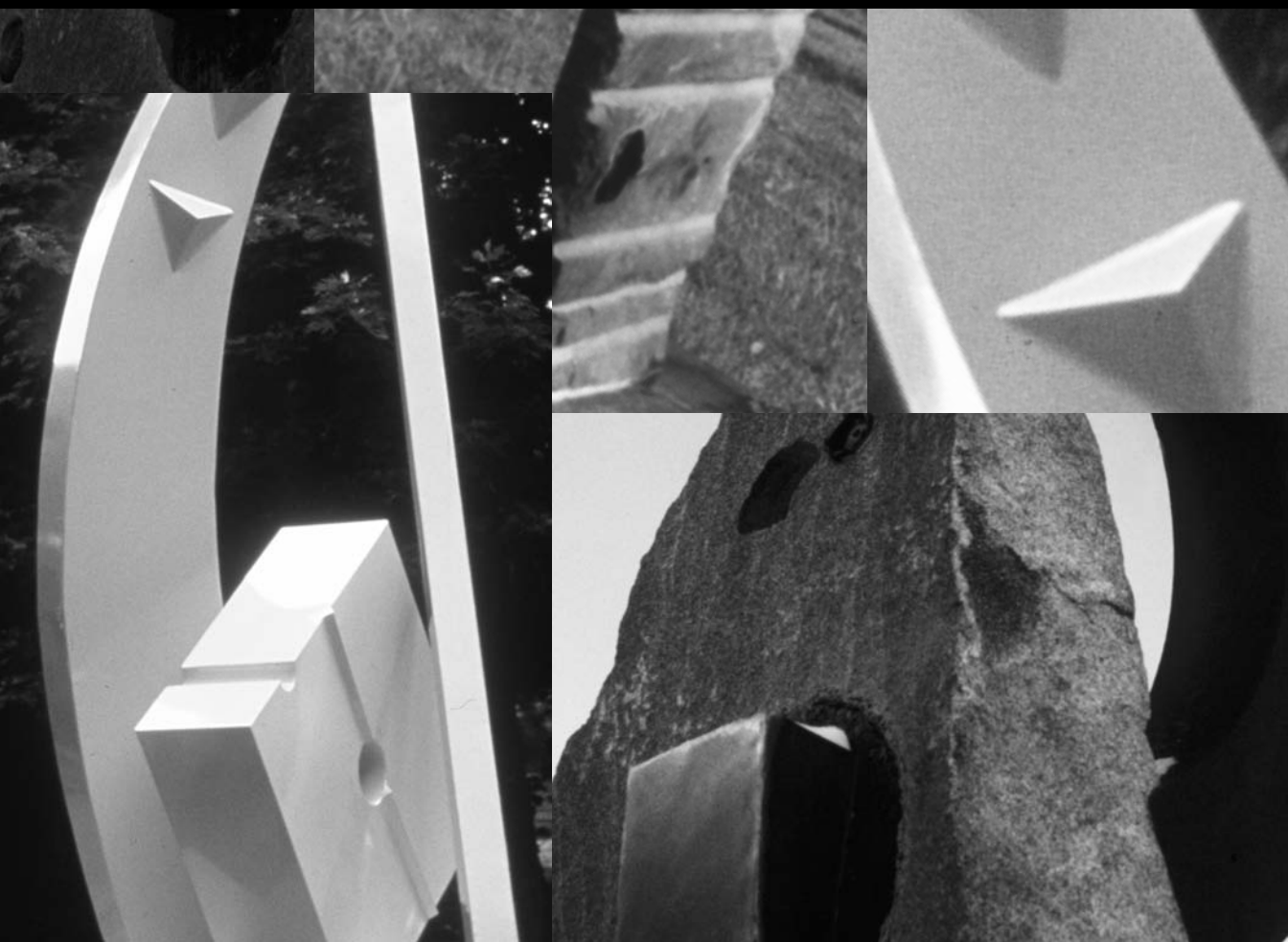




JACKSON, TN/UNION UNIVERSITY SCULPTURE TOUR
Outdoor Sculpture Competition and Exhibition 2004-2005



P U R C H A S E A W A R D W I N N E R S





“REACHING FOR THE SUN”
2004-2005 PURCHASE AWARD WINNER

Artist: Wayne Trapp
Media: powder coated steel
Dimensions: 16' x 4' x 4'



“EARTHEN PASSAGE”
2003-2004 PURCHASE AWARD WINNER

Artist: Glenn Zwegardt
Media: metal and stone
Dimensions: 11' x 4'8" x 3'

The Jackson Union Sculpture Tour was created to establish Jackson as an urban art center as it continues to grow into a major metropolitan center in West Tennessee. Populations have always established the arts as a fundamental way to promote their communities and sculpture has always been the venue of choice. When communities want to celebrate, commemorate, honor, observe or consecrate something about themselves, they choose sculpture as the way to do it. This is the major purpose of this tour: to promote the City of Jackson and to encourage our citizens in the participation and enjoyment of the visual arts. This community effort has also been greatly aided and supported by Union University as it continues to seek venues in which the University can partner with the City of Jackson in developing a stronger and more vibrant community.

This sculpture tour exists only through the unwavering support of three individuals. Mayor Charles Farmer, Union University President Dr. David Dockery and Union University Dean of Arts and Sciences Dr. Barbara McMillin have been invaluable in seeing that this tour continues to grow and expand its positive influence in the community. It is with great gratitude that we acknowledge their steadfast commitment to the Jackson Union Sculpture Tour.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lee Benson

Sculpture Tour Director

April DePriest

Assistant Director

Robert Alsobrook

Design and Development

Cynthia Keegan

Campus Liaison

Our community has been blessed, once again, by the vision of a small group of people. This time they have joined forces and made it possible for us to experience contemporary sculpture. What a magnificent gift. I was thrilled last year when I first heard about the proposed sculpture "tour" and waited with excitement to see the five finalists. I was not disappointed. And many people were astonished to find out that Jackson had agreed to buy one piece each year for five years. A permanent home for the public display of art in my home town

In the same way that art turns a house into a home with memories and meaning, public art turns a dry marketplace into a living museum. It can unify and orchestrate the look and feel of a city providing an aesthetic experience that feels warm and full. Public art creates focal points around which people can rest for a moment. It elevates the human spirit.

Very different from painting, sculpture exists in space as a living presence. There is an enhanced sense of physicality, of physical contact, of sensuality, especially in a public space, and especially outdoors. The creation becomes palpable, real. Often the size and sheer difficulty of shaping and manipulating of the materials, the slow realization that this object has been made by human hands, becomes awe-inspiring. The artist's work may convince, inform, inspire, criticize, persuade, move, delight-dream. Each individual walks away having had a unique experience. Our community is rewarded with a broadened understanding, elevated attitudes, extended thinking and life takes on deeper meaning.

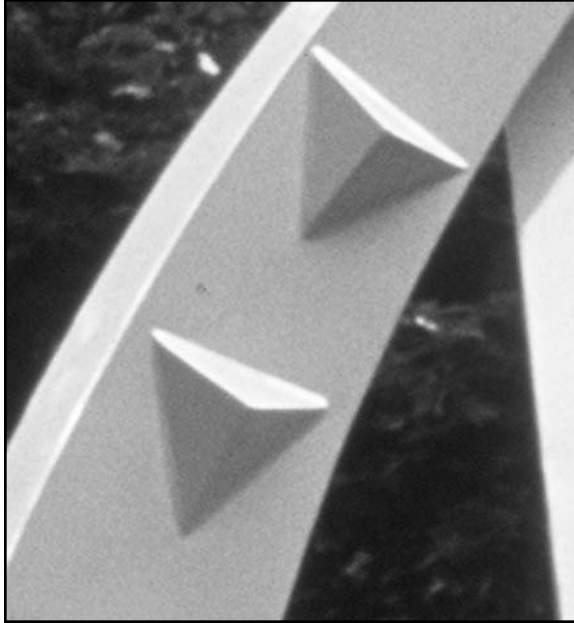
To live with sculpture can permeate, enrich and eventually alter our everyday experience.

To Aaron Lee Benson and others at Union University responsible for providing us with this experience, along with Mayor Charles Farmer and the other elected officials who made the space and funding possible, we are very grateful.

Lendon Noe

Professor of Art
Lambuth University
Jackson, Tennessee
May 2004





“REACHING FOR THE SUN”

2004-2005 PURCHASE AWARD WINNER

Artist: Wayne Trapp

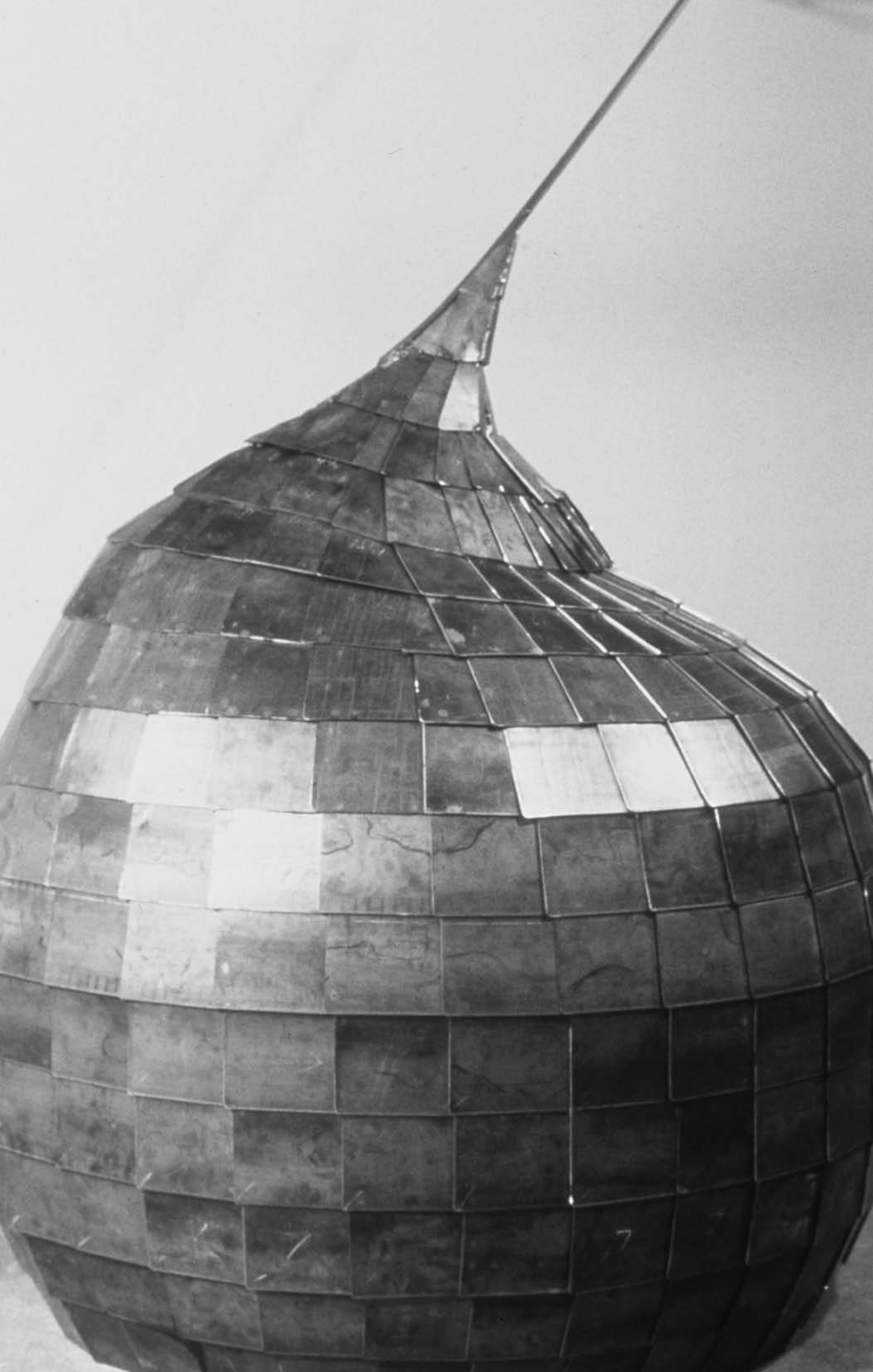
Media: powder coated steel

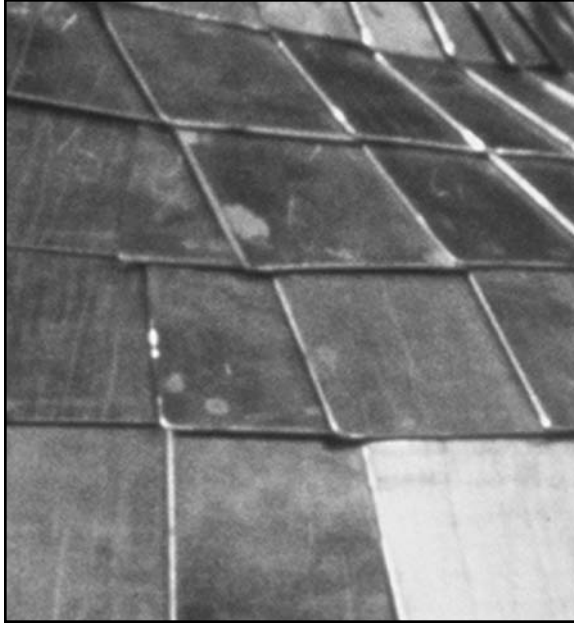
Dimensions: 16' x 4' x 4'

Artist Statement:

“As an artist I feel that an original sculptural form must pass the test of time both aesthetically and physically. Public art enriches the cultural posture of a community and must therefore enhance the site and become an intriguing form, which invites viewer reflections and responses. A sculpture should compliment and interact with the environment at hand, while provoking thoughts of wonder and amusement from the viewer. Materials are of utmost importance. In order to pass the test of time, I only use stainless steel, granite, marble, bronze and cor'ten. In combination or alone, these earthy elements will age gracefully and invite scrutiny for many a generation.”

–Wayne Trapp





UNTITLED

Artist: Arny Nadler

Media: clear coated steel

Dimensions: 9' x 6'2" x 6'4"

Artist Statement:

"Inspired by construction processes found in architecture, industry and nature, Nadler's work simultaneously references a range of identifiable forms. In *Untitled, 2004*, hundreds of small, predominantly square plates of steel are welded together in horizontal rows in a manner similar to scales or shingles. This swollen, organic form both alludes to and contradicts its intended out of doors environment."

—Arny Nadler





“SOCKET 1”

Artist: Michael Cottrell

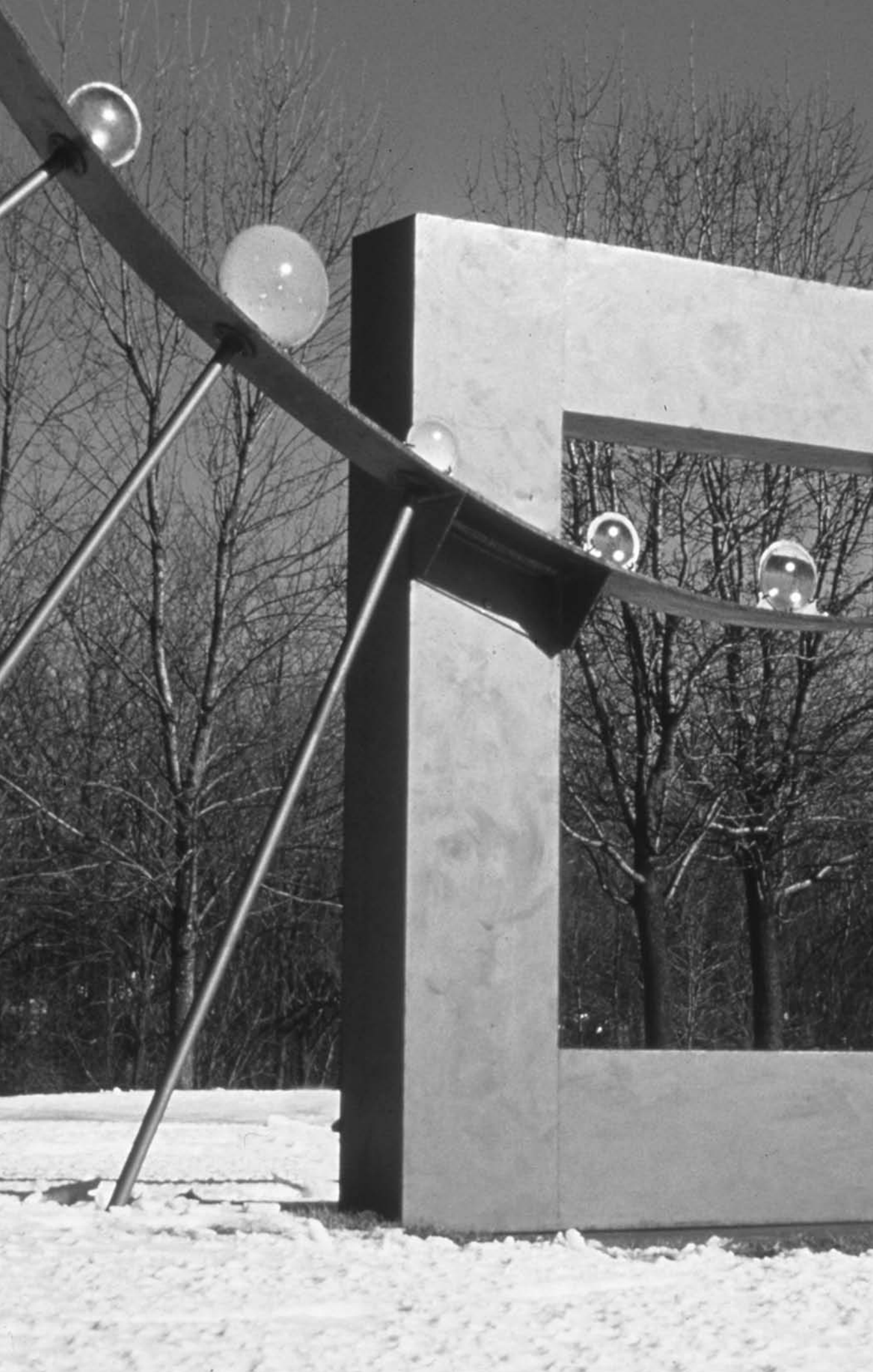
Media: steel, cast iron

Dimensions: 10' x 9' x 3'6"

Artist Statement:

“I see my artwork as a type of personal evolution, each piece and concept leading to the next as I constantly learn and grow as an artist, and as a person. Recently my focus has been the exploration of abstracted versions of objects that I imagine to be “below the surface” of something. I have been considering subject matter such as fossils, bones, the core of the earth, or the “innerness” of something, which lies just out of view waiting to be exposed. These things and the forms they inspire are also segments of a whole entity, which are taken out of context. They stand on their own as complete forms, but suggest integral relationships to other objects, which are not present. Some of this concept also includes what lies below the surface of a being in a more philosophical rather than physical sense. Emotions, personality, and inner beauty are examples of this. The visual impact of some of these pieces has been suggestive of antiquity, like a recently unearthed skeleton on display, or of slices of an object in cross-section.”

–Michael Cottrell





“QUASARC”

Artist: Nicole Beck

Media: painted steel and lenses

Dimensions: 10' x 25' x 5'

Artist Statement:

“Nicole Beck has completed public sculpture commissions in Chicago and is exhibited nationwide. The beauty of her work emanates from a holistic approach to art and science. Although she has explored many mediums over the years, her poetic vision has always been a distillation of the beauty found in nature. Beck’s simple, minimal steel forms are well-crafted, but quirky and add a warmer, more organic flair to a male-dominated genre. The inclusion of glass elements add dimensions of light, space and perception.”

–Nicole Beck





“GUARDIAN”

Artist: Stretch

Media: steel, stacked glass

Dimensions: 23' x 10' x 8'

Artist Statement:

“The choice of materials I use in my pieces – glass & steel – work against each other, causing tension while maintaining a high level of dialogue. The juxtaposition of the two serves to create an actual conversation, drawing the viewer in, inviting them to participate, engaging them both mentally and physically regardless of race, creed or color. This allows the viewer’s own past experiences to play a significant role in the present moment. The resulting dialogue can be used to inform and educate, serving as a gathering ground for communication easing cross-cultural boundaries. Amidst this interaction derives thought-provoking insight and one hopes, a better understanding of the concepts and ideals the work embodies. Crude yet detailed structures transcend time, boldly manifesting enduring concepts. They float in and out of many moments. They are always in motion as much as glass itself is always in flux. It is within this context the pieces, as the concepts they represent, continue to breathe life...”

–Stretch





“EARTHEN PASSAGE”

2003-2004 PURCHASE AWARD WINNER

Artist: Glenn Zwegardt

Media: metal and stone

Dimensions: 11' x 4'8" x 3'

Artist Statement:

“Finding one's place in a relationship with nature is the theme of my sculpture...while working with materials such as metal and stone, a relationship between nature and myself is formed. Further, I want to tell stories and comment on my collective life experience and my perception of a collective consciousness. Hopefully, these ideas and expressions will enter into human consciousness and the fourth dimension.”

–Glenn Zwegardt



U N I O N U N I V E R S I T Y A R T I S T S





“THE EXILE”

Artist: Eric Botbyl

Media: Ceramic and adobe

Dimensions: 79"

Artist Statement:

“The focus of my sculptural work has changed significantly since I have become a husband and father. The intimacies and intricacies of my family life have broadened my appreciation for all human relationships. I have become very much inspired by the relationships between husband and wife, parent and child, friends and neighbors, teacher and student, God and man, artist and viewer, maker and user. I can imagine nothing more meaningful or essential to the human being than this. So whether I am making pots, sculpture, or whatever I do, it is relationships that are central to my life and life's work.”

–Eric Botbyl



“WHAT SHALL THE TWO BECOME”

Artist: Michael T. Atkisson

Media: Steel, wood, brick, clay

Dimensions: 18” x 132” x 84”

Artist Statement:

“There is an image (and I have once seen it) that perfectly displays the central characteristic of my work –it is an old and rusted farm tractor, sitting dormant despite its once useful existence, grown through and now encased by a strong and living tree. These two previously unrelated forms, merging into a singular unit, bring with them their own connotations and sense of history, creating a new and entirely unique visual metaphor. With this image in mind, I try to marry disparate materials and forms, including found objects, architectonic structures and fragments of the human figure into unified cohesive works that present fresh images of issues relevant to the human experience, such as marriage, family relationships and spiritual and emotional regeneration.”

–Michael Atkisson



UNTITLED

Artist: Stephen Frazier

Media: Concrete

Dimensions: unknown

Artist Statement:

“For the artist the pursuit is to find that place where spirit, medium, and process work. My work is that. I seek out involvement with the working processes of any given material to the point of minimizing my own conscious embellishment of form. I try to find some sort of equality between the artist's and the materials contribution to the final form.

The choice of material is based upon an intellectual and emotional provocation for me, inspired by the properties of clay and concrete to act as recorders of physical information and interaction. These have no inherent form. They exist in a powdered or granular state until water is added to give them coherency, consequently removing most limitations as to how "form" must be made. For me, this increases the element of risk in design and construction, motivating discovery.”

–Stephen Frazier



“METANOIA”

Artist: Roger Feldman

Media: wood, concrete, and metal

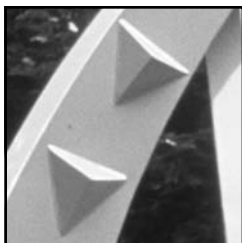
Dimensions: 14' x 24' x 10'

Artist Statement:

“Metanoia is a Greek word for "Turn". The structure of this site-specific sculpture is a compilation of segments of a circle and cylindrical walls. The moving viewer discovers several points of entry and is rewarded with a place to contemplate their previous steps and to consider what lies ahead. The exterior/interior involvement of the viewer suggests connections to a larger reality.”

–Roger Feldman

A



“REACHING FOR THE SUN”

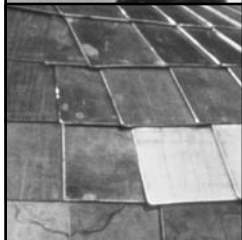
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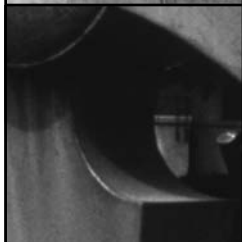
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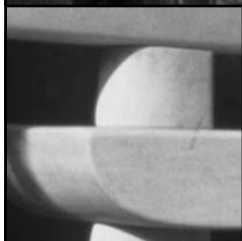
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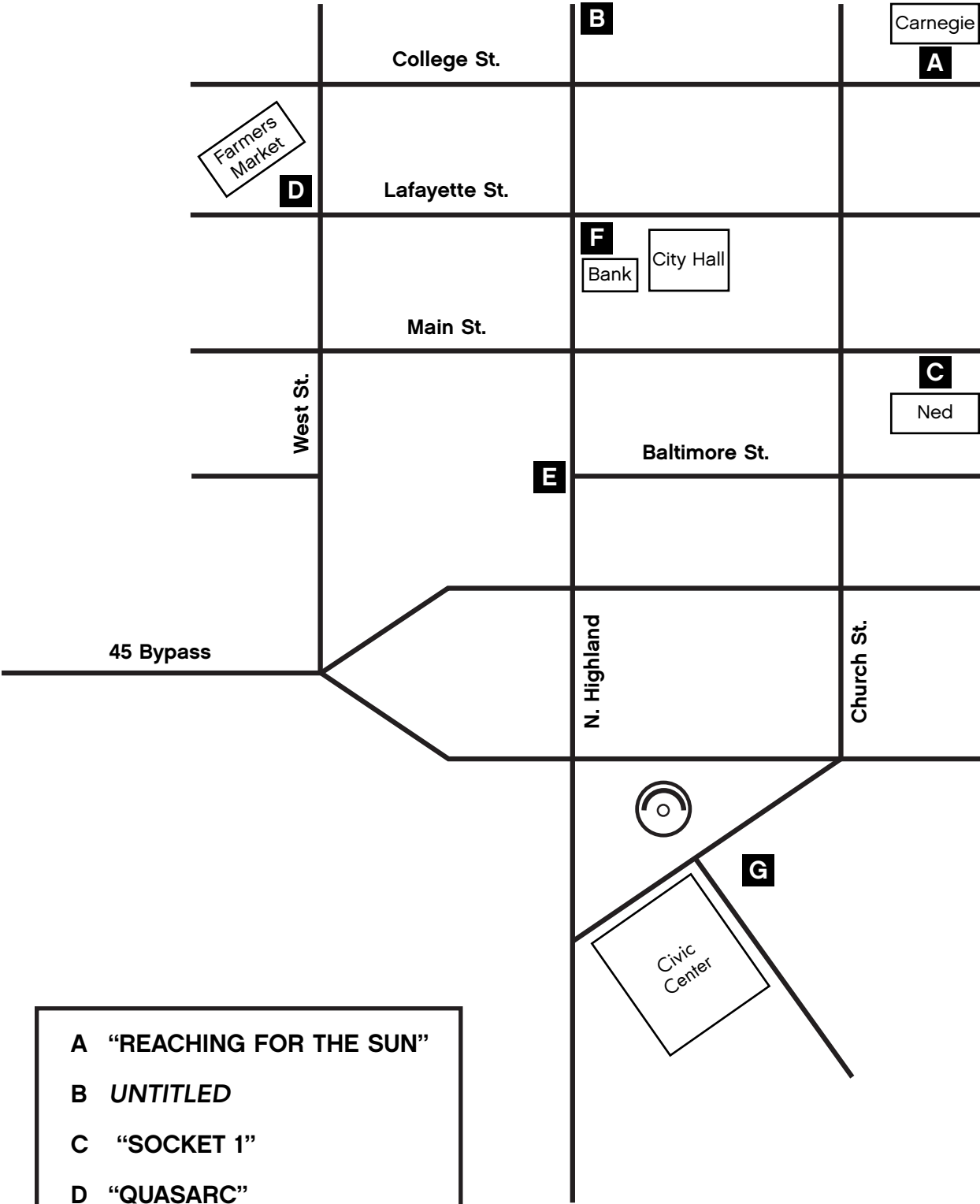
“GETHSEMANE”

2003-2004 SCULPTURE

Artist: Shawn Morin

Media: stone

Dimensions: 7'3" x 8' x 7'3"



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- B *UNTITLED*
- C "SOCKET 1"
- D "QUASARC"
- E "GUARDIAN"
- F "EARTHEN PASSAGE"
- G "GETHSEMANE"



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A joint project of the City of Jackson, TN and Union University
September 2004 - August 2005

Union University

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