

Allan McCollum: *Allégories sur l'Esplanade Charles de Gaulle*



Allan McCollum. *Allégories*, 2000. Stone, polyester resin, pigment. Five new copies of five deteriorated and mutilated 18th century statues from the grounds of the abandoned Château Bonnier de la Mosson, Montpellier, France, installed at the site of Le Corum, the city of Montpellier's new cultural center. The project was produced or the City of Montpellier, and financed by the National Tramway.

The project was accomplished with the help of local archeological restorers, and the dollar cost was around \$180,000. It involved numerous trips to Montpellier, France.

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Deteriorated and mutilated 18th century limestone statues remain on the grounds of the abandoned Château Bonnier de la Mosson, in Montpellier, France (see photograph). Molds were taken from five of these statues, and the five new replicas were made from marble dust and pigmented polyester resin.



Small plaster souvenirs of the *Allégories*, painted with pigmented polyester resin; approximately 1-1/2 x 3 x 2-3/4 inches each. A contest was held for local art students to produce miniature plasticine replicas of the deteriorated and mutilated statues on the grounds of the Château Bonnier de la Mosson; rubber molds were made from the winner's models; over 1,000 of the souvenirs were produced from the molds and distributed to visitors during initial unveiling of the public project.