THESIS

SCULPTURAL FORMS IN METAL

Submitted by

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Department of Art

In partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree Master of Fine Arts

Colorado State University

Fort Collins, Colorado

Spring, 1979

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WE HEREBY RECCOMMEND THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER OUR SUPERVISION

BY Michael Alan Molliconi

ENTITLED Sculptural Forms in Metal

BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING IN PART REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

Master of Fine Arts

Committee on Graduate Work

David A. Crocker

Adviser

ABSTRACT OF THESIS

SCULPTURAL FORMS IN METAL

The concern of this thesis is with the creation of sculptural forms expressing the synthesis of organic and geometric silhouettes.

The thesis work is centered on arrangements of silhouetted shapes as abstracted from my observed environment, employing these shapes as either "positive" mass or "negative" void. Abstraction of the elements is necessary to remove recognizable imagery in order to perceive the simultaneous occurrence of the shapes. The arrangements explore the crispness of the geometric forms in juxtaposition to the softness of the organic forms, synthesizing both into a logical whole.

Through the cantilevering and balancing of the planes, an effort is made to exert a sense of dynamism on the composite of forms. This dynamism vitalizes the passive synchronous occurrence of the silhouettes as they exist in the environment.

The final sculptural statements are expressions of my compositional attitudes concerning both natural formations and man-made structures. My perception of inanimate gestural qualities in these existing shapes, dictates the overall composition in an attempt to impose my personal sense of order to the seemingly random co-existence of the two contrasting elements in the environment.

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Spring, 1979

To my loving wife, Cindy,

for her support during the past three years.

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DOCUMENTATION

Fig. 1. Untitled, Welded steel construction, 8" x 8" x 8".

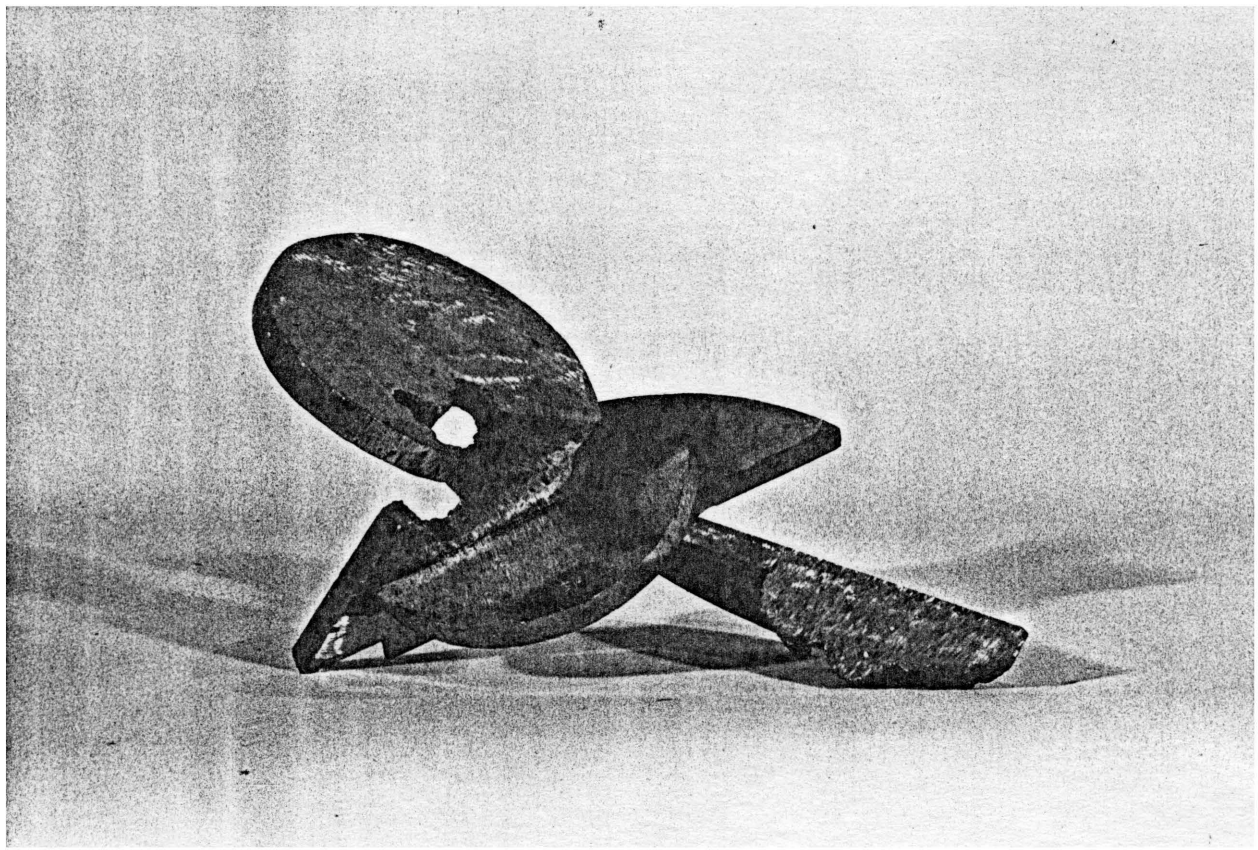


Fig. 2. Homeward Through the Haze, Welded steel construction, 44" x 38" x 84".

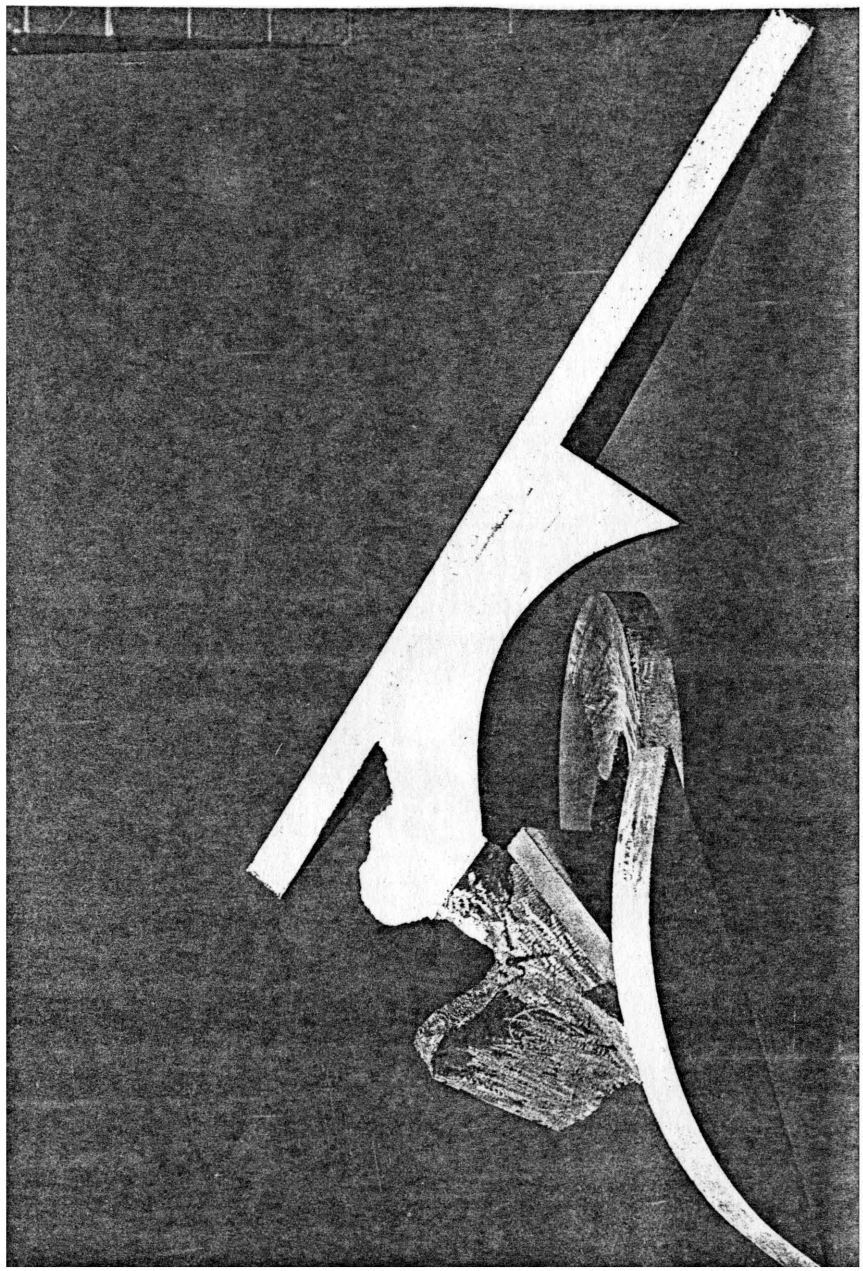


Fig. 3. Untitled, Cast bronze, 14" x 11" x 12".

Patina: Ferric Nitrate over Cupric Nitrate

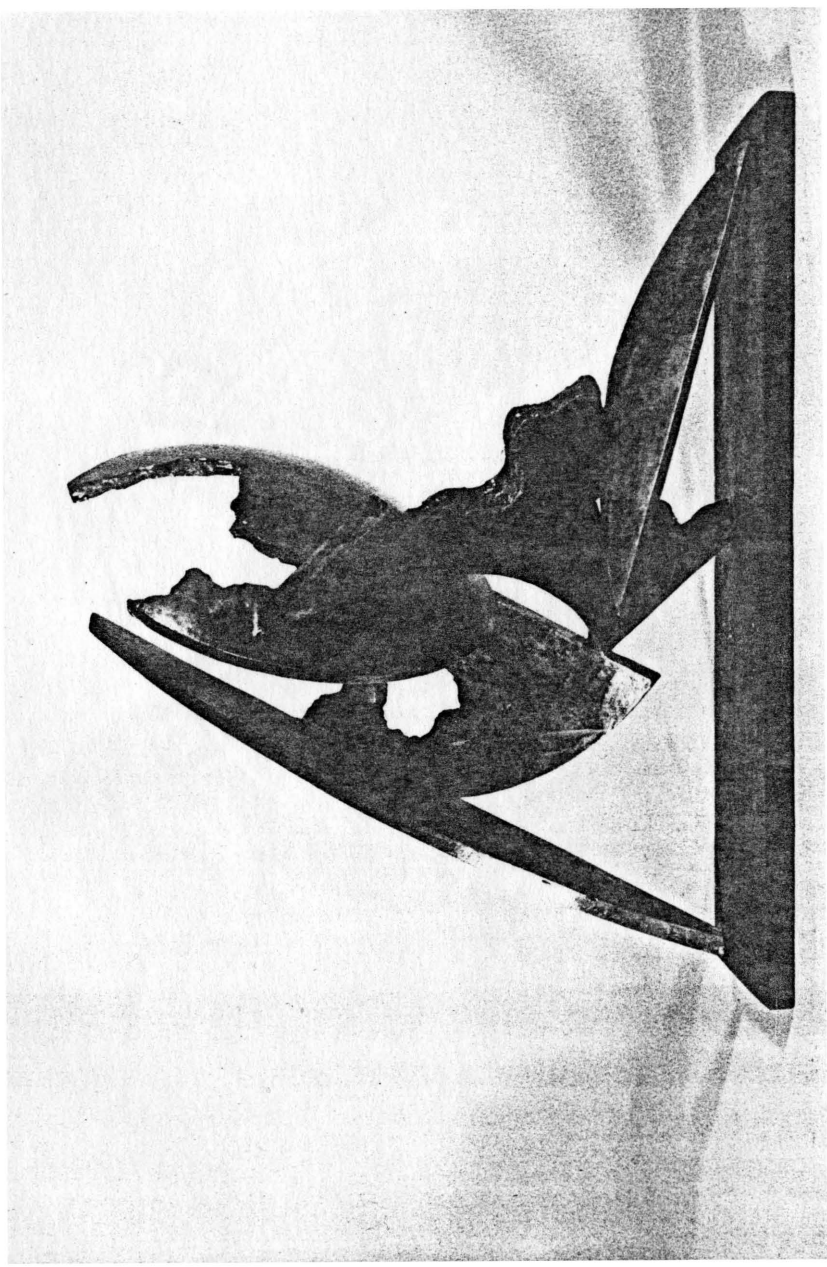


Fig. 4. Untitled, Welded steel construction, 31" x 19" x 29".

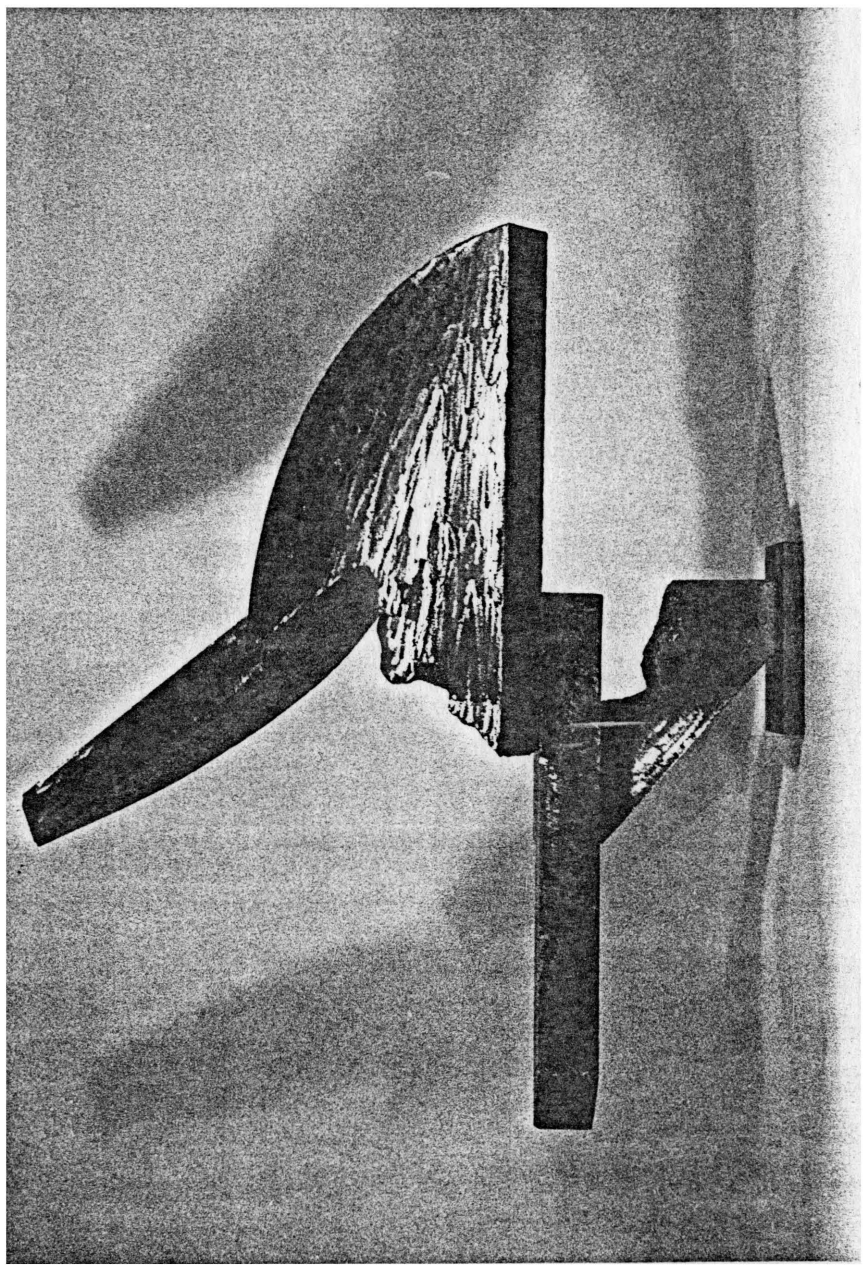


Fig. 5. Ecliptic Messenger, Welded steel construction, 56" x 40" x 36".

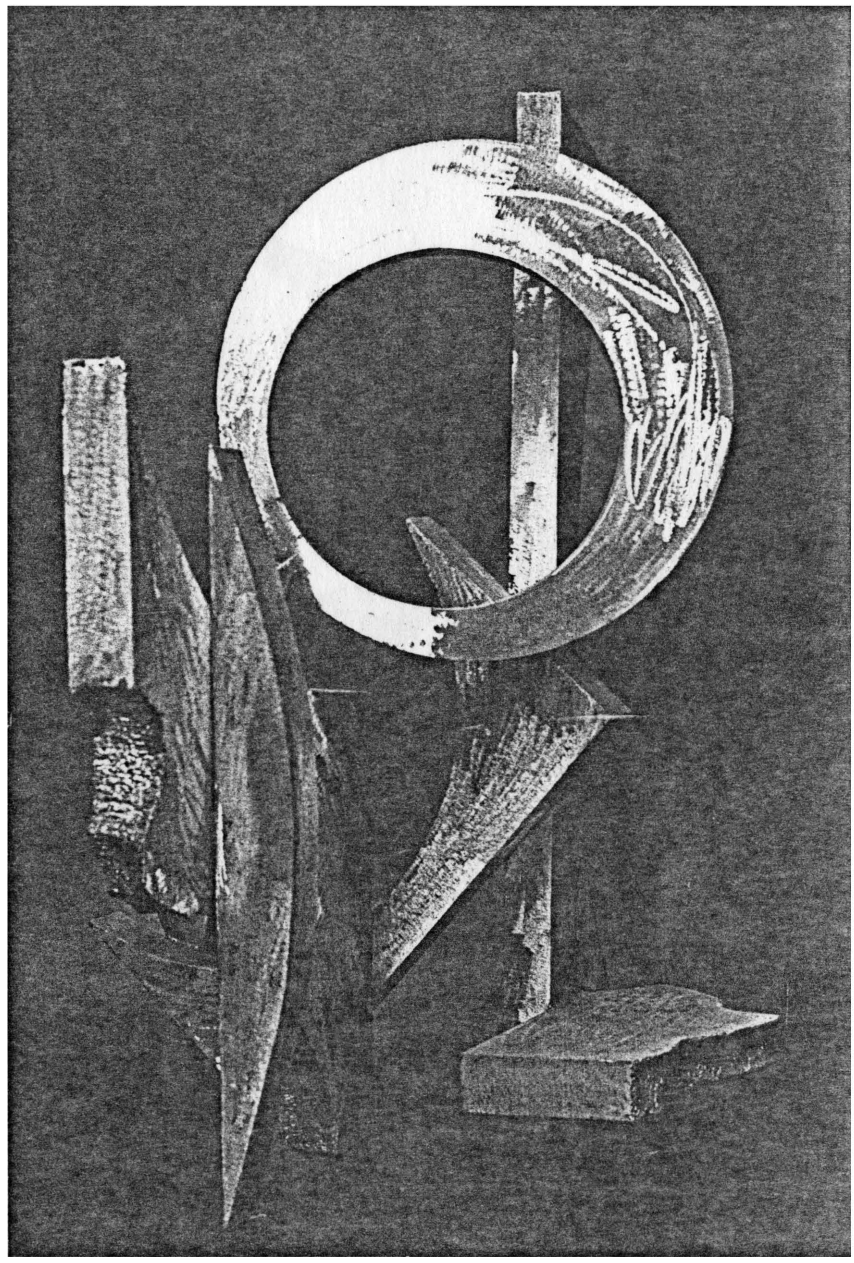


Fig. 6. Model for "Dilatant Fault", Cast bronze,
18" x 16" x 12".

Patina: Ferric Nitrate

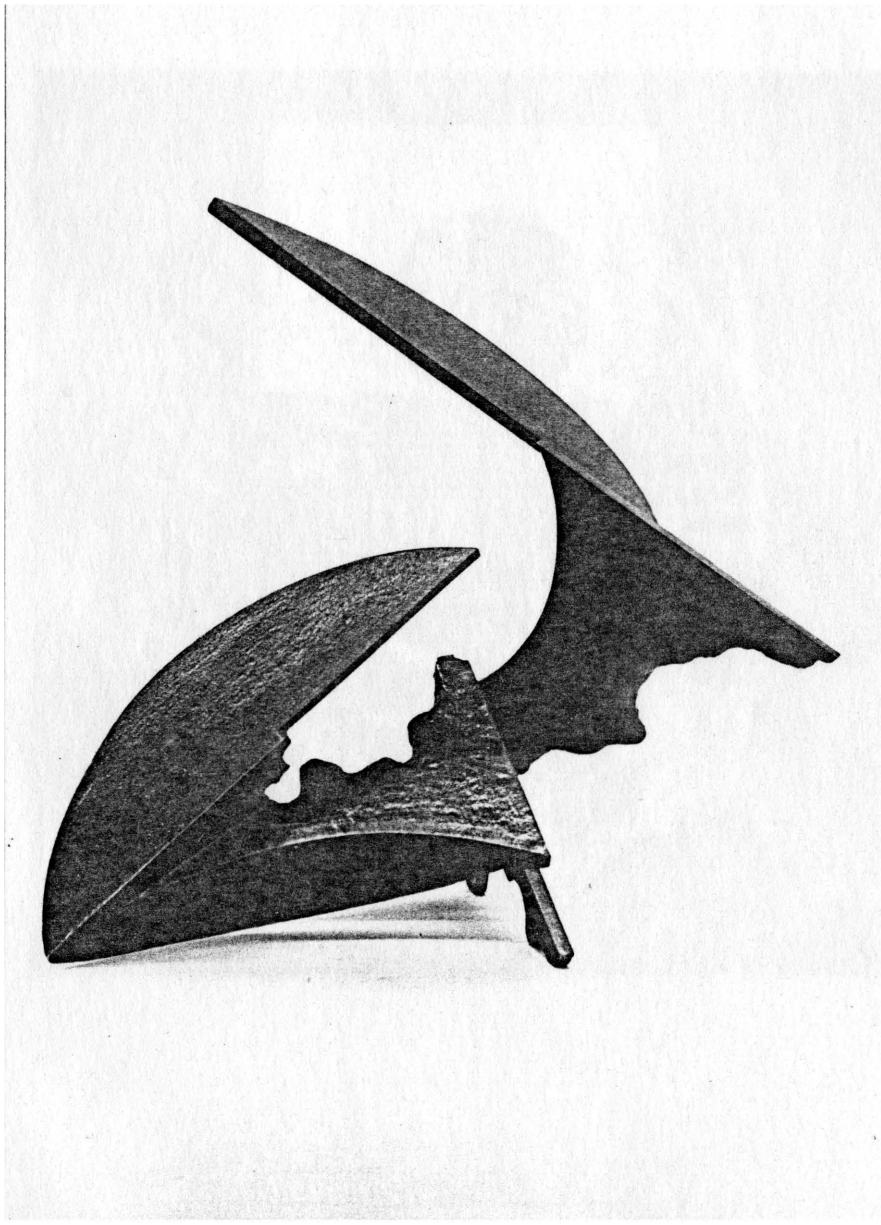


Fig. 7. Untitled, Welded steel construction,
99" x 79" x 104".

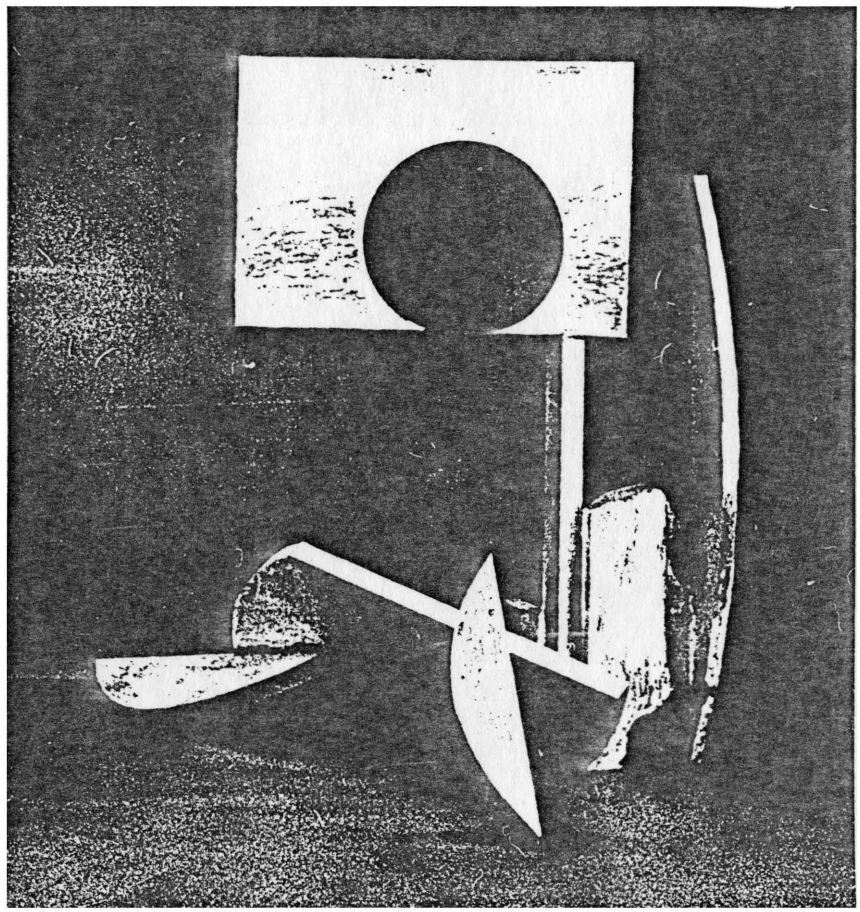


Fig. 8. Untitled, Welded steel construction,
63" x 49" x 10".

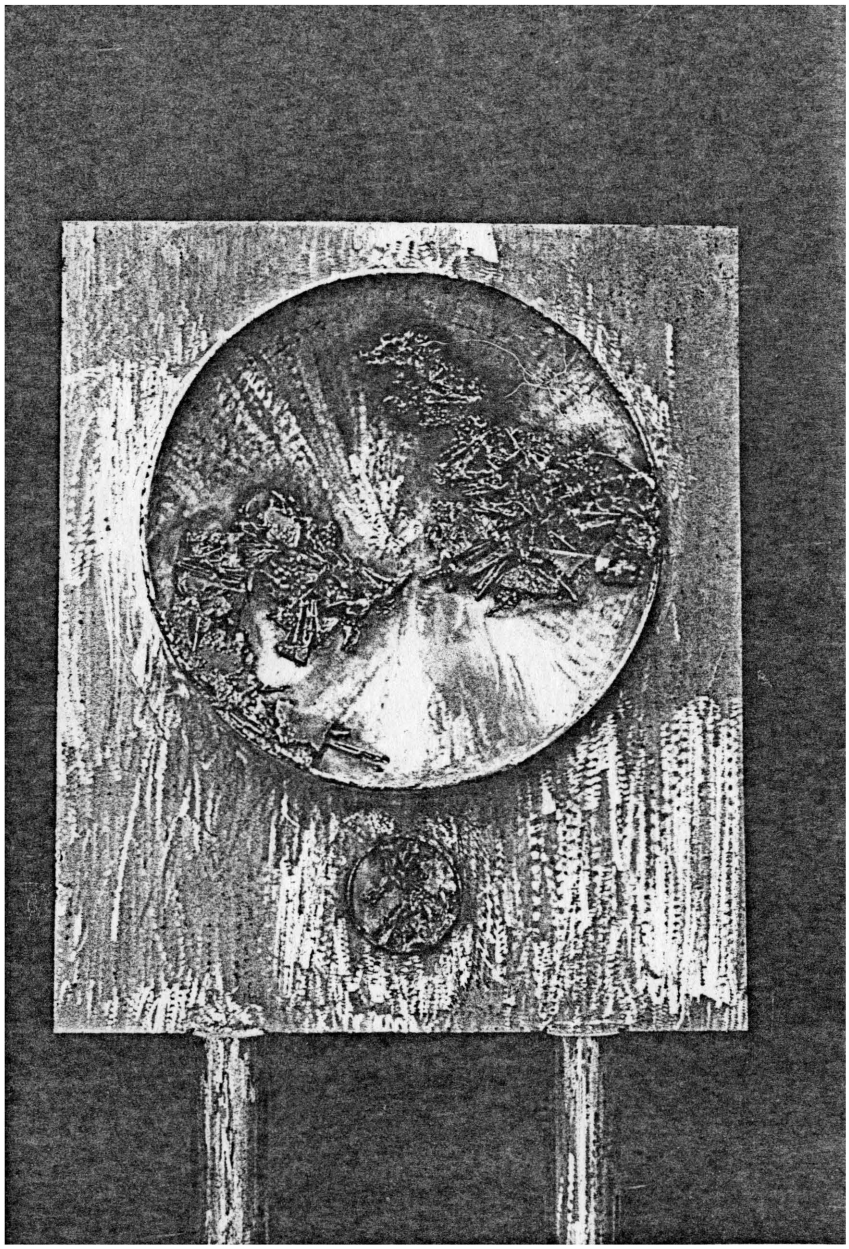
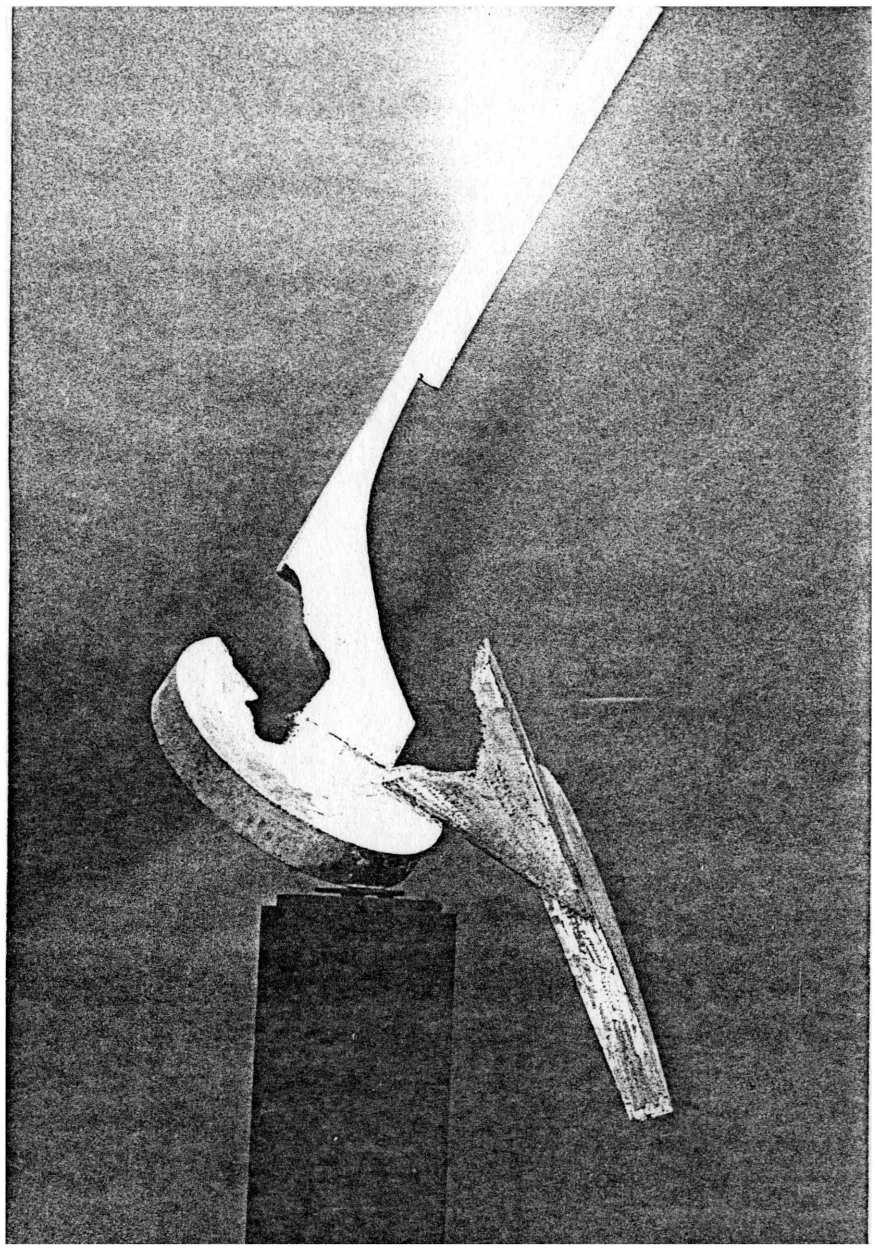


Fig. 9. Untitled, Welded steel construction,
109" x 44" x 20".



APPENDIX

THESIS PROPOSAL

SCULPTURAL FORMS IN METAL

The concern of this thesis will be with the creation of sculptural forms expressing the synthesis of geometric and organic silhouettes as abstracted from the enviroment.

The images arrived at through welded steel construction and cast bronze will deal with both the positive and the negative elements of space/form relationships.

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