

ARTnews

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NEW YORK REVIEWS



Don Porcaro,
Nomad #4, stone,
metal, and rubber,
20" x 9" x 9".
Kouros.

Don Porcaro

KOUROS

Don Porcaro's "Nomads," as the artist calls these whimsical sculptures, bear less resemblance to wandering tribesmen than to benign space aliens. Made from unlikely combinations of materials—metal, stone, and rubber—they bristle with comic energy. Porcaro has experimented with merging stone and metal for several years, but these works show a new assurance and wit.

Nomad #7 is typical of the works that rest on a boxy pedestal or the floor. A pair of elegantly fashioned blue "handles" sprouts from a stone shape resembling an overturned bowl surmounting a moplike tangle of coppery bristles. *Nomad #5* stands on a cluster of spindly red rubber legs, poking a nipplelike snout at the world. Other sculptures dangled from the wall, like *Oracle #5*, which conjures up a playful cat-o'-nine-tails. And yet a third group of tiny works, called Art-or-Facts, were perched on little platforms fastened to another wall. Because of their sizes and shapes, they could double as malevolent baby toys and rattles, or dysfunctional desktop accessories.

Porcaro also showed three large oil-on-paper drawings, which echoed the humorous energy of his sculptures and called to mind the ebullience of Paul Klee and Joan Miró. These are the kinds of critters that would look especially swell sitting in the garden, preferably under a full moon.

—Ann Landi