

suntimes.com Member of the Sun-Times News Group

Search » Site STNG

[BECOME A MEMBER!](#)[What's this?](#)

Become a member of our community!

[Sign In](#)[Register](#)

Pooches on Oprah's mind

NEW YORK | Sculpture memorializes talk show queen's late, much-beloved dogs

May 16, 2008

Recommend (1)

BY [MIKE THOMAS](#)

Staff Reporter/mthomas@suntimes.com

It was just a matter of time. After a long reign as the empress of everything, Oprah Winfrey has finally, if only sculpturally, gone to the dogs.

Starting next Thursday, the Leo Kesting Gallery in New York will exhibit "Memories of Sophie and Gracie: A Puppies' Memorial."

Sophie, a cocker spaniel, and Gracie, a golden Labrador, are Winfrey's late and much beloved canines. The latter choked on a ball last year, the former died in March.

"Sophie's kidney failure may have resulted from natural causes," gallery co-director David Kesting says in a press release, "but we hope the Puppies' Memorial will remind everyone that Gracie's choking could have been prevented."

To honor their passing and symbolize that it may be weighing on Winfrey's mind, sculptor Daniel Edwards has conjured a piece that depicts the pooches perched atop a life-size resin cast of their master's noggin.

Edwards also has created an "Oprah Sarcophagus" and an "Oprah Burial Mask." The latter -- seemingly identical to the "Puppies" one -- sprouts a large 'O' instead of two dogs.

Before turning his attention to Winfrey, Edwards made a splash with his sculpture of a naked Britney Spears giving birth on a bearskin rug.

A spokeswoman said Winfrey has no comment on the puppies' memorial or the burial mask because she hasn't seen the sculptures.

[oprah winfrey's burial mask...](#)

From popbytes

[Oprah Winfrey Depicted with Her Late Dogs in Puppy Memorial](#)

From Celebrity Dog Watcher

The views expressed in these blog posts are those of the author and not of the Chicago

Sun-Times.

crabbygolightly wrote:

TIME TO PLAY HAUTE CRITIC! Let's spend a few minutes contemplating what sculpor-cum-celebrity skewer Daniel Edwards is saying this time: Oprah's gone to the dogs? She's got canines on her mind? She's queen of the bitches? Or that she just bitchin' rules? Don't mess with her, she'll let the dogs out? Or perhaps she's mere mad hatter's inspiration for the London opening of the movie version of S-- In The City? This is the third time that Edwards, a native of the LaPorte, Ind., where Oprah used to own a spread, has tackled the Divine O in form. He's done an Oprah death mask and the omnipotent "O" as sacred sarcophagus. "Memories of Sophie and Gracie: A Puppies' Memorial" is inspired by the Oprah press releases that announced the passing of Gracie, who choked on a ball last year, and the passing of Sophie, who died of kidney disease in March. Oprah honored the memory of her two dead dogs in a show on puppy mills last month. But, David Kesting says, "given the natures of the demise of Oprah's dogs, we feel the horrors of a puppy mill could be inconsequential compared