Antiquity cast with a modern sheen

Classical figures boldly resound in an exceptional show in Chicago of Charles Ray’s sculptures.

CHRISTOPHER KNIGHT  
ART CRITIC

CHICAGO — Artists often turn to older art as a guidpost in developing new work. And why not? All art has a contemporary dimension, since it’s chattering away today as surely as the day it was made, even if that was centuries ago. Listening to past art is simply a sensible thing to do.

Sometimes, though, the places in which an artist chooses to look are surprising.

For well over a dozen years, Los Angeles-based sculptor Charles Ray has been looking closely at the art of antiquity. Carved reliefs from ancient Mesopotamia, mythical beings from [See Ray, P'7]...
**Modern eye on the classical**

RICHARD DICK, making his public debut at the Arthur Institute of Chicago, is an outstanding achievement for L.A.-based Charles Ray.

The theater is the perfect environment for the classical style of Richard Dick's sculptures. In the space, the sculptures seem to come alive, with their classical lines and proportions. The space is used to its potential, with the sculptures placed in strategic positions to highlight their form and shape.

**SPACE AND DESIGN**

The exhibition is presented in a space and manner befitting the museum's Modern Wing. It was organized by Bernard Menil, director, and includes works by many of the leading artists working today. The exhibition is not only a celebration of contemporary art, but also a reflection of the museum's commitment to the arts.

**UNPAINTED SCULPTURE**

Ray's use of materials is also a highlight of the exhibition. In his work, he uses a range of materials, including wood, steel, and concrete, to create a sense of texture and depth. The use of these materials adds a layer of complexity to the sculptures, making them more than just objects, but also experiences for the viewer.

**ROBES AND RIDERS**

Ray's sculptures are a perfect example of the way in which the use of materials can enhance the overall impact of a work of art. His use of materials is not just a matter of choice, but also a way to convey a deeper message about the nature of art and the role it plays in society.

In conclusion, the exhibition at the Arthur Institute of Chicago is a testament to the power of art and the way it can bring different cultures and ideas together. It is a reminder of the importance of art in our world, and the way it can be used to inspire and challenge us all.