ART IN AUGUST

UGO RONDINONE-INSPIRED SCULPTURES

An activity kit for teens

KIT CONTENTS

1 block floral foam
8 neodymium magnets
Newsprint
Tempera paints
Paintbrush
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Ugo Rondinone & "Seven Magic
Mountains" fact sheet
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WHO IS UGO RONDINONE?

Ugo Rondinone (born 1964) is a New York-based, Swiss-born mixed-media artist noted for a range of contemporary paintings and sculptures.

Rondinone's paintings are noted for their brightly colored, concentric rings of target-shapes; strictly black and white landscapes of gnarled trees; and large rainbow signs.

In 2013 Rondinone exhibited an installation called *Human Nature*, a group of monumental stone figures in Rockefeller Center, Manhattan—resembling rudimentary rock totems.

Seven Magic Mountains followed Human Nature—a project of monumental, stone stick-figures arranged in the highly man-made environment of Rockefeller Center in Manhattan—and depicts the opposite: highly artificial neon totems set in the natural environment.

SEVEN MAGIC MOUNTAINS

The piece consists of 33 limestone boulders, each weighing 10 to 25 tons, arranged in seven towers 30 to 35 feet tall-secured by a solid backbone, with each stone painted a bright, fluorescent color.

Approximately five years in the making, the work is located 10 miles south of Las Vegas, with a backdrop of the McCullough Mountains.

The work is situated on three acres of federally owned land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Resolving federal, state, and local regulations consumed nearly 20% of the project's budget, and permitting took approximately three years.

Seven Magic Mountains was privately funded and cost approximately \$3.5 million.

A special law reduces the producers' and the artist's liability if a member of the viewing public "does something stupid" (e.g., climbing and falling). The law, Seven Magic Mountains, NRS 41.517, is the only public-art carve-out in the country.