

Gyöngy Laky  
Biography

Gyöngy Laky (b.1944 Budapest, Hungary) is a sculptor living and working in San Francisco, California. Laky's work is in a number of permanent public and museum collections including The Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock AR; Central Museum of Textiles, Poland; The Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI; The Contemporary Museum, Honolulu, HI; Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (de Young); Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA; Government of India; LongHouse Reserve, East Hampton, NY; The Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC; Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art, Monterey, CA; Museum of Arts & Design, New York, NY; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; The Long Beach Museum, Long Beach, CA; The Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA; Paisley Museum, Paisley, Scotland (Contemporary Art Society of London purchase); Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA; Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI; Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; and the Savaria Museum, Szombathely, Hungary.

Laky created a large work commissioned by the Federal Art-in-Architecture Program for the Social Security Administration Building in Richmond, California and another for the City Council Chambers in Sacramento, CA. She exhibits her work nationally and internationally. Her work has been included in exhibitions in Canada, Denmark, Sweden, England, Holland, Spain, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Lithuania, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Italy, Columbia, Philippines, Japan and China. Laky has participated in the US Federal Art in Embassies Program in Bangkok, Thailand; NATO, Brussels, Belgium; and currently has a work at the US Embassy in Poland. She has had solo exhibitions in England, Denmark, Hungary and Spain. Her most recent solo exhibitions in the US were in San Francisco at the Braunstein/Quay and Cain Schulte Contemporary Art and in Sacramento at b. sakata garo.

She is a past recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant; Award of Distinction, 11th International Triennial of Tapestry, Central Museum of Textiles, Lodz, Poland; and Award for Artistic Excellence, Women in the Arts, The Women's Foundation, San Francisco, CA.

In 2002-03, she was one of a team of three to develop a comprehensive Arts Master Plan for the new state-of-the-art, US Federal Food and Drug Administration campus being built in Maryland.

In 2003, a book, "Portfolio Series: Gyöngy Laky," was published by Telos Arts Publishing, UK, and the Bancroft Library at UC, Berkeley, released her oral history. Her personal papers are in the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art, Washington, DC. Laky's art has appeared in numerous books, magazines and catalogs in the US and abroad. April 2008, the New York Times Magazine commissioned her to create titles for its environmental issue (the titles received an award from the Type Directors Club).

Laky also creates site-specific works. Some of these temporary works occurred in Bulgaria, Austria, Wustum, MA; California State University, Chico, CA; Ness Gardens with University of Liverpool, England; a site-specific work commissioned for the international conference, "Landscape and Sculpture," organized by Littoral and Manchester Polytechnic, Manchester, England; Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; and Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Paris, France and most recent temporary, site-specific works in May, 2016, for "Humus Park," 5TH International Biennial Land Art, Italy.

As of 2005, Laky is Professor Emeritus of University of California, Davis, (chair, Department of Art mid-1990s). Both her undergraduate and graduate studies were at UC Berkeley. Postgraduate work followed with the UC Professional Studies in India Program.