

JAMES LESLIE

Jim Leslie came from a background of business and law, but was drawn from youth to the Arts. He attended the Yale School of Architecture at a time when the old Beaux-Arts classical traditions had been supplanted by the modern movement in architecture. Although studying this contemporary ethos, at heart, he yearned for the classical orders, details and discipline.

After graduation, Jim designed houses in the modern aesthetic, but became increasingly frustrated by what he saw as an absence of warmth and visual pleasure. Over time, he made a complete return to a traditional style.

When Jim started sculpture some fourteen years ago, he approached his practice with the mind and eye of an architect. He often first draws his subjects from plans, elevations and sections. His early training at the National Academy of Design was of the human figure. After several years of receiving this grounding from such fine teachers as Peter Rubino, he became drawn to the elegance and dynamism of the horse as a subject. He then ensued a long course of training at the American Academy of Equine Artists in Lexington, Kentucky with such recognized experts as Marilyn Newark, Kathy Friedenberg and Sam Savitt.

Jim currently divides his time between his two studios and homes, one in Cove Neck, Long Island and one in Vero Beach, Florida.

EDUCATION

St Bernard's School, NYC
St Mark's School, Southboro, Mass
Yale University, New Haven, Conn. 1951-BA
Yale University Graduate School of Architecture, 1955-BAA

ART EDUCATION

Stevenson Academy of Painting, Sea Cliff, NY
National Academy of Design, NYC
Parson's School of Design, Paris, France
Art Student's League, NYC
Institute of Classical Architecture, NYC
American Academy of Equine Art, Middleburg, VA & Lexington, KY

AWARDS

National Academy of Art: Helen Smith Prize
Julius Hallgarten Prize
Chaim Gross Prize
American Academy of Equine Art: Three Juried Shows
Leonard J.Meisselman Award