

William Brayton 2022

Statement:

My recent sculpture is a conversation between chance and intention. I spend months making sculptural parts which are then assembled in a rapid, improvisational way. This process keeps the work open and unpredictable. People often ask if my sculpture is kinetic. Like a gust of wind that has disrupted a hayfield, I want to imply motion rather than work with it directly. Implied motion is a kind of sculptural event. When the cool geometry of lines, curves, disks and spheres intertwine, an emotional content sometimes surfaces. At this moment I step back and the sculpture becomes itself.

Bio:

William Brayton graduated from the University of New Hampshire, cum laude in studio art, and received an MFA from Claremont Graduate University in Los Angeles. Brayton has exhibited his work in a broad range of venues including: The Barrows Rotunda, Dartmouth College; The Mount, Lenox, MA; The Art Lot, Brooklyn, NY; The Chesterwood Museum, Stockbridge, MA; Soil Gallery, Seattle WA; and the Barbara Krakow Gallery, Boston, MA. His work has appeared in numerous publications including Sculpture Magazine, Art New England, The Seattle Times, and The Boston Globe. Brayton is an emeritus Professor of Art at Hampshire College in Amherst Massachusetts where he established the Sculpture Program in 1988. He is the recipient of a Pollock Krasner Grant, a Mellon Foundation grant, a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Grant, and other grants in support of his work in the studio and within academia. Brayton has been a visiting artist at many institutions including Dartmouth College, Smith College, Penn State University, Claremont Graduate University, Amherst College, Skidmore College, and The Brattleboro Museum. He lives and works with Erica Wurtz and their son Gavin in Conway Massachusetts.