



Francois Soucy with bicycle-spoke sculpture.

Sculpture With Bicycle Spokes

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Francois Soucy interprets his open sculpture as architectural conceptions of things to come.

Four examples of his work fashioned from steel angles and bicycle spokes and painted in primary colors, have been on view at the Montreal restaurant Chez Son Pere, the rendezvous of leading French-Canadian sculptors and painters.

French-Canadian artists believe in giving each other support and always troop to open-

ing exhibitions in a body, clustering together to discuss animatedly the artist's work of the hour. As Mr. Soucy is an artist's artist and personally popular, the artistic world of French Montreal was out in force at his first show in three years.

Among those present were the controversial Armand Vaillancourt, bearded and wearing navy blue leather jacket and slacks, painters Jean-Paul Mousseau, Claude Tousignant, Jean Goguen and Lise Gervais, etcher Yves Gaudier, architect Michel Leblanc, and

collectors Gerard Lortie and Yves Lasnier.

Mr. Soucy, 33, is a solitary, scholarly man who says he cannot work in the city with its many distractions. Like sculptor Gordon Smith of Arundel, Que., he has taken to the woods. He has built a house and studio on the shores of Lac Labelle near St. Jovite.

A graduate of Ecole des Beaux Arts in Quebec, Mr. Soucy studied painting with Jean-Paul Lemieux and sculpture with Marius Plamondon. He spent 1956 in Italy studying mosaics and frescoes in Florence. His paintings have been exhibited in Rome, Florence and Milan.

For two years he worked as a television cameraman for Radio Canada, to earn enough money to build his home in the Laurentians. For the past eight years he has worked with Mr. Mousseau on the latter's plastics.

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