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NOVA'S ARK PROJECT CELEBRATES ARTIST'S EPIC LEGACY

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EYES IN™ Magazine Editor-in-Chief Vivian Van Dijk visited Nova's Ark Project's spectacular 100 acre art center that features the deceased artists finest masterpieces.

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Nova's Ark Project Preserves Nova Popa's Illustrious Legacy

Nova's Ark Project inaugurated the opening of its 100 acre international art center with an exhibition of Integral Art and Architecture by Nova and additional works by Nova's talented young art apprentices. After short periods living and exhibiting in Rome and Paris, Nova moved to New Orleans in 1966, accepted into the U.S on the basis of his "exceptional artistic contribution".

Regarding his passage across the Atlantic on a freighter, he remarks: "I was alone nights and days with the curve of the ocean and the vault of the sky. This was the time when I understood the Power of the Round. The round is form in motion. Everything moves in the round – life and the universe."

Since that time, Nova's art has been very influenced by the roundness and curves of nature. In New Orleans, Nova had several one-man shows at the Lowe Gallery and the Delgado Museum, now called the New Orleans Museum of Art. In 1968, Nova moved to New York. It was here that he started solidifying his ideas about Integral Art and Architecture. His studio on the upper west side of Manhattan became a workshop . Nova built a wood lathe from a 1 ½ horsepower motor capable of turning objects up to 8 feet in diameter. He began creating elements for his sculptures and architectural models. Soon the small studio was overflowing with objects, and Nova began the search for larger quarters.

In 1977, Nova moved into a Manhattan loft with ample space for the numerous works he was producing. This was a very prolific period for Nova. He assembled the 21st century city models. He produced scores of sculptures in steel and wood. He created Integral Art objects combining painting and sculpture. And he built dozens of functional art objects, including a series of beautiful sculptural chairs in wood. Bridgehampton: It was here that Nova's Integral Art reached full expression. First came the elliptical house, an ecological 'sculpture to live in' built by hand over a period of four years.

Simultaneously, Nova and his team of art assistants rebuilt an adjacent barn, which has now become the Museum of Integral Art. Nova then began the restoration and renovation of the many buildings, courtyards, fields and woodlands that make up the 100 acres of The Ark Project, Inc. All the while, Nova

continued to make Integral Art objects and sculptures, usually of monumental proportions, including the remarkable “Astronauts”, five 20-foot high steel sculptures set on a rise against a panoramic horizon.

Today Nova’s Ark Project is a Hamptons landmark, visited by many and known world-wide for its innovative art and architecture, and for the harmonious balancing of that art and architecture with nature and with the various domestic animals – horses, sheep, ducks – and wild animals that live in freedom on the premises.

In 1999, Nova exhibited a series of his works in Shanghai. Based on this exhibit, he was invited to present designs for the creation of two large sculptures for the modern International Building in new Suzhou. He won the commission over numerous other proposals, and in late 2000 he installed “The River of Man” and “China Reaches to the World” on the premises of a new city built by the Chinese in conjunction with Singapore as a center of commercial and cultural exchange between China and the western world. Nova’s Ark Project inaugurated the opening of its 100 acre international art center with an exhibition of Integral Art and Architecture by Nova and additional works by Nova’s talented young art apprentices.

About Nova Mihai Popa

Nova Mihai Popa Nova Mihai Popa escaped from Transylvania. He graduated from the Institute of Bella Arts in Bucarest, he received numerous state awards and commissions for his paintings and murals. He visited Hungary, Russia and China. His work was featured on Fox-TV, House & Garden TV, The New York Times, New York Magazine, Landscape Architecture, Sculpture Magazine and Newsday. Nova Mihai Popa died at his second home in Ft. Pierce, Florida on March 28, 2009. His death rocked the art community and he is deeply missed by fans & fellow artists alike.

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Source: Nova's Ark Project (<http://novasarkproject.com/>) & Zoom Info (<http://www.zoominfo.com/>)

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