

LINES & OBJECTS

Mike Shaffer set up his studio in the late sixties and turned out several hundred impressive creations before taking up with linear objects in 1973

1961-64 Teaches science in public junior high school in Maryland. Travels to major national parks in the U.S. Photographs important works of art at the World's Fair in Seattle. Visits major art museums in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Does graduate work at Southern Illinois University. Tours homes and buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Seriously considers studying architecture.

1965 Receives commission award from Carl M. Freeman Associates, Inc., a builder-developer based in Silver Spring, MD. The work is selected by Frank Getlein, art critic for the Washington Star, Richard Madigan, Assistant Director of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and J. Carter Brown who later becomes Director of the National Gallery of Art. Participates in two-person show in Reston, Virginia.

1966-68 Shows sculpture with Society of Washington Artists. Rents studio space in Rockville, MD. Receives Robert G. Merrick Foundation Award for work in regional show at Baltimore Museum of Art. Another work travels with Maryland State Arts Council to eight cities in five states.

1969-72 Sells sculpture through Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and Dux, Inc. showroom in New York City. Starts Expansion Works series.

1973-74 Exhibits in regional show at Corcoran Gallery and at Middendorf Gallery in Washington, DC, and in Maryland Regional show at Baltimore Museum of Art. Starts Color Tubes. Donates work from Color Tube series to Sidwell Friends Auction.

1975-76 Has first solo show at St. John's College in Annapolis. Meets Alice Denny, founder of WPA and has second solo show, "Intersections II". Buys home in Rockville.

1977-78 Large painting is selected by Nancy Hoffman for Baltimore Museum's Biennial. Receives Barton-Gillet Company Award. Meets Museum Director Tom Freudenheim who later visits studio. In group shows in Georgetown and in Kensington, MD, and at Jack Rasmussen Gallery in Washington, DC.



1979-80 Has first solo private gallery show at Jack Rasmussen Gallery in Washington, DC. Constructs large installation for show sponsored by WPA and Studio Gallery in Washington. Moves to Frederick County, MD. Participates in show at Academy of the Arts in Easton, MD.

1981-82 Starts Pencil Works series. Shows again at Academy of Arts in Easton and at the Hecht Co. in Washington, DC. Selected by Ivan Karp from OK Harris Gallery in New York for an award for work in the Pencil Works series at Maryland Institute College of Art show in Baltimore.

1983-85 Shows Pencil Works in three group shows. One is juried by Howard Fox, Associate Curator at the Hirshhorn in Washington, DC. Builds a large studio and workshop adjacent to his home in Maryland and moves in in 1985.

1986-89 Exhibits work from the Towers series at Strathmore Hall Arts Center in Rockville in show juried by Derek Guthrie. Starts Tables series, first nonlinear works since 1970. Completes commission for MARC rail station in Germantown, MD. Publishes brochures about his work.

1990-92 Erects first large outdoor sculpture at Montgomery College, Strathmore Hall and Montpelier Cultural Arts Center in MD. Meets Richard Zandler of the Montpelier Center and Millie Shott from Strathmore. Advertises in Galleries magazine. Starts Contrived Objects series.

1993-95 Exhibits in group shows in Richmond, VA, and in Rockville. Reconstructs large work at Strathmore Hall changing its colors and configuration. Erects large outdoor work on Campus of University of Maryland University College and is included in video produced by the College and shown on Maryland Public Television. Installs large solar electronic work in Annapolis.

1996-00 Participates in group shows in Rockville, Ellicott City, College Park and Gaithersburg in MD and in Ithaca, New York, and a gallery near Philadelphia. Has solo shows at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts in Annapolis, Rockville Arts Place, University of Maryland and at Glenview Mansion Gallery in Rockville.

SHAFER'S
FIRST SCULP-
TURE, A WOOD
CONSTRUC-
TION, EARNED
HIM SECOND
PLACE IN A
UNIVERSITY-
SPONSORED
EXHIBITION IN
1963