

CAPE ANN Museum

Etruscan King and Consort: Inaugural sculpture at Cape Ann Museum Green by Aristides Burton Demetrios

On view Friday, October 1, 2021



Etruscan King and Consort, an 8-foot-high figurative sculpture by well-known sculptor Aristides (Aris) Burton Demetrios, is the inaugural sculpture at Cape Ann Museum Green.

GLOUCESTER, Mass. (September 2021) – *Etruscan King and Consort*, the inaugural sculpture installation at Cape Ann Museum Green (CAM Green), is opening to the public on October 1. Designed and fabricated by well-known sculptor Aristides (Aris) Burton Demetrios, the 8-foot-high figurative sculpture is made of stainless steel. It will be the first piece placed at CAM Green which encompasses nearly four-acres of open space and includes three of the Museum’s historic structures and the newly opened Janet & William Ellery James Center.

“Aris’s achievements in the world of sculpture continue a remarkable creative thread that runs through the family and has greatly enriched the lives of many over the generations, across the country, and around the world,” said Martha Oaks, the Museum’s Curator. “It is fitting that the first piece installed outdoors at CAM Green recognizes Aris and honors his family.”

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During his long and esteemed career, Demetrios has worked primarily in metals exploring themes of union, family, and legacy in his works. His pieces have often been large in scale and abstract although, in recent decades, the figure has played an increasingly integral part of his work. *Etruscan King and Consort* is composed of two figurative elements in perfect balance; inspiration for the piece was drawn by Demetrios from the Etruscan culture of ancient Italy. *Etruscan King and Consort* is the generous gift of Aris Demetrios and his wife, Ilene H. Nagel (Demetrios) to the Museum. It is anticipated that in coming years, Demetrios' work will be joined by additional pieces by contemporary and past sculptors.

Demetrios has shared that *Etruscan King and Consort* is meant to convey "eternal love," since in mythical lore, the couple is buried together when they die so their bond with each other is never broken. "I chose this piece for the Cape Ann Museum to signal my eternal love for Gloucester, as a fountain of joyous memories and cherished friendships," Demetrios said.

Aris Demetrios is the son of the award-winning children's book author and Folly Cove Designers founder Virginia Lee Burton Demetrios and sculptor George Demetrios. A graduate of Gloucester High School and Harvard University, Demetrios studied architecture at the University of California Berkeley and since 1959, has made California his home. During his 50+ year career in the arts, Demetrios has received numerous awards and public and private commissions. Among his most well-known sculptures are the White Memorial Fountain on the campus of Stanford University and a fountain at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. On Cape Ann, Aris is represented by *Sea Harvest*, a bronze fountain commissioned in 1977 and installed at the entrance to the Sawyer Free Library.

"It is such a great honor for us to have the first permanent sculpture at CAM Green be one by the very talented Aris Demetrios," said Oliver Barker, the Museum Director. "His family's artistic legacy runs deep on Cape Ann and so it is appropriate that Aris's work be the first to grace our beautiful new CAM Green campus."

Etruscan King and Consort will be on public view at CAM Green from Friday October 1, 2021.

For more information about the exhibit and other events happening at the Cape Ann Museum, visit www.capeannmuseum.org.

The Cape Ann Museum, founded in 1875, exists to preserve and celebrate the history and culture of the area and to keep it relevant to today's audiences. Spanning 44,000 square feet, the Museum is one of the major cultural institutions on Boston's North Shore welcoming more than 25,000 local, national and international visitors each year to its exhibitions and programs. In addition to fine art, the Museum's collections include decorative art, textiles, artifacts from the maritime and granite industries, three historic homes, a Library & Archives and a sculpture park in the heart of downtown Gloucester. In Summer 2021, the Museum opened the 12,000 square foot Janet & William Ellery James Center at the [Cape Ann Museum Green](#). The campus also includes three historic buildings – the White Ellery House (1710), the recently acquired Babson-Alling House (c.1740), and an adjacent Barn (c. 1740), all located on the site at the intersection of Washington and Poplar Streets in Gloucester. CAM Green is open Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 pm.

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The Cape Ann Museum is located at 27 Pleasant Street in Gloucester and is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$12.00 adults, \$10.00 Cape Ann residents, seniors and students. Youth (under 18) and Museum members are free. Cape Ann residents can visit for free on the second Saturday of each month. For more information please call (978)283-0455 x110 or visit www.capeannmuseum.org.

For a detailed media fact sheet please visit www.capeannmuseum.org/press.

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