

HUGE cedar, stain and graphite "Three Bowls" were done by von Rydingsward in 1989.

Outdoor sculpture carves a niche

EMORIAL DAY WEEKEND heralds the season for venturing outside the city limits for a rendezvous with nature. And if you want to combine your trip with a touch of art, come to the Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, N.Y., in the Hudson River Valley (55 miles from New York City).

Here, where 400 acres of lawns, terraces and fields form the backdrop for sculpture of the post-1945 era by European and American artists (Alexander Calder, Isamu Noguchi, Henry MILA ANDRE

Moore, Louise Nevelson, Mark di Suvero, just to mention a few), you can view the majesty of the surroundings while having a picnic, if you so desire. Through October, light luncheon fare is available on weekends.

The center also features a museum. and this year the exhibit that has been installed — both inside and on the grounds — is the first full-scale survey of Ursula von Rydingsvard's sculpture. The works (there are 19 pieces, four of which are displayed outdoors) are made of cedar, and, if anything, just seem to belong there. Many are truly awesome, and all hold the viewer captive with their imaginative construction.

Storm King Art Center is open daily 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. through Nov. 30. For driving instructions: (914) 534-3115. \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and students. Children under 5, free.