

FEDERAL
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Federal Art Project
Broad Street Suburban Station
1621 Pennsylvania Boulevard
Philadelphia

May 3, 1939

Miss Sybil Barsky
4733 Bayard Street
Pittsburgh, (13) Pennsylvania

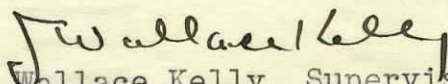
Dear Miss Barsky:

I am delighted to have your two pieces of sculpture for our Project exhibition here in Philadelphia. The exhibition was arranged by the local sculpture group and they did a very interesting job. We are receiving much favorable comment from the public. I'm enclosing a copy of the Philadelphia Inquirer's review of the exhibition.

This is the first time I have been able to see any of your work first hand. It is interesting and intelligently conceived but I think a bit "soft" compared to the quality and strength that was apparent in the photograph you submitted to the World's Fair Committee. It is very difficult for me to write a criticism but it would be my suggestion that you put more of the quality or spirit that you had in "The Dancer" in your future work. If the two pieces we have here had that "umph" they would have been much more interesting and important. What the difference is, is for you to decide, but I certainly would attempt to capture the difference and use its spirit. Your piece "Exodus" is a fine sensitive work but having seen "The Dancer" photograph, I think it could have been so much better. Of course, the method of approach and development of your work is up to your own decision.

I hope that some time soon it will be possible for me to come to Pittsburgh to see you and to discuss your work with you. Looking forward to seeing more of your work, I am

Sincerely,


J. Wallace Kelly, Supervisor of Sculpture

By Direction of:
Benjamin Knotts, State Director
Federal Art Project, Pennsylvania