

STAIB GALLERY PRESENTS FIRST NEW YORK RETROSPECTIVE OF  
FRENCH SCULPTOR MARTINE BOILEAU

New York City --

The Staib Gallery at 8 Greene Street in SoHo will present the sculpture of Martine Boileau from October 19 through December 1, in what will be the French sculptor's first major retrospective and first New York exhibition.

Boileau's earliest sculpture was influenced by Surrealism, but she is best known for her series of expressionistic figures inspired by the elderly concierge of her studio, Mme. Chanteloup. Her most recent cycle, the *Madeleines*, continues her preoccupation with physical deterioration and death. Sculpture from both of these series are included in the exhibition. Boileau works in clay, resin and bronze.

*ArtNews* recently described Boileau as "an unusual sculptor" whose work is "positively uncanny and prehistoric," and *Art International* wrote that "there is an essentially Parisian rhythm in her shapes... (reminiscent of) Carpeaux." The artist describes her work as a search "to uncover the invisible and reveal it. In my eyes, youth is the robe which masks identity; consequently, I choose to look at the aged...the human figure on the point of returning to the earth of her origins."

Born in Paris in 1923, Boileau studied at the Art Students League in New York from 1940 to 1945. She has exhibited extensively in Europe since her debut at the Salon de la Jeune Sculpture in 1948, and in 1986 she won the prestigious Rodin Grand Prize at the Hakone and Utsukushi Ga-Hara Museum in Japan.

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

There will be a reception for the artist on October 19th from 6 to 8 P.M.