

DAN SCHLÜCKEBIER

FRAGMENTS & FORMATIONS

SCULPTURE MFA EXHIBITION
APRIL 25 — MAY 15

RECEPTION: APRIL 25, 10:00 AM — 2:00 PM



FORT HAYS STATE
UNIVERSITY

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FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY'S
MOSS THORNS
GALLERY OF ART

“Fragments and Formations”

MFA Thesis Exhibition, Sculpture

Dan Schluckebier

Artist Statement

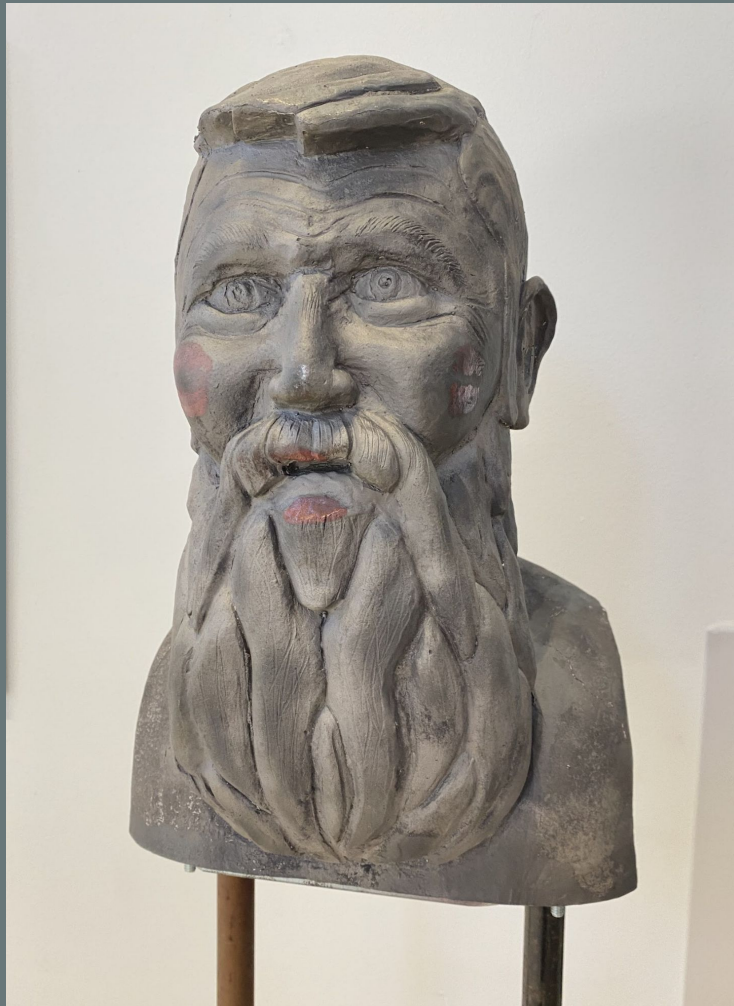
My work begins with an idea, but is driven by curiosity as it develops, often arriving somewhere different than initially planned. I maintain control over the direction while allowing decisions to shift in response to what emerges. Creating artwork becomes a space where ideas are not illustrated but worked through—physically and mentally at the same time.

I approach making as problem-solving, where each sculpture functions as a puzzle resolved through construction. I push materials beyond their intended function, forcing them into new conditions where form emerges through resistance, constraint, and play. Material behavior informs the outcome but does not determine it, decisions are made through an ongoing negotiation between intention and response. Mental blocks are addressed materially, and building becomes a feedback loop in which assembly drives thought.

Memory operates as a persistent but indirect influence. It does not appear as narrative, but shapes decisions through repetition, testing, and revision. At times, I recognize that I am responding to experiences or objects that have stayed with me, even when they are not directly represented.

My practice is grounded in the belief that thinking happens through making. Working through material, especially through weight, balance, and structure, allows ideas to be tested and adjusted. Forms develop through this process, holding both intention and change without fully resolving into a fixed outcome. Each sculpture becomes a record of these decisions, an accumulation of adjustments, constraints, and choices where thought is embedded in form.





Dano

Iron, metal

70"x14"x14"

2025



The Idea Apparatus

Found objects, metal, iron, wood

23' x 16' x 16'

2026





Memory Machine

Found objects, steel,
iron, aluminum

35" x 32" x 54"

2025





Record of Buying Flowers

Bronze, wood

21" x 12" x 4"

2025

Folded paper flowers for years, pretty and beautiful.
Broke down and bought flowers once for my wife Desi.
Expensive ones, given with care, received with grace.
Cost more, meant less, allowed to fail and did not last.
After they lived, were cast in bronze, beautiful now.
They remain.

Record of Buying Flowers
Bronze, wood
2025
21" x 12" x 4"
NPS



Death of Peace of Mind

Wood, iron, steel

61" x 9' x 19"

2024





Metalsnake Jake

Metal, aluminum

5" x 15" x 62"

2023





Structure of Severance

Wood, steel, aluminum, iron

13' x 12' x 27''

2025





Name Sign

Metal, wood

14" x 24" x 1"

2026





Coming Undone

Metal, iron, aluminum

80" x 24" x 19"

2025



*Ich Feier Geklaute
Gabeln*

Found objects

18" x 48" x 3"

2026



A Full Set

Resin, iron, brass, stainless steel,
copper, lead, bronze, aluminum,
silicone

18" x 48" x 3"

2026







Duality

Steel

90" x 21" x 21"

2024



Manifest Destiny

Metal, iron

75" x 77" x 44"

2025





Articulate

Iron, metal, bronze

75" x 12" x 18"

2024



What the Cart Carries

Metal, iron

48" x 60" x 12"

2024



Manly Blossoming

Metal, iron

60" x 32" x 18"

2024





FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY'S
MOSS-THORNS
GALLERY *of* ART

& The Patricia A. Schmidt Gallery Lobby

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Gallery Director

Colin Schmidtberger

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