

Art News

Dina Wind at Pleiades

By Mary Bartholomay

The sculpture of Dina Wind is currently showing at Pleiades Gallery through December 21. Wind, formerly a painter, now wields a welding torch to construct medium-sized works from found objects such as industrial springs, hoops and sheet metal cut-outs. The resulting compositions are exquisitely balanced with a flowing, lyrical emphasis on curves, loops, and spirals. While some pieces are specifically meant to hang from a wall, all have a two dimensional orientation—the viewer is impelled toward a frontal reading of these pieces. The effect of both this frontality and this emphasis on harmonious composition of separate forms, is curiously reminiscent of the early paintings of Wassily Kandinsky or those of the Russian Constructivists. This is especially the case in pieces such as *Disc and Spring #2* and *Spring and Triangle*.

Often parts of each sculpture are left unfinished, and untouched, revealing the rusty golds and browns of the metal. Just as frequently, Wind covers her pieces with rather painterly gestures of color.

While women have been more frequently turning to sculptural means for expression, too rarely has metal been the medium and welding been the technique. In using these means Wind has accomplished something a bit spectacular in her work. For there is, I feel a buoyantly female aesthetic being given form through these means, and that's an exciting development to view.



Artist Dina Wind working on one of her sculptures.

The Pleiades Gallery is at 164 Mercer Street, with the opening reception on December 6 from 3-6pm.

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