

THESIS

GARDEN OF THE MIND

Submitted by

Yaw-Jun Wang

Department of Art

In partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts

Colorado State University

Fort Collins, Colorado

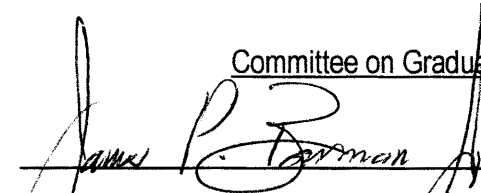
Summer 1998


COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY


May 11, 1998

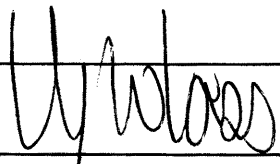
WE HEREBY RECOMMEND THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER OUR SUPERVISION BY
YAW-JUN WANG ENTITLED GARDEN OF THE MIND BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING IN PART
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF FINE ARTS.


Committee on Graduate Work









Adviser


Department Head/Director

ABSTRACT OF THESIS

GARDEN OF THE MIND

Life is an ongoing process. My philosophy of life is based on a feeling of temporary presence. I don't seek immortality; instead, I desire a life of rural simplicity.

For the past three years, I have experienced the unique life situation of living far away from my motherland of Taiwan. Exploring the American continent and recalling my past memories and experiences have formed the reality of my existence here.

I am interested in presenting feelings and thoughts in a metaphorical way. Garden of the Mind, a metaphorical environment, is filled with carefully composed objects. The idea of creating these objects comes from the emotional aspects of my life experiences, such as my hopes and fears. In this garden, nothing is perfect. Objects here were created and arranged to reveal the reality of my life experiences as a whole.

In order to convey the concept of modifying natural resources into cultural objects, I combined organic and human-made materials. Branch and root came from the physical context of nature, and were engaged with human-made objects such as light bulb, cardboard, and cloth. The choice of materials allows me to examine how I feel about the surroundings. For example, I use cardboard as a medium to express a feeling of

temporary presence. On the other hand, the choice of colors represents my awareness of some specific colors. For instance, I use blue in my light bulb piece, Blue, to convey my perception of the universe.

As a result, the ongoing process of life's struggles and changes allows me to examine myself. The choice of life's struggles and changes, and the choice of materials and colors have become the most important aspects of my creation. To keep an eye on the wonders of life, I don't seek immortality but a life of rural simplicity.

Yaw-Jun Wang
Art Department
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523
Summer 1998

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Plates.....	vi
Plates.....	1-7

LIST OF PLATES

PLATE	PAGE
1 The Memory of Winter.....	1
2 Box.....	2
3 Making the Cloud.....	3
4 Trembling.....	4
5 Blue.....	5
6 Untitled.....	6
7 Corners.....	7

PLATES



Plate 1. *The Memory of Winter*
root, wax, cardboard, brick
1997, 12x10x45 in.



Plate 2. *Box*
cardboard
1997, 24x22x8 in.



Plate 3. *Making the Cloud*
cardboard
1998, 36x20x35 in.



Plate 4. *Trembling*
pump, branch
1998, Height: 10 in.



Plate 5. *Blue*
light bulb, branch, cloth
1996, Height: 71 in.



Plate 6. *Untitled*
cast bronze
1997, 22½x12¾x12 in.



Plate 7. *Corners*
cast bronze
1997, 16x9¼x11½ in.