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EVANS, ANNETTE FULTON. Steel Sculpture: Transformations and Relationships. (1977) Directed by: Peter Agostini. Pp. 3.

The thesis consists of four sculptures and three models.

The thesis was exhibited in the Weatherspoon Gallery of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro from April 24 to May 15, 1977.

A 35 mm color transparency of each work is on file at the Walter Clinton Jackson Library of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

STEEL SCULPTURE: TRANSFORMATIONS
AND RELATIONSHIPS

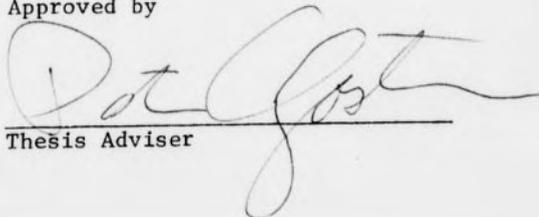
by

Annette Fulton Evans

A Thesis Submitted to
the Faculty of the Graduate School at
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Fine Arts

Greensboro
1977

Approved by



Thesis Adviser

APPROVAL PAGE

This thesis has been approved by the following committee of
the Faculty of the Graduate School at the University of North Carolina
at Greensboro.

Thesis Adviser

Pat Groat

Committee Members

Thomas Albert
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4/18/74

Date of Acceptance by Committee

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I am grateful to Peter Agostini for his insightful guidance and encouragement, to Thomas Hubert for helping me find the direction of my search and to Howard McCalebb for his reassuring confidence and technical assistance.

I thank Ann Graves Fulton for making me believe that I can.

Art to me is revelation of truth and inner sight through contemplation. Art is not an object but a confrontation between the work and the viewer. To perceive or to experience any art form we must be receptive.

My sculpture is a record of the growth of my understanding of my relationship to God and the physical world he has created for us. John 1:1-3 states that Jesus existed before the beginning of creation and is the creator of all things. When the person of Jesus became a reality to me, I experienced a growing awareness of the beauty and order of the universe. I began reading scripture and books on physical science, growth processes and geometry which have helped me to see that all aspects of the universe are interrelated.

The models and smaller gallery pieces in my thesis exhibition are derived from a series that is based on the growth and transformation of living organisms. The essence of natural processes is order and purpose. In Ecclesiastes it is explained that God created all things to be beautiful in the fulfillment of their purpose. A shell grows in a gnomonic pattern so that it can continue to grow without changing its shape. The leaves of a plant are produced in logarithmic progression so that each leaf can receive the maximum sunlight. By using a few simple systems in different combinations nature arrives at its apparent complexity and variety.

Circles, arcs, and ellipses are among the basic forms of nature. Gradual transformation of these forms creates a rhythmic development

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of expansion. By arranging these forms in progressive series, I can establish a history of growth in which the space between the forms is analogous to the passage of time. Each unit represents a stage of growth or being. The relationship between the forms and the progression from one state to another becomes more important than the individual units. Progressive transformation creates a flow which is like the regenerative force of living things.

The neon pieces are the beginning of an investigation of relationships within individual life forms and throughout the universe as a whole. I believe that the universe is a totally integrated design. Our perception of the order of the physical universe is hindered by its complexity. Therefore, I began my search by dealing with simple forms. The shafts of light describe one possible permutation of the relationships existing within or between the entities designated by the steel forms.

Much of my work is large in size and open in form so that people can walk inside. By walking through them the viewer is encouraged to realize that we are also experiencing time and growth and are a vital part of God's universe.

CATALOGUE

1. "He Shall Be as the Light of the Morning"
stainless steel and neon 7' x 7' x 9'3"
2. "Self Portrait, as I Thought I Would Be"
stainless steel and neon 2'4" x 2'4" x 2'4"
3. "As a Garden Causes the Things That Are Sown
in It to Spring Forth"
nickel steel and glass 4' x 3'2" x 2'
4. "Whatever I Have Been Already"
stainless steel 3'6" x 3'6" x 3'
5. "Behold I Make All Things New"
aluminum/plaster 2' x 2' x 1'2"
6. Psalms 103
aluminum/plaster 1' x 1' x 1'3"
7. Isaiah 40:31
aluminum and plaster 2' x 2' x 1'4"