

IRON WORKS

Steven Maeck

Second Floor Gallery

October 1 - December 17, 2022



Director's Statement:

"Sculpture is as free as the mind; as complex as life." - David Smith

Salvaged industrial refuse finds new life as objects of beauty and imagination through the sculptor Steven Maeck. In the small town of Burr Oak, Iowa, the sounds of welding, assembling, and fabricating steel, iron, and wood echo through the streets. At the source is an artist constructing contemporary monoliths.

Maeck working intuitively, lets the material dictate the direction of the art object. In his studio, remnants of industry are drawn together, becoming modern-day totems and monuments that are raw and inspiring objects.

Like Michelangelo, Maeck allows the material to speak to him, and scrap becomes living objects of beauty, imagination, and strength in his hands. Masterfully, what was once old and rejected material become transformed and inspiring through Steven Maeck's sculptural process.

Bio:

Steven Maeck was born in 1949 in Burlington Vermont. He has worked for 25 years as a specialist dealer in antique oriental rugs and modern art before making his first original sculpture. After operating galleries in Vermont, New York City and Key West, Steven has exhibited with other artists at shows throughout the Eastern U.S. He then left the entrepreneurial life for life in the studio.

Steven works largely in welded and assembled steel. Occasionally he works in wood in a modernist, primarily non-representational style. His sculptural work has been exhibited at the Hearst Museum in Cedar Falls, Iowa, the Helen Day Art Center in Stowe, Vermont and the JDK Gallery in Burlington, Vermont. Steven is also a painter and assemblage artist. His work can be found in numerous private collections. Steven and his wife live and work in Burr Oak, Iowa.

Artist Statement:

The aesthetic intent of my current work is not to create "junkyard art," but to take industrial artifacts and alter or recombine them in such a manner as to create forms that not only are modernist, resonant and original but also manifest the aura of having been created from base raw material such as cast bronze.

- Steven Maeck