

GREG KUCERA GALLERY, INC.

212 Third Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98104 ■ 206.624.0770 ■ www.gregkucera.com
staff@gregkucera.com ■ Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10:30 – 5:30 ■ Closed: Sunday & Monday

MICHAEL SPAFFORD ■ EPIC WORKS ■ April 5 - May 26, 2018

Please join us for our “First Thursday” opening reception with Michael Spafford April 5, 2018, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Join us Saturday, April 7, at noon for our “Saturday After” walk-through. Speakers will be announced at a later date.

Greg Kucera Gallery is pleased to announce our participation in an unprecedented three gallery exhibition of work by revered Seattle artist Michael Spafford. Paintings and works on paper, from various periods of his career, will be exhibited at Greg Kucera Gallery and Woodside/Braseth Gallery, and prints at Davidson Galleries.

A beautiful major monograph will be published to accompany the exhibition. Designed by Marquand/Lucia publishing, the nearly 90-page hardbound book presents many of the large-scale paintings and print series included in the exhibition, a masterful essay by noted curator Bruce Guenther and descriptions of the myths which form the thematic basis of Spafford's work.

Greg Kucera Gallery will devote the entire first floor of its space to the exhibition. Exploring the images and stories of Greco-Roman and Mexican mythology, Spafford abstracts the figures in the various narratives creating a body of work both emotionally and physically expressive. Themes of heroic struggle and violent creation and metamorphosis are investigated repeatedly in multiple paintings. Myths of Hercules engaged in the twelve labors, the minotaur's battle with Theseus, and Perseus' slaying of Medusa are all presented in energetic brushstrokes and bold shapes and colors. Other works show Icarus falling through space in a gracefully curving set of panels and Bellerophon's fall from Pegasus in a dramatic telling of the story.



MICHAEL SPAFFORD
LAOCOÖN SONS AND SERPENTS, 1989, oil on canvas, 81 x 81 inches



MICHAEL SPAFFORD
MINOTAUR I, 1988, oil on canvas, 100 x 216 inches

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12 LABORS OF HERCULES, 1995, oil on paper, 33 x 60.25 inches

For prices for works listed here, please refer to our website, www.gregkucera.com/spafford.htm.

Biography

Michael C. Spafford was born in Palm Springs and grew up in Southern California. He received his B.A. at Pomona College in Claremont, CA. He received his M.A. from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. He moved with his wife, artist Elizabeth Sandvig, to Mexico City in 1960, where he lived and worked before accepting a position to teach art and art history at the University of Washington in 1963 where he taught until 1994. Spafford showed with Francine Seders Gallery from 1966 until the gallery closed in 2013.

He is the recipient of the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant, 1966; Rome Prize Fellowship, 1967-1969; King County Arts Commission's Honors Award, 1979; Art Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, 1983; and "The Neddy" Artist Fellowship from The Behnke Foundation in 1996. His work is included in the collection of Seattle Art Museum, WA; Tacoma Art Museum, WA; Mexican-North American Cultural Institute, Mexico; Museum of Modern Art, Dallas, TX; Cheney Cowles Museum, Spokane, WA; Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Willamette University, Salem, OR; Jundt Art Museum, Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA; and Museum of Art, Washington State University, Pullman, WA.



MICHAEL SPAFFORD

HERCULES, 1973, oil on paper, 29.25 x 23.25 inches