



McLean Project for the Arts

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McLean Project for the Arts Announces Gift of McLean Artist Emilie Benes Brzezinski's Work

MPA to begin work in establishing the next chapter of Brzezinski's artistic legacy

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) will accept this month the mantle to establish the next chapter of sculptor and longtime McLean resident Emilie Benes Brzezinski's spectacular body of work. The gift was announced last night at MPA's ArtSpring! Virtual Benefit, which featured remarks by Brzezinski's children, Ian, Mark, and MSNBC journalist Mia Brzezinski.

"Mom's art has inspired my brothers and me throughout our lives," said daughter Mia Brzezinski. "Now with MPA's lead, her works can continue to inspire generations to come."

The Fairfax County Park Authority has acquired the family's 3.46-acre property located on Spring Hill, which currently possesses open space and holds potential for a future community park.

"The entire MPA community is honored to receive this spectacular gift from Emilie Brzezinski and thrilled to work with the Brzezinski family in celebrating her vision of art in nature," said MPA Executive Director Lori Carbonneau.

Ian Brzezinski, MPA board member, explained that "Given our respect for MPA's place in the region's art community, and Mom's longstanding and authentic relationship with MPA, my family and I are thrilled that MPA has accepted our gift of mom's many and magnificent sculptures. We are excited to continue and strengthen this relationship by giving MPA the lead in celebrating mom's incredible body of work."

Born in 1932 in Geneva, Switzerland, Emilie Brzezinski immigrated to the United States with her parents and grew up in California. She graduated from Wellesley College with a degree in Art History in 1953. Brzezinski began her art career in the 1970s working with a variety of media, including resin, latex, and wood fiber. Her expressive themes always related to nature. Eventually, she shifted focus to creating monumental wood sculptures, using a chain saw and ax to carve towering forms that breathed new life into felled trees.

Over the past two decades, Brzezinski has had every gallery and museum installations in the U.S. and abroad. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Corcoran Museum and the Weinger Museum, both in Washington, D.C., and has been shown at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, the Katzen Arts Center in Washington, D.C., and the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts. Her art can also be seen at sculpture parks across North America, including the Grounds for Sculpture in New Jersey, the Royal

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