

hous projects

John Housmand: extensions and intensions

artist statement

These works are created and presented so as to create a resonance within the viewer's mind and time-body. Each piece has as its essence a primordial form, and each of these has a specific psycho-emotional power. These forms are then executed within a material selection that is at the same time sensual, natural, and insistent. And at yet another dimension, a specific signature is added to assist in the memory resonance. This signature might be the hand of the maker, or the addition of a tiny tree as an origination device.

The intention here is to create an experience of creation, and to bind it to the unique personal act of self-remembering. What is given is essential form or template, manifestation into the world, and then personalization. The forms are actually geometries of the spirit, melodies of the invisible, vectors of the primordial. Forms have forces and power, and real forms have real forces and power. The arch, the spiral-helix, the ladder, the tree, and the bow are all genetic forms, each with an eternal and insistent imperative.

The action of an arch teaches arising, and also bridging. It describes that human inner gesture of lifting oneself above the static of time-space, and into the world of quality, not quantity, and thus lifting one's being out of the temporal and to a new height. Whence returned at the other side, there is a mergence of past and present, old and new, and a being shift takes place. This is a human effort, modeled into time space, and so the hand springs out from the earth to initiate the action.

The action of a spiral teaches evolution, and the intension of this action begins in the unseen world of pure form, and then once again manifests into 3D. It is miraculous to know that the upwardly spiraling act is embedded in the very essence of matter. The tree grows, the helix insists, the purification of desire becomes the expression of perfection. And as much as it is taking its blueprint from the invisible world, its action is embedded in matter. Desire is the motor of evolution.

The action of the ladder participates in evolution as well, and the rungs of experience become the handles of our arising. We pull ourselves up and along by our traction with reality, and although we feel as if we go forward, in the best of all worlds we pull ourselves upwards as well. Your life, my life, is a succession of hands on the rungs of our existence.

The seed becomes the tree becomes the seed becomes the tree. As above, so below, and as within, so without. I wish to show it with the sensuality of the stuff of life. In this case, the tree, the timber, the grain, the passage of time into the stuff of life and the stuff of life into time.

The bow enacts the dynamic. It is the source of action, the seedbed of aim, the point of departure to the stars... The archer is constellated in the sky, and that form is actually embedded in the mind of humanity. "I shot an arrow into the air..." "A man without an aim is nothing..." And yet when two bows marry, their forces are set into perfect balance, and the dynamics create perfect spherical symmetry. Within these lines and arcs one can see the perfection of the sphere. There is a cancellation of push and pull, and the invisible forces become visible. Perhaps then, this is a model of the love affair between energy and matter.