

UTILIDOR

by

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in

Art

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Brian Aaron Hauck

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LIST OF IMAGES

Images	Page
1. Gallery View	3
2. Gallery View	4
3. Gallery View with Artist	5
4. Gallery View	6
5. Show Sign	7
6. Tension Tangle, 2007, 8'x8', steel and hardwood	8
7. Tension Tangle, Detail	9
8. Tension Tangle, Detail	10
9. Flat-Bar Tangle, 2007, 9'x5'x4', welded steel	11
10. Flat-Bar Tangle, Detail	12
11. Cubic Tangle, 2007, 5'x5'x3', steel and fir	13
12. Cubic Tangle, Detail	14
13. Cubic Tangle, Detail	15
14. Buckled Plank Tangle, 2007, 3.5'x7'x4', steel and pine	16
15. Buckled Plank, Detail	17
16. Buckled Plank, Detail	18
17. Downspout Tangle, 2007, 8'x7'x7', PVC plastic	19
18. Downspout Tangle, Detail	20
19. Rusted Tangle, 2006, 5'x8'x8', steel	21
20. Rusted Tangle, from above	22

A utilidor is a system of above-ground pipes or tubes used to carry electricity and water in regions with yearly permafrost. These networks are made up of a limited number of recurring elements that rely on one another to complete the needed task. My sculptures are complex entanglements that are constructed in a similar fashion and direct the eye as the utilidor directs electricity or water.

I have always been intrigued by the way the physical structures are organized. Interstate highways, sports stadiums, roller coasters, scaffolding, plumbing pipes, and assembly plants are examples of complete or fragmented systems, or infrastructures, that I find conceptually and visually appealing. Growing up in a small and remote town in northeastern Oklahoma that was mostly devoid of these types of structures made them exotic to me. While traveling through major cities as a child, I keenly observed these grandiose architectural and industrial frameworks. As humans, we grapple with numerous systematized occurrences on a daily basis. Like the physical structures mentioned above, these occurrences are bound together and can inform one another. These experiences have had a lasting influence on my aesthetic and artistic message.

Toys that mimic modern construction methods, such as Legos, Construxs, and Lincoln Logs were an essential part of my childhood and are visually accessible to most. These toys are made in such a way that the pieces can systematically fit together in any number of configurations and my current form of sculpture is no different. Inspired by toys, routines, architecture, and industry, I compose wood and steel components that methodically collaborate to create tense, linear masses.

I fabricate or utilize two primary types of segments in each sculpture. The first, a nexus, is generally a device that links a series of elements, and the second, a conduit is, a pipe or tube that transmits water or electricity, like a utilidor does. The “nexus” and “conduits” are designed to be structurally and visually compatible. These components and the method of production generates a mechanical aesthetic that also refers to the way our daily activities are bound together to form one organized action.

This body of work embodies my fascination with processes and materials that have been informed by ephemeral experiences within an urban world that was once very foreign to me because of a rural upbringing. While not being directly representative, the elements I present are akin to architectural and industrial forms. They provide the viewer with a familiar palette of information, or comfort zone, to understand the coordinated formation involved and become visually consumed with the number of parts present and the way the parts react with and rely on one another within the gallery space.



1. Gallery View



2. Gallery View



3. Gallery View with Artist



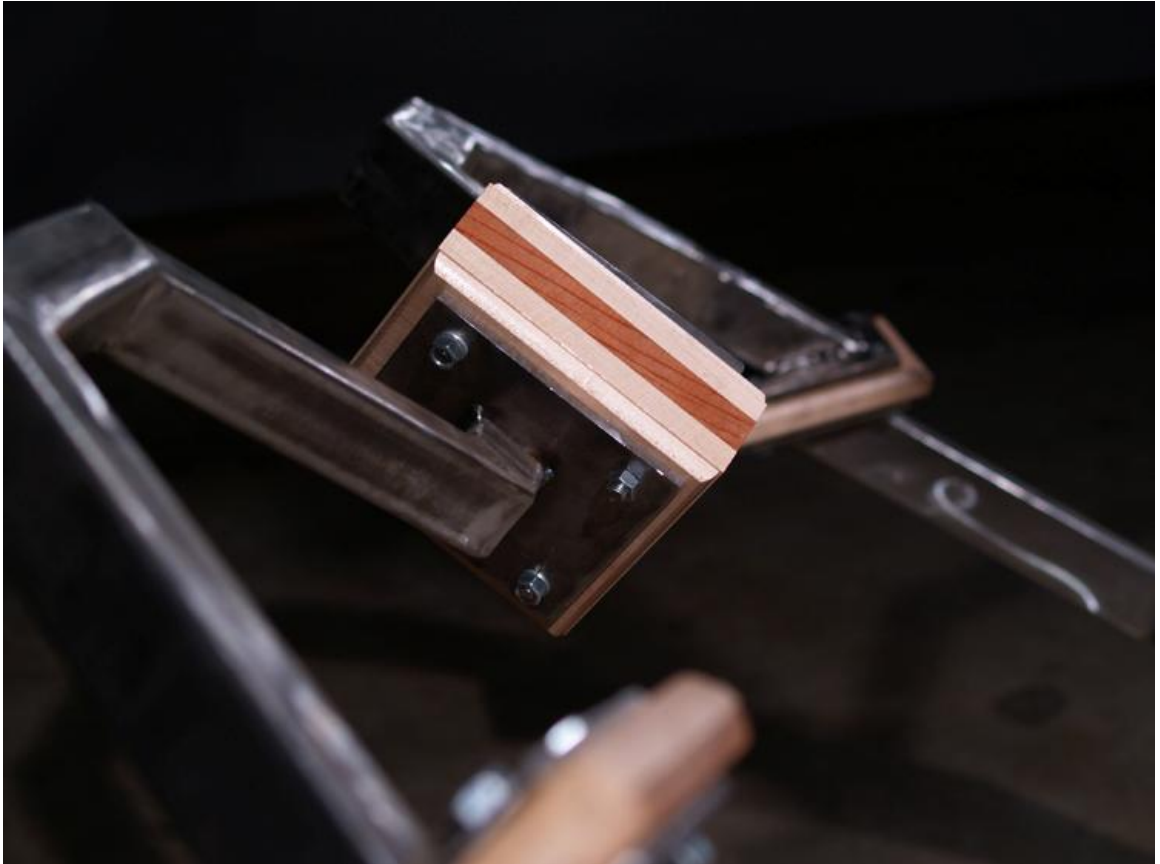
4. Gallery View



5. Show Sign



6. Tension Tangle, 2007, 8'x8', steel and hardwood



7. Tension Tangle, 2007, 8'x8', steel and hardwood



8. Tension Tangle, 2007, 8'x8', steel and hardwood



9. Flat-Bar Tangle, 2007, 9'x5'x4', welded steel



10. Flat-Bar Tangle, 2007, 9'x5'x4', welded steel



11. Cubic Tangle, 2007, 5'x5'x3', steel and fir



12. Cubic Tangle, 2007, 5'x5'x3', steel and fir



13. Cubic Tangle, 2007, 5'x5'x3', steel and fir



14. Buckled Plank Tangle, 2007, 3.5'x7'x4', steel and pine



15. Buckled Plank Tangle, 2007, 3.5'x7'x4', steel and pine



16. Buckled Plank Tangle, 2007, 3.5'x7'x4', steel and pine



17. Downspout Tangle, 2007, 8'x7'x7', PVC plastic



18. Downspout Tangle, 2007, 8'x7'x7', PVC plastic



19. Rusted Tangle, 2006, 5'x8'x8', steel



20. Rusted Tangle, 2006, 5'x8'x8', steel