

**Midnight  
Ramblers  
and  
Calaveras  
Crooners**

Perhaps not everybody's favorite neighbor, but often the first real wild creature in a boys woodland and stream side explorations. From muddy tracks to piles of crayfish shells, Raccoons were the object of my early attempts at tracking, trapping, tanning hides, making plaster foot casts and though not recommended for the weak of stomach, exotic cuisine. As to the *Calaveras Crooners*, Mark Twain's Celebrated Jumping Frog remains one of the great short stories. A few years ago I built two small fish ponds on our dry ridge top home site. The closest water is half a mile away, but within days of the ponds filling, Bullfrogs and Green Frogs took up residence. How little we really know about these creatures.



**Midnight Ramblers**  
(wax stage pictured)  
30"L x 24"H x 14"D  
Edition 20

**Calaveras Crooners**  
12"L x 6.5"H x 9"D  
Edition 24



*The Rebel Angels*  
2013 Red Smith Award  
National Museum of Wildlife Art

# CURLEW CASTINGS

*Studio of Walter Matia*



## Great Blue Heron Pair and Marsh Vegetation Bronze

Much sculpture is about working to define beauty through what is not there. The silhouette and the negative spaces are the tools I chose to describe the essence of the long necked wading birds and their marsh homes. The pomp and ceremony of the Queens Celebration entrance into Parliaments House of Lords provided the germ of the idea for this piece. The costume, the ornamentation, the arrangement of the seating all seemed like a perfect setting for a marsh sculpture. These pieces are installed in long reflecting pools in front of an office building in Alexandria, VA. Over the past fifteen years, the owners of that office complex have generously commissioned works for all of their buildings and that opportunity has led to some of my best new pieces.

### *The House of Lords*

70”H x 50”L x 29”D

Edition 12

