

TURNER CARROLL

Karen Yank

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

The primary focus of my work is on non-verbal communication and emotional nuances that are unspoken. I strive to express a context that can be understood in a moment, but with layers that can be seen for those who pause. I try to reveal an organic nature with a sense of history, using a material that is usually cold and industrial. Every weld and grind mark is an intentional decision. I attempt to reflect a beauty that can only be found in the organic.

I like to incorporate circular images with intersecting lines into my sculptural works, because of their rich thematic relevance found throughout history. The circle and cross are one of the earliest symbols seen in human cultural development, dating back to the Stone Age. Circles reference all that is natural; such as the sun, moon, earth, cycles of life, time, and repetition. I often use the circle to represent the notion of unity. The "X" reflects transit themes of crossing, intersecting, joining, and marking a point in time or space. Also, I use the two symbols combined as a show of affection for the world as a whole.

The Mandorla (almond) shape has a historically significant presence in my work. It has become a symbol that references myself as an individual. In my abstract figurative pieces, the Mandorla shape is placed on top of a "silhouette", and thus abstractly representing a head. The "silhouette" is another significant shape that I often use in my freestanding sculptures, to symbolize the human figure. The space between spoken word and physical shape, intrigue and inspire my creativity.