



*Portfolio #4*  
**Sculpture by  
DAVID ORTH**

*David Orth  
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## Testimonials & Reviews

*“... an articulate, loving sense of craftsmanship drawn from the past ... sustained conceptually by... humor and personal vision ... highly sensual ... finely tuned ... consistent ... truly ‘art furniture.’”*

*The New Art Examiner*

*“I come to Orth’s website just to be amazed - overwhelming contrasts of the primal versus the ethereal. His art sings to me. Rock and roll...the blues...arias.”*

*James A. Mangum  
author of the Dos Cruces Trilogy*

*“My clients are very impressed with the originality, timelessness and quality of David’s art. His work is uniquely his own style and works so well in any environment. I am easily able to communicate with him as to my clients’ needs and he never fails to deliver a design that is beautiful, appropriate, and on time.”*

*Lois B. Gries ASID  
Past President, ASID Illinois*

*“Professionalism is the operative word in working with David Orth. His follow through and timeliness are admirable. As an interior designer, I appreciate the artistic integrity with which David adapts his designs to specific sites.”*

*Marilynn Davis, ASID - IIDA  
Highland Park, IL*

*“... really occupies that space between ‘what is furniture?’ and ‘what is art?’ Really very, very beautiful work.”*

*Victoria Lautman  
reporting for Chicago Public Radio*

## Orth Sculpture

*While his design is steeped in critical theory, it arrives to us directly, in understated form. Orth has taught sculpture and design at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, has a graduate degree in philosophy from Northwestern University, and has published several essays on the philosophy and psychology of design.*

*Longtime Chicago sculptor David Orth now designs and builds sculpture in his rural studio in northwest Arkansas. David designs sculpture at tabletop to human scale. For indoors or outdoors. He works in bronze, steel and wood.*





*Title: "Open Tuning"*  
*Materials: Steel*





**“Prairie Drifter I”**

#8118

Materials: Oxidized Steel

Size: various

*I live and work in a rural area with a lot of ancient Native American history and interesting animals. I often hear a haunting chorus of coyotes, and at dusk, looking up into the trees very carefully, I'll imagine the silhouettes of deer. I will sometimes feel figures drifting through the mist, too old perhaps to notice me, but somehow guarding the land. I call them the Prairie Drifters. They are upright, part animal, part human, and often have great horns or antlers. They drift slowly or stand stock still, merging with trees.*



***Labyrinth Sculpture & Seating***  
*Title: "Meeting". Materials: Steel & concrete*

*Sculpture & seating commissioned by the City of Woodstock, Illinois as a contemplative, public environment at the center of a 60-foot diameter labyrinth built by the Bull Valley Garden Club.*

*Installed in Woodstock's Peace Park and dedicated by Mayor Brian Sager June 2016.*



*photos by Ron Seymour*





***Prairie Drifter II***  
#8124  
*Materials: Steel & Patina*  
*Size: to order*



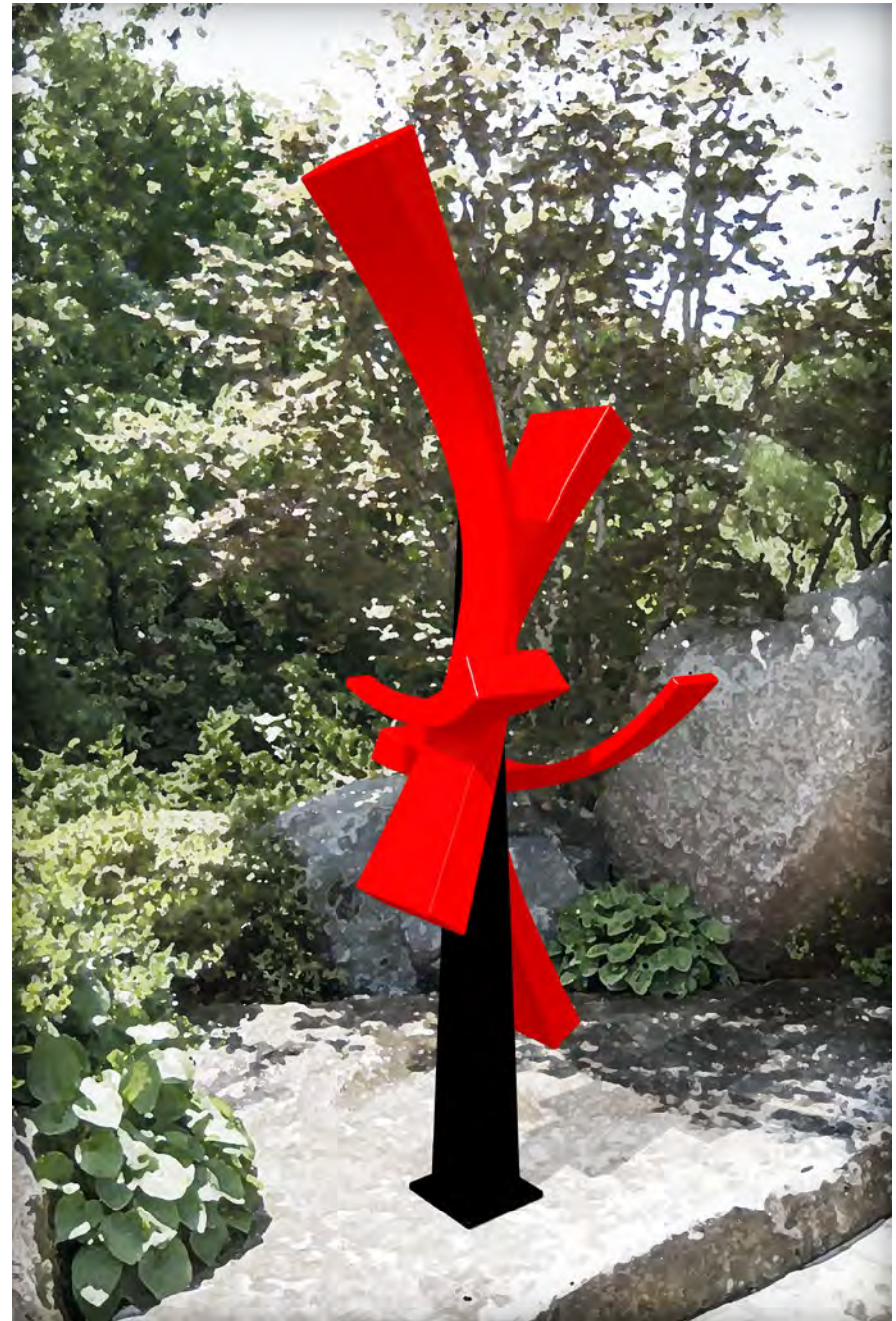
**“Concrecence”**  
*steel or bronze*

*as shown: painted steel*  
*size 93.5” x 13.5” x 19”*





***“Tumblers”***  
*Steel*  
*Size: to order*







***“Ashes, Ashes, We All Fall Down”***

*#8109*

*Materials: Oxidized Steel*

*Size: to order*

*Sometimes I imagine a lone bristle cone pine showing the signs of its unimaginable age - almost as if it were a ghost or spirit of a tree. Such trees remind me of the human condition - great beauty, great sorrow, both passing like a flower.*





***“Walk a Crooked Mile”***

*Oxidized Steel with Concrete Pedestal  
Two variations.*







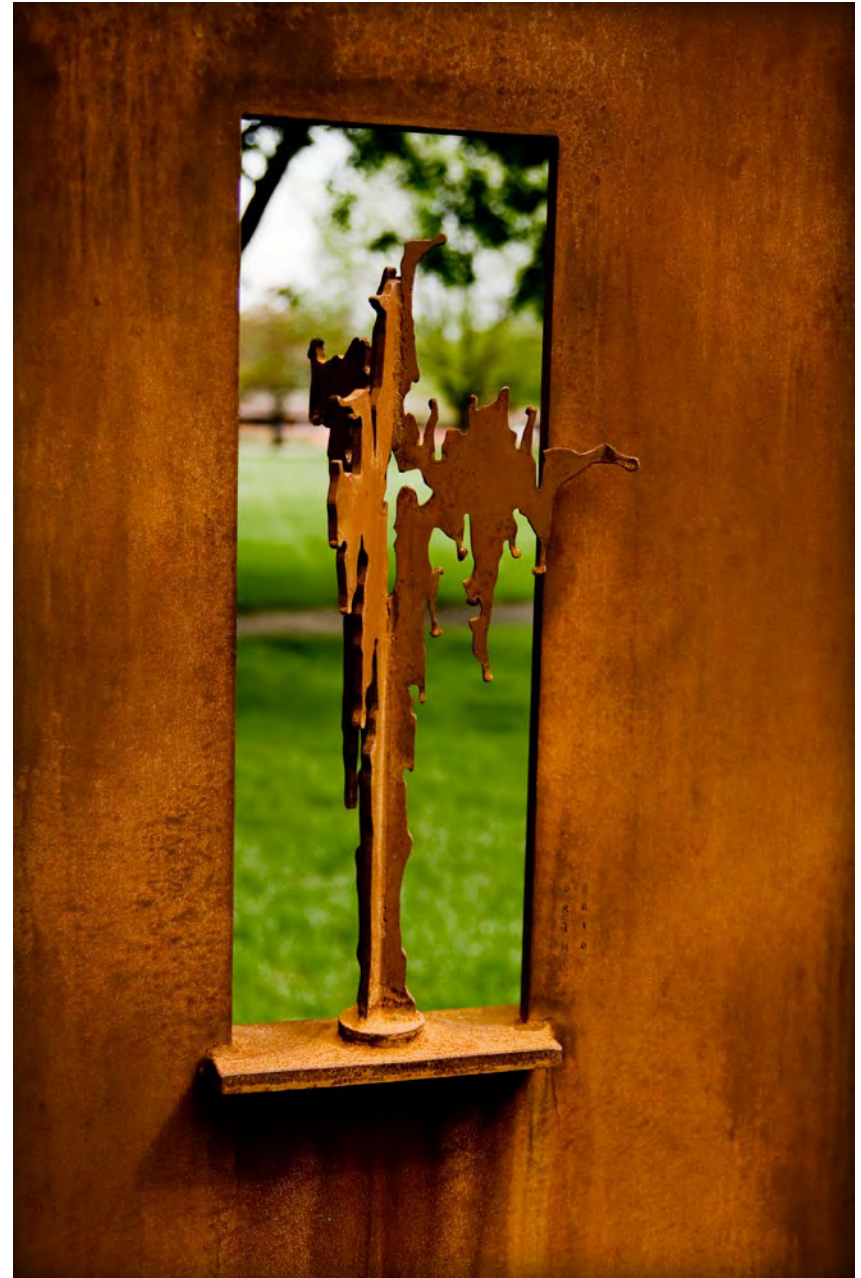
**“Ashes to Ashes”**

#8115

Materials: steel & patina

Size shown: 84” x 24” x 14”

*Interesting how the “miniature” and the “niche” seem to connect directly to my own interior - not as object but as subject.*

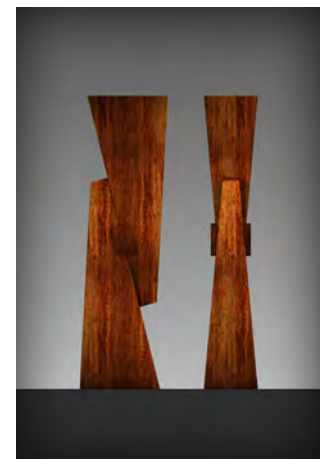






Composite image. Apologies to Martin Puryear.

**“ConStruct”** #8112  
Materials: Oxidized Steel  
Size: to order





**“Gesture of Balance #8101”**

*Materials shown: Verdigris Bronze & Oxidized Steel*

*Size: various*



*Mobiles are weird and wonderful studies in gravity, balance, and movement. The eternal conflict between gravity & freedom is neither won nor lost, but becomes a much more interesting conversation and dance. I love it that Calder thought a sculpture might as well hang from the ceiling.*





***“Aegean Deconstruction”***

*#8051 - a wall sculpture*

*Materials: Copperplate*

*Standard Size: 40W x 40H x 6D*

*Inspired by archeological finds, the heavy metalplate begins as a section of a sphere then cut and reassembled retaining, imperfectly, the spherical geometry.*





## **“The Sacred Tree”**

#9040 - Weathered steel & gold leaf  
Size various.

*This sculpture was originally designed for a hospital’s interfaith chapel. Written vertically on an antiqued panel, the optional text for this context reads “The Sacred Tree of Life Grows into the Openness of our Prayer and into the Place of our Infirmity”. The original design called for 1/2” steel plate stretching 9 feet end to end.*



**“Eclipse” #9012**  
*Materials shown: bronze & walnut*





***“The Vigil”***  
#8025  
*Materials: oak, steel, enamel*







**“Dancer”  
“Searcher,”  
“Maker”**

*Antiqued nickel finish (over 1/4” steel)  
Gently puffed, expressionistic forms of human archtypes or  
postures. Approximately 48” high.*





***“Wonders of the Deep”***

*#8110*

*Materials: Oxidized Steel & Sculpted Concrete*

*Size: various*

*A simple two dimensional concept for heavy  
metal plate.*





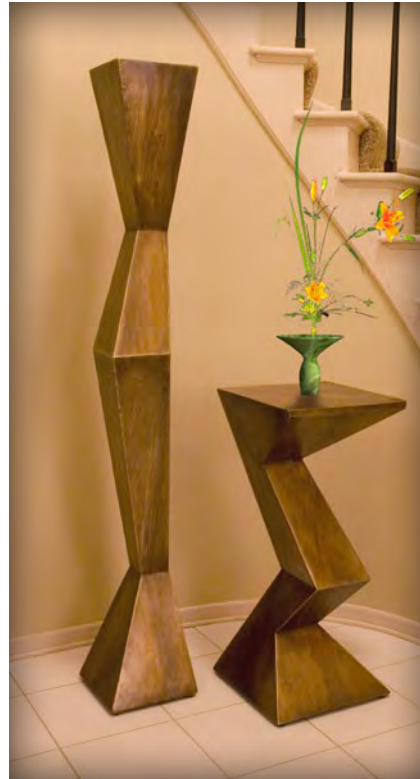


***“Dust Devil”***  
#7349  
*Materials: Bronze,  
Concrete, & Steel*  
*Size: various*



## More Ideas

*Many of my ideas end up in one of the other portfolios as furniture or ceremonial art. These other portfolios can be mined for their pure concepts. Here are some examples.*







**DAVID ORTH**  
*photo credit Diane Drake*

*More sculpture & furniture  
in woods and metals at  
[OrthSculpture.com](http://OrthSculpture.com)*