

Basic Detail Report

Mickey Mouse, as form, is important in the American range of forms. The Mouse's personality or nostalgia need not be discussed. The form may derive from the early film camera and that is how I arrived at this version—wherein the “eyes” operate as shutters, represented by old fashioned window shades. Such shades never quite roll up, which accounts for the sleepy look.

This geometrical Mouse was first used as a mask in a performance and then proposed as a facade for the contemporary art museum in Chicago. Here it appears (in the planar element of film) as a hilltop sculpture, as a city park (the eyes serving as swimming pools) and as a floating sculpture. If the Mouse were placed over Hollywood it might suffer the same fate, in time, as the famous giant letters and fall on its face (or one might read legends of suicide leaps from its diving board nose).

The famous colossal “F” on Santa Catalina did not fall, but was constructed in its inverted position (of polished aluminum) as an astonishing sculpture to add to the island's attractions.

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VII

Title Notes

Date 1968

Medium Color lithograph

Dimensions Sheet: $22 \frac{3}{4} \times 15 \frac{3}{4}$ in. (57.79 $\times$ 40.01 cm) Framed: $25 \frac{1}{2} \times 18 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{3}{8}$ in. (64.77 $\times$ 46.99 $\times$ 3.49 cm)

Credit Line Collection of the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Museum purchase, The Benjamin J. Tillar Memorial Trust

Object number 1972.16.19

Markings recto, embossed Gemini and copyright mark

Signed recto, bottom (varying order) "Oldenburg 68 22/100"