



Acquired by the Palm Springs Art Museum in _____
Medium: Styrofoam, polyester, and metallic paint (sculpture on pedestal)
Completed 2001

Erwin Wurm is a contemporary artist who creates sculpture, video, photography, performance and participatory art forms to express humorous and serious criticism of society's values.

Philosophy: Wurm is interested in expressing criticism of society using everyday objects and by using humor, sarcasm, irony to look at things in a different way. For example, he often uses sculpture, which he thinks of as adding, subtracting or rearranging material to an object, to criticize the contradictory values of society: be slim/buy more. Much of his work is a criticism of consumerism and its influence on our society and day to day lives.

Wurm's "Fat Car" series is both serious and humorous. He is expressing an object - a sleek sports car - as an overblown vision of a familiar subject. His series includes full sized cars, although this example is small and shown on a pedestal. This piece could be said to have a 'face' and to be cartoon-like in its presentation.

Wurm is interested in emotional connection and I chose this piece because I was immediately drawn to it as a reminder of my Father's love of cars. I saw it as an ironic comment as it is clearly a parody of a small sports car. I also immediately saw a great way to engage visitors of all ages with art objects that they recognize from everyday life, but which have been represented or altered in a way that makes us smile and think about what the artist has in mind.

Sources:

- PSAM Catalogue
- Two Docent Spotlight papers previously completed
- *MUSEO* interview with the artist
- Many sources found via Google
- www.artsy.net
- www.lehmannmaupin.com

