

Steve Briscoe 7/24/2020

Statement for YoloArts Barn Gallery exhibition: *Memories of a New Future*

The oar is the instrument of propulsion. Through its action the ancient civilizations made great voyages. The oar symbolized the mariner's life, was instrumental in their self-belief, like the sword to a warrior. Many different oars may propel us during our time here. In this piece I have used the oar as a device for seeing some of those things that we will bring or leave behind. When fleeing the known for the unknown, one doesn't always make the best choices of clothing, food or shelter. The memorable can weigh as much as the useful.

By fashioning oars out of the things of the past, I bring those memories along, make them work to stay with me, make them more meaningful. They may not survive the journey, or they may get left behind along the way, but they will help me to get where I am going.

Oars from *Leaving the Known*