

# PORTABLE TROJAN BEAR

**Title:** Portable Trojan Bear

**Artist:** Jim Love

**Date:** 1984

**Medium:** Wood (bear), Metal (framework & wheels)

**Location:** Hermann Park



Portable Trojan Bear is a landmark in Hermann Park, visible along the road through the park near the golf course, Miller Outdoor Theatre, and the Houston Zoo. A wooden bear held together with a metal framework and perched on metal wheels, the piece was the first public commission for artist [Jim Love](#). In 1974, it was sited at the intersection of Montrose and Bissonnet, across the street from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. It was moved into the park in 1984.

The sculpture was restored in 1999 through funding from the Herman family in memory of Carl J. Herman. In November 2008, it was removed to a conservator's studio, where the original wood slats were removed and replaced with a hardwood resistant to mold and insects. The metal frame was also treated to prolong its life in the Houston climate. Ready to take on the elements again, Portable Trojan Bear returned to its place in Hermann Park in February 2009.

Jim Love was born in Amarillo, Texas, in 1927. His art is displayed in collections at the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the Dallas Museum of Art, and, in Houston, at the Museum of Fine Art, Houston and the Menil Collection. He died in Houston in 2005.

