

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE —

STAIB GALLERY PRESENTS NEW SCULPTURE BY OWEN MORREL

New York City --

The Staib Gallery at 8 Greene Street in SoHo will present new bronze, steel and aluminum sculptures, as well as drawings and photographs, by Owen Morrel from Thursday, April 25, to June 1, 1991.

The keynote of the exhibition will be a new work entitled *Gnomon*, an imposing ten-foot square structure conceived and executed for the Staib Gallery. Its steel-mirrored surfaces and pale blue patina create a disorienting play of reflected light and shadow which evoke the "sundial" implied by its title.

Also featured in the exhibition will be a six-by-twelve foot sculpture entitled *Lighthouse*, a study for a structure commissioned by Sithe Energies Corporation to be built on the site of their future power plant in upstate New York. In addition there will be several cast bronze pieces — a new direction for Morrel whose primary medium has been fabricated steel — as well as several of his monumental drawings and large photographs.

Born in New York, Morrel is best known for his site-specific and participatory sculptures which engage, confront and provoke reaction in the viewer. As poet John Ashbery states in the exhibition's catalogue essay, "instead of wanly inviting us to join in some sort of debate, [Morrel's] sculptures actually pull us in, and the resulting 're-assessment' actually leaves us feeling invigorated rather than irked."

The Staib Gallery, now in its second year, continues in its commitment to being a space for contemporary sculpture.

There will be a reception for the artist on Thursday, April 25, from 6 to 8 P.M.

Photos and catalogues available on request.