



IRON SYMPOSIUM

BY DOG TEAM

BY PLANE

BY FERRY

AND PICK-UP

ALL THE WAY TO PENLAND WE CAME.

DOWN SOUTH HAS BEEN SUPER.

NOW WE HEAD HOME TO OUR FUTURE

ENERGIZED, INSPIRED, ENRICHED WITH NEW

FRIENDS, HOT IDEAS.

(from the Book of Comments by participants)

More than 100 blacksmiths, friends and families gathered together from as far away as Alaska, Australia and Wales, from 31 states and the District of Columbia to talk and think about their work. The occasion was a symposium hosted by Penland on *Expressive Design in Iron* from April 20th to 23rd, 1989.

Magic happened for the participants because anyone who had been there became euphoric when asked about it. *Wonderful! Exhilarating! Fabulous!* In fact, it was such a successful event that a repeat performance is planned for next spring. *Mark you calendar now—April 25th to 27th, 1990.*

Philip Yenawine, Director of Education at New York's Museum of Modern Art moderated a panel including **Tom Joyce, Brent Kington, Robert Owings, Albert Paley, David Petersen and William Harsey.**

In his opening remarks artist/blacksmith Tom Joyce said, "Blacksmithing, as a relative latecomer to the crafts revival of the last 30 years, has also been excessively slow to teach the importance of assimilating all that can be used to feed a creative momentum gathered from the vast information pool around us." The Iron Symposium was an opportunity to do just that.

Perhaps the experience was summed up best by one of the participants who wrote in the Symposium Book: *This weekend has given me the courage to ask why; the means to find my answer, the strength to fail and the support to persevere.*

