish granite.

Inscription: Burnished in gold on the granite are the names and dates of every principal Marine Corps engagement since the founding of the Corps, as well as the inscription: "In honor and in memory of the men of the United States Marine Corps who have given their lives to their country since November 10, 1775." Also inscribed on the base is the tribute of Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz to the fighting men on Iwo Jima: "Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue."

Battle of Iwo Jima - World War II
February 19th to March 16h, 1945

Historical Facts and Figures

Location: Approximately 650 miles south of Tokyo, Japan

Size of Island: Approximately 2 miles wide, 4 miles long, 8 square miles.

Iwo Jima was the first native Japanese soil invaded by Americans in W.W. II.

Approximately 60,000 Americans and 20,000 Japanese participated in the Battle.

The American Flag Raising on Mt. Suribachi took place on February 23, 1945 - the fifth day of battle. The Battle continued with increased intensity for a month more. Almost 7,000 Americans were killed in action at Iwo Jima - more than 20,000 American casualties.

Twenty-seven Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded in the Battle - more than were awarded to Marines and Navy in any other Battle in our country's history.

Three of the men who raised the flag in the Joe Rosenthal photo were killed before the Battle was over.

After the capture of Iwo Jima, more than 30,000 American Airmen's lives were saved when more than 2,400 disabled B-29 bombers were able to make emergency landings at the Iwo Jima Airfield after making bombing flights over Japan

Approximately 132 Americans killed at Iwo Jima were unidentifiable and listed as unknown soldiers. More than 50 4th Division Marines died of wounds aboard ship and were buried at sea.

The U.S. government returned the Island of Iwo Jima to the Japanese government in 1968, after the bodies of the men in the 3rd, 4th and 5th Division cemeteries were removed to the United States.



Over sixty years ago, there was a very important meeting at the Vatican where Mr. de Weldon was asked to act as a consultant for the Vatican.

Mr. de Weldon would not accept payment. He was asked what his dreams were, and he mentioned that he wanted to travel through Italy and work as the Great Masters before him. He went to the Florentine Academy, for the first time, an artist was given official permission to recreate his version of the David. At that time, he set up a studio in Italy and after many great accomplishments he was given the honorary title of Baron.

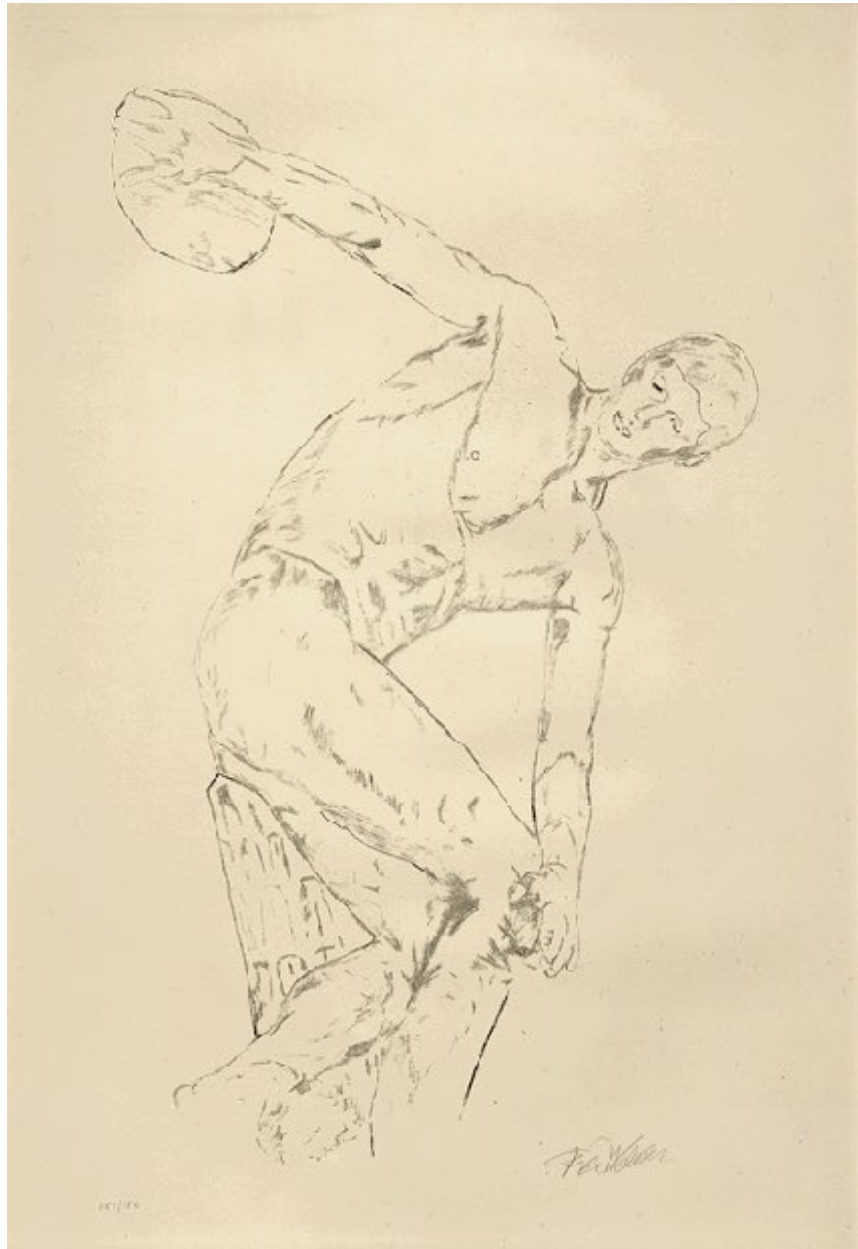
The Vatican Museum left a very deep impression on Mr. De Weldon. One of the most significant works he encountered was Myron's Discus Thrower. Sixty years later, Mr. De Weldon is presenting his tribute to the first sculptor to achieve life-like representation in art, creating his own interpretation of Myron's Discus Thrower. Mr. de Weldon wanted to capture the essence of Myron's genius so, like Myron, Mr. de Weldon created the work in bronze.

Five hundred years before the birth of Christ the Greeks were at their peak. Myron revolutionized sculpture depicting the beauty of form and line, as well as the flow, energy and movement. The image projects one motion stopping and another one about to begin. It speaks of the human spirit and the joy of competition. This work sums up the actions of humans as athletes and achievers. This is Felix de Weldon's tribute to the return of the Olympic Games to Athens.

"The Discus Thrower" is certainly the most famous piece in antiquity. Five hundred years B.C. the Greeks were at their peak. Myron revolutionized sculpture depicting the beauty of form and line, as well as flow, energy and movement. The image projects one motion stopping and another one about to begin. De Weldon said the "The Discus Thrower speaks of the human spirit and the joy of competition, summing up the actions of humans as athletes and achievers."

This is Felix de Weldon's tribute to the return of the Olympic Games to Athens.

Imagine owning the most famous work in antiquity signed by the most prolific monumental sculptor in history.



Discus Thrower
Hand Pulled Lithograph
Medium: Graphite ink on reeves paper
Limited Edition
Size (inches)
30 w x 44 h

The Lovers commemorates the Celebration of Sensual and Spiritual Beauty. Felix de Weldon used his talents to capture the personality and mood of true love. The Lovers masterfully brings together incredible human feeling asserting that all of us are worthy of love and respect and that each individual is unique and valuable. The Lovers is one of the most romantic works of art by any artist in any medium.



The Lovers Hand Pulled Lithograph Medium: Graphite ink on reeves paper Limited Edition Size (inches) 30 w x 44 h (Framed 40 w x 53 h)

Partial list of Felix de Weldon's Public Sculptures

- 1935 – King George V, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK
- 1936 – King Edward VIII coronation bust, London, UK
- 1936 – King George VI coronation bust, London, UK
- 1938 – Prime Minister Mackenzie King – Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Canada
- 1938 – Agnes Campbell Macphail – Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Canada
- 1938 – Senator Cairine Wilson – Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Canada
- 1945 – George Washington, United States Embassy, Canberra, Australia
- 1948 – Simon Bolivar Monument, Bolivar, WV
- 1948 – President Harry S. Truman bust – Truman Library, Independence, MO
- 1949 – George Bannerman Dealey statue, Dealey Plaza, Dallas, TX
- 1949 – Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD
- 1949 – Secretary of the United States Senate Leslie Biffle, Main Post Office, Piggott, AR
- 1949 – John Steelman, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
- 1954 – Raising of the Flag on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima Memorial, Rosslyn, VA (original model 1946)
- 1954 – John Marshall bust, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
- 1954 – Sir William Blackstone bust, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
- 1954 – George Wythe bust, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
- 1955 – Marine Monument ("Iron Mike"), Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial, Belleau Wood, France
- 1959 – Equestrian Statue of Simon Bolivar, Washington, DC
- 1959 – American Red Cross Memorial, American Red Cross Headquarters, Washington, DC
- 1961 – Simon Bolivar Monument, Bedford Square, Baltimore, MD
- 1961 – Rear Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia
- 1961 – Rear Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd, McMurdo Station, Antarctica
- 1961 – St. Stephen the Martyr, Church of St. Stephen Martyr, Washington, DC
- 1963 – President John F. Kennedy, John F. Kennedy Library, Boston, MA
- 1963 – Harry S. Truman Monument, Athens, Greece
- 1964 – Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC
- 1964 – Patrick Cudahy Memorial, Cudahy, WI
- 1965 – Minute Man Statue – National Guard Monument, Washington, DC
- 1965 – Richard Rowland Kirkland Monument, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Fredericksburg, VA
- 1966 – Walter Reed Sculpture, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC
- 1966 – Abraham Lincoln statue, Chapultepec Park, Mexico City
- 1966 – National Monument for Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1968 – Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House, LBJ Library, Austin, TX
- 1968 – Sergeant York, Tennessee State Capitol, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1971 – Senator Bob Bartlett, Statuary Hall, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC
- 1972 – Senator Dennis Chavez, Statuary Hall, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC
- 1973 – General George Rogers Clark, Louisville, KY
- 1973 – Seabees Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC
- 1973 – Benjamin Franklin, Louisville Public Library, Louisville, KY
- 1974 – Centennial Statue ("Astronaut Statue"), Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY
- 1974 – Florence Martus statue ("Waving Girl"), Morrell Park, Savannah, GA
- 1976 – Torch of Freedom, Veterans of Foreign Wars Headquarters, Washington, DC
- 1976 – Admiral Ben Moreell "Father of the Seabees", Naval Base Ventura County

1976 – Archbishop John Carroll (bishop), Prince George's County Court House, Upper Marlboro, MD
1977 – Statue of Ty Cobb, Royston Public Library, Royston, GA
1980 – Mother Joseph, Statuary Hall, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC
1981 – Mother Joseph Statue, City Hall, Vancouver, WA
1982 – General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., USMC, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA
1985 – William G. Leftwich, Jr., Lieutenant Colonel, USMC, Quantico, VA
1990 – President James Monroe statue, Fredericksburg, VA
1990 – Anchors Aweigh Sculpture, Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum, New York, NY
1995 – Elvis Presley statue, Graceland, Memphis, TN