

For Immediate Release

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## Acclaimed sculptor René Küng comes to the MN Landscape Arboretum

**Chanhausen, MN (Oct. 7, 2014)** - Swiss artist René Küng will talk about his work, life as an artist, and views about nature during “Conversation with the Artist,” from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The 80-year-old artist comes to the Arboretum to oversee the installation of two of his pieces in the Harrison Sculpture Garden.

Music in nature is a vital theme in Küng’s work, as underscored in “Stone Harp (Euridice and Orpheus)” and “Stone Arch.” This installation completes the world-class Harrison Sculpture Garden of 26 contemporary works, generously donated by philanthropists Alfred Harrison and Ingrid Lenz Harrison of Wayzata. The Sculpture Garden is located at the Arboretum’s High Point, and is easily viewed and accessed from Three-Mile Drive.

Born in 1934, internationally acclaimed sculptor Küng began his artistic journey in Switzerland, and his travels took him through France and Spain where encounters with nature influenced his artistic soul in profound and countless ways. His sculptures are now found throughout the world, and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is now the home of five of his works.

Whether working in wood, stone, or metal, Küng draws from myths and the music of nature to create powerful works of sculpture that ask each of us to reflect upon how we are connected to the world around us.

*Stone Arch* (1995-limestone) and *Stone Harp (Orpheus and Euridice)* (1993-limestone) have now joined *Sahara Variation* (Iron – 2004-iron), *Canto a Cinque Voci* (2000-copper), and *Night Sign* (1996-bronze) at the Harrison Sculpture Garden at the Arboretum.

The Küng event is \$10 for Arb members/\$25 non-members (incl.refreshments & gate fee). Visit: [www.arboretum.umn.edu/renekungconversation.aspx](http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/renekungconversation.aspx) or call 612-301-1210 to reserve a spot.

Information on the two new Küng additions at the Harrison Sculpture Garden:

### *Stone Arch* 1995

Küng has created many windows and gateways. This limestone arch shares characteristics of those works in how he presents the beauty of the natural stone along with architectural elements of the past. By leaving the stone untouched in some places and expertly worked in others, you are invited to think of how we can and cannot transform the elements of nature.

### *Stone Harp (Orpheus and Eurydice)* 1993

This musical instrument in limestone is similar to the other pieces by Küng that bear musical titles. Küng invites you to be attentive to the strings of the piece and hear the music of nature being played upon them. The alternate title of the work lends is based on the myth of the harp-playing Orpheus who failed in leading his beloved Eurydice out of the Underworld.

*The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, the largest public garden in the Upper Midwest and a premier northern arboretum, is part of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota and developed as a community and national resource for horticultural and environmental information, research, and public education. It is located nine miles west of I-494 on Highway 5 in Chanhausen. —END—*