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# MEDIA

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## SEWARD JOHNSON ATELIER ANNOUNCES EXHIBIT AT THE ACCLAIMED OLD WESTBURY GARDENS

*SEWARD JOHNSON: Experiencing Art in the Landscape*  
*June 16—September 4*

**Old Westbury, New York**—Old Westbury Gardens announced today that it will be hosting an exclusive art exhibition featuring the work of internationally renowned sculptor Seward Johnson. The exhibit will feature two of the artist’s most popular series: “Celebrating the Familiar” and “Beyond the Frame.” On display throughout the historic Westbury House and the magnificent Gardens from June 16 to September 4, the exhibit will feature 32 individual pieces focusing on sculptural commentary about day-to-day life and Johnson’s love of nature and French impressionism. Each sculpture reflects the realism and meticulous attention to detail that are the hallmark of Johnson’s work. This special exhibit is only available at Old Westbury Gardens, and is free with admission to the Gardens.

“We are immensely pleased to exhibit Seward Johnson’s wonderful and thought-provoking work in our beautiful Gardens,” said Nancy Costopulos, President and CEO of Old Westbury Gardens. “His sculptures are known for capturing the imagination and the familiar, personal, beautifully human moments of ordinary life. Old Westbury Gardens offers a one-of-a-kind setting for this exhibit, capturing private moments under the shade of a tree or tucked away in a flower garden.”

The Seward Johnson sculptures from “Beyond the Frame” bring to life characters from Claude Monet, Auguste Renoire, Edouard Manet, Vincent Van Gogh and Gustave Caillebotte paintings in three dimensions. The effect is a totally immersive experience in Westbury House and the Gardens, inviting the viewer to step beyond the frame into the rich world of each painting. The exhibition will contain twelve sculptures from this body of work including *A Turn of the Century* inspired by Renoir’s “A Dance at Bougival,” *La Promenade* modeled after Caillebotte’s “Paris Street, Rainy Day” and an installation of “*On Poppied Hill*” combining two of Monet’s paintings into a pastoral scene.

“Celebrating the Familiar” engages the viewer through a more hyper-realistic lens, calling attention to the small pleasures and moments echoed in our daily tasks and activities. The bronze sculptures caught in their daily routines throughout Old Westbury Gardens act as a mirror for us all, inviting reflection on our own lives. Installations will portray individuals involved in various activities amid the Gardens, from fishing in the

pond to doing some hedge-clipping on the grounds. There will be children playing as well as some painters enjoying the beauty captured as they paint en plein air. Each sculpture brings an added dimension to a visit at Old Westbury Gardens.

"An ideal marriage was created when Old Westbury Gardens decided to host an exhibition of sculptures by Seward Johnson. One of Johnson's points of focus has always been to encourage the viewing of art within the context of landscape. That is what drew him to birth and nurture his Beyond the Frame series inspired by the Impressionist and Post-Impressionist painters. This pastoral and grand setting brings the art to life and showcases why the Johnson sculptures—both in the Impressionist series and the Celebrating the Familiar series—have become so popular." Paula Stoeke, Curator of The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc.

Seward Johnson's sculptures have been noted for their impact on the dialogue about public art for nearly 50 years, and more than 450 of his life-size cast bronze figures have been featured in private collections and museums in North America, Europe and Asia. Following an early career as a painter, Johnson turned his talents to the sculptural medium. His work has been on exhibit in famous public spaces including Times Square and the Rockefeller Center in New York City, Pacific Place in Hong Kong, Les Halles in Paris and the Via Condotti in Rome.

The Seward Johnson exhibit is one of the many programs coordinated by Old Westbury Gardens and hosted at its beautifully manicured 200 acre gardens and historic Charles II-style mansion. For more information, visit the Old Westbury Gardens website:

<https://www.oldwestburygardens.org/>.

### **About Old Westbury Gardens**

Old Westbury Gardens, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is the former home of John S. Phipps; his wife, Margarita Grace Phipps; and their four children. Completed in 1906 by the English designer George A. Crawley, the magnificent Charles II-style mansion is nestled amid 200 acres of formal gardens, landscaped grounds, woodlands, ponds and lakes. Westbury House is furnished with fine English antiques and decorative arts from the more than 50 years of the family's residence.

Old Westbury Gardens welcomes visitors of all ages for guided tours of Westbury House and Gardens, in-depth tours of the formal gardens, school visits, children's programs and events, family programs, museum exhibits, classic car shows, indoor and outdoor classical concerts, summer concerts, slide lectures, book signings, horticultural demonstrations and workshops, Scottish Games, botanical arts and gardening classes, and educator-led talks and tours of topics relating to horticulture, art, history, design and architecture.

Old Westbury Gardens seeks to inspire appreciation and knowledge of the best qualities exemplified in the American country estate of the early 20th century through faithful preservation of its landscape and gardens, architecture and collections.

### **About The Seward Johnson Atelier and Artist Seward Johnson:**

**The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc.**, was created to promote the appreciation of, and education about, sculpture and public art in general, utilizing the creation, maintenance, sales and public placement of Seward Johnson's artwork as its instrument.

For additional information about the artist or the sculpture, contact:

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