



Art: *Untitled*

Site: Low meadow

Place: Storm King Art Center

Location: Mountainville, NY

Artist: Robert Grosvenor

Image available at:

www.stormking.org/RobertGrosvenor.html

This low-lying minimal work in a low-lying valley is one that has stayed with me for more than twenty years, calling me back to Storm King. It is certainly not the largest, flashiest, most noticeable work in the park. In fact, it is one that is most likely to go unnoticed, given its subtlety and placement in a kind of land bowl, frequently a wet one to boot. At more than seventy yards long, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a football field, poking out from its low perch and topping out at ten feet in height, it is huge by measure but it is dwarfed by the surrounding mountains, rolling hills and vast distances of this incredible landscape. Its stated intent is to mimic emerging, forming mountains, and maybe that is plausible as, in profile, it resembles a kind of negative elevation drawing of a volcano – often a kind of emerging mountain. What I continue to see in it is a bridge more than a mountain, an arching span over a site that collects water – although this is a suggestion of a bridge, a gesture drawing, pared down to the essence of bridge, a curving balance beam. The graceful symmetrical ascension from both sides, like arms stretched out to reach and pull to the ground as well as to the central core, makes a connection physically and visually with the land, creating a tension: a tug-of-war of art and the ground plane. It is this connection, this bridge between art and site that is exemplified in this powerful pairing – the key to the success of the work specifically, and Storm King generally.

Impact:

- Context/contrast
 - Scale
- Site specific
 - Line
 - Color
- Minimal

Art-to-Site Rating: High

View Date: August 2009



Sculpturehead

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