



**Artist Statement:**  
**Daniel Westhoff**

My artwork poses metaphysical questions that analyze what constitutes the human mind, with the intention of better understanding our ends and motives as a society and a species. My process is an introspective one, enhanced by the slow and contemplative nature of metalwork. In creating an object, I learn more about myself, using each piece as a visual model for the issue I think upon. Through the content of my work, I invite viewers to engage in a similar mental process.

My recent work is an exploration of the mind, and its inner workings. Each aspect, or faculty, provides a unique function in overall sentience. Our *intuition* supplies us with a foundation through which we can understand the world. Our *perception* is what manifests our experiences, and each vantage renders no experience the same as another. Through our *reason*, we can solve problems and determine the best course of action. Through our *will*, we enact our agenda and forge our destinies.

My aim is to understand how each of these faculties operate and relate to one another, and turn the inquiry into physical objects. I portray these mental faculties as keys because of the way in which each of them, when used properly, grants access to new places and new states of mind.

The process involved in making these pieces is as important as the final product. The choice of metal, and the techniques and elements used in each key, relate to the specific faculty represented. In this way, each key is imbued both materially and conceptually with the essence of my inquiry.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Original Format</u>
Figure 1: Rogue's Bracer	Dyed Leather and Forged Steel 8in x 3.5in x 4.5in
Figure 2: Rogue's Bracer (Detail)	Dyed Leather and Forged Steel 8in x 3.5in x 4.5in
Figure 3: Key to Reason	Copper, Brass, Enamel, 5.5in x 1.75in x 0.5in
Figure 4: Key to Reason (Detail)	Copper, Brass, Enamel, 5.5in x 1.75in x 0.5in
Figure 5: Key to Intuition	Brass 5.5in x 1.5in x 1.5in
Figure 6: Key to Intuition (Detail)	Brass 5.5in x 1.5in x 1.5in
Figure 7: Key to Perception	Sterling Silver, Brass, Glass 5.5in x 2in x 2in
Figure 8: Key to Perception (Detail)	Sterling Silver, Brass, Glass 5.5in x 2in x 2in
Figure 9: Key to Will	Fabricated and Forged Steel 6in x 2in x 0.5in
Figure 10: Key to Will (Detail)	Fabricated and Forged Steel 6in x 2in x 0.5in



**Figure 1: Rogue's Bracer**



**Figure 2: Rogue's Bracer (Detail)**



**Figure 3: Key to Reason**



**Figure 4: Key to Reason (Detail)**





**Figure 5: Key to Intuition**





**Figure 6: Key to Intuition (Detail)**



**Figure 7: Key to Perception**



**Figure 8: Key to Perception (Detail)**



**Figure 9: Key to Will**



**Figure 10: Key to Will (Detail)**