

nanda\hobbs

JAMES
ROGERS
WRACK

4 – 20 MAY 2023



WRACK

Listening to James Rogers describe the process of sculpting is a deeply evocative experience. The artist's gaze remains sharply focused on the monumental steel form in front of him. His arms move in unison, as if conducting an orchestra, pointing to ethereal visual moments within the form. The muscular passion and motion of the artist underpins the chain of events that lead to, in his words, "the cycle of creation".

Rogers' sculptures are born from an inimitable understanding of the aesthetic relationships between space and form. They transcend the natural physicality of iron and steel, as he exploits the innate plasticity of the materials. Steel pipes ripped on the curve by the white-hot flame of the oxy torch, becoming, in effect, drawings in steel. He creates ribbons of metal that float in space, locked together in intertwined structures. One element is built on the next—yet all contribute to the final compositional form.

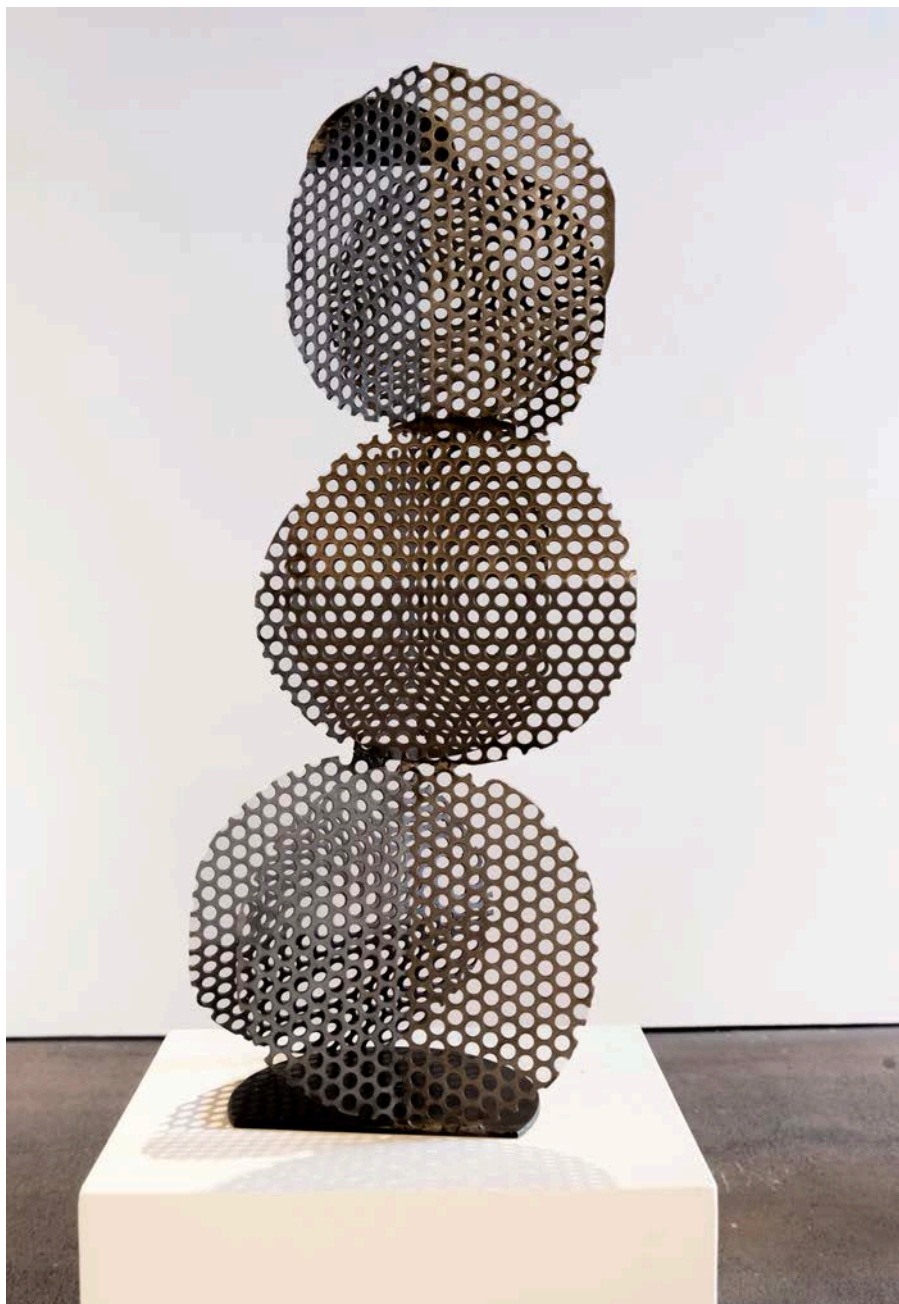
The title of the exhibition alludes to the intensity of the process. *Wrack*—the stuff washed up on the shore after a storm is the embodiment of the process by which the artist transforms pipe and mesh into works of art. Woven wire disks are layered in space whilst the overall structural curvature dictates the flow of form. There is a journey of transformation at hand—from heavy to light, base metal to something immaterially sublime. Yet the inherent balance and stability of the form is ever-present.

Land, sea, and the human form have always been direct inspirations for Rogers who captures the individual sensations one has from being in the landscape. Feeling the waves roll over you or being in the presence of another human are fundamental sensory experiences of our living condition. The uniqueness of James Rogers is his capacity to metaphorically deliver us to these places without overtly pointing the way. To enter the realm of his work is to undertake a harmonised journey of discovery.

Ralph Hobbs
May, 2023

"...his mid-career survey at the Drill Hall Gallery in Canberra was a revelation."

John McDonald "A revelation": the standout sculptor creating art with a blowtorch", SMH, September 18, 2020
[Read Article](#)



ISLAND LIFE

2022
Waxed steel
92 x 36 x 24cm





LOOP DE TOO

2022
Waxed steel
98 x 40 x 32cm





RETRO

2022
Waxed steel
52 x 50 x 26cm





SANDGROPER

2022
Waxed steel
73 x 45 x 26cm





SHORELINE

2022
Waxed steel
52 x 46 x 34cm

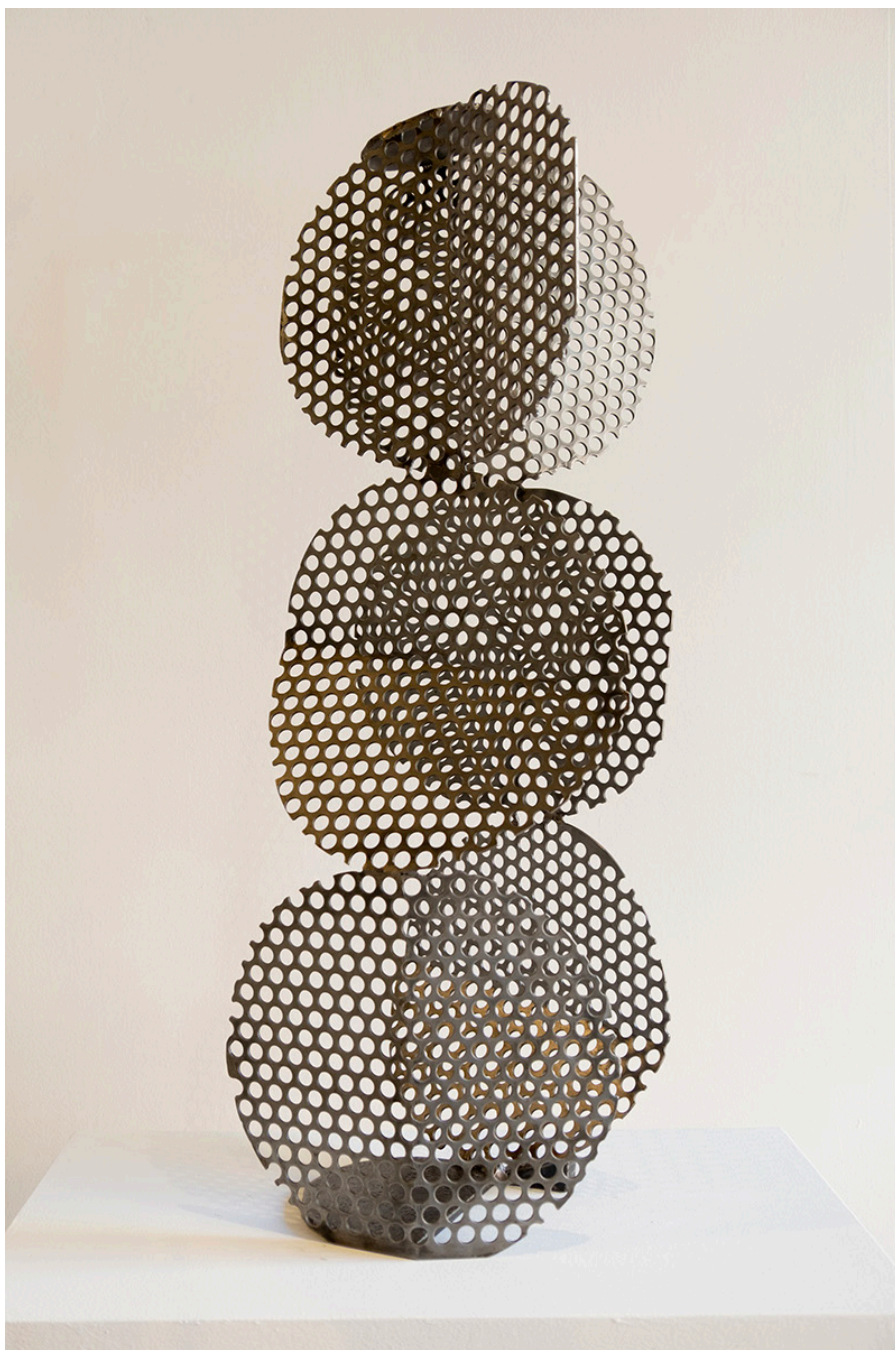




SKIM

2022
Waxed steel
64 x 38 x 15cm





SPONGE

2022
Waxed steel
90 x 34 x 36cm





SPRAWL

2022
Waxed steel
84 x 46 x 26cm





STRETCH

2022
Waxed steel
70 x 32 x 22cm





YONDER

2022
Waxed steel
87 x 46 x 28cm

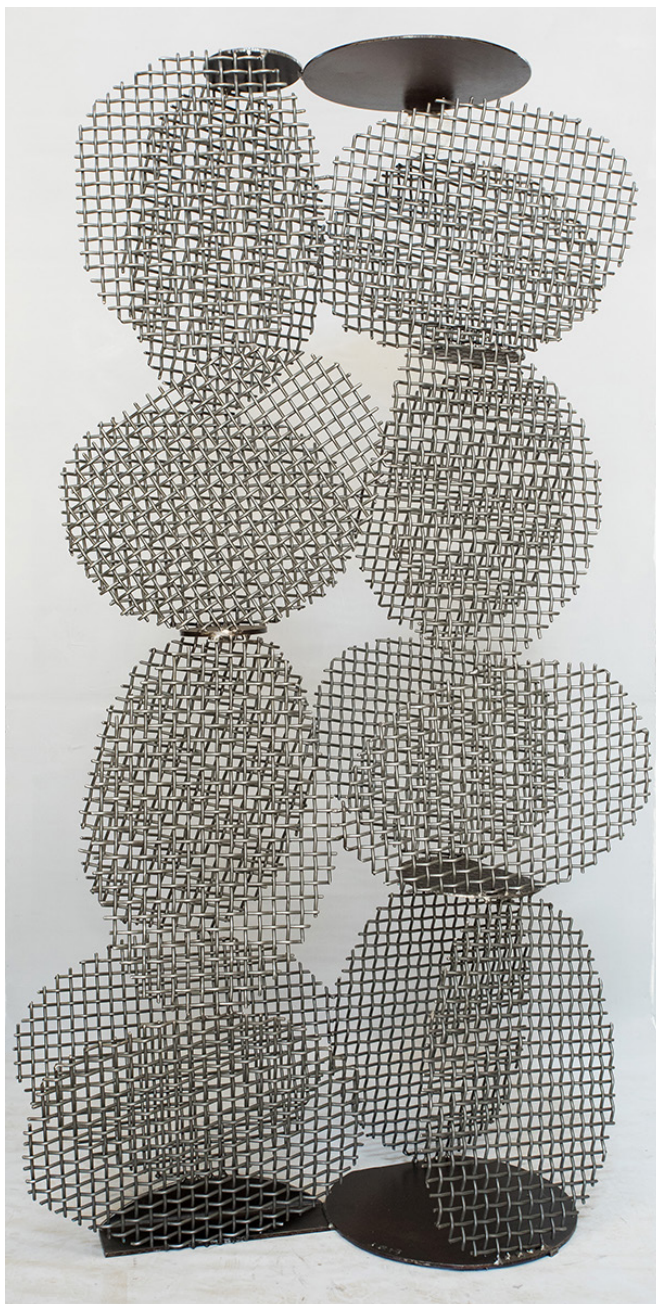




SILVERWATER

2017
Waxed steel
200 x 50 x 23cm





DWELL

2022
Waxed steel
225 x 120 x 65cm

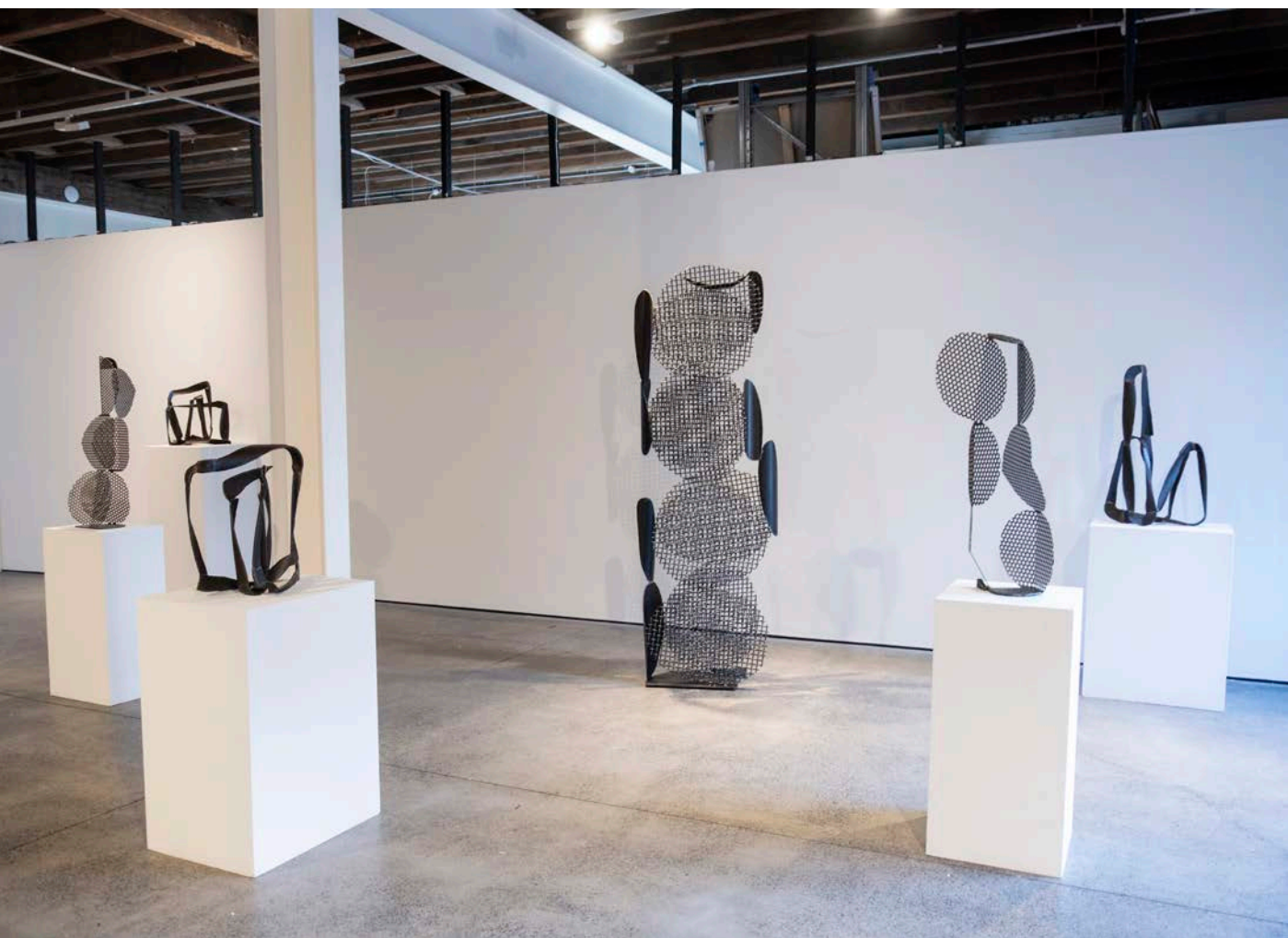




SEASIDES

2018
Oiled steel
250 x 85 x 45cm

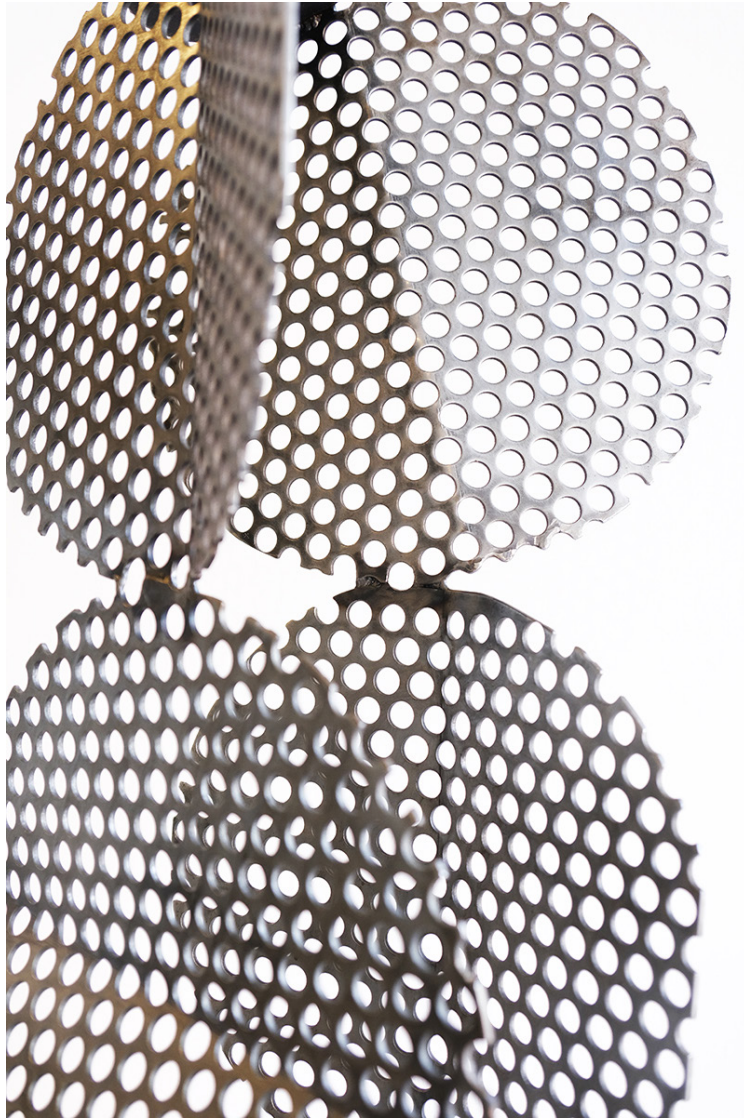




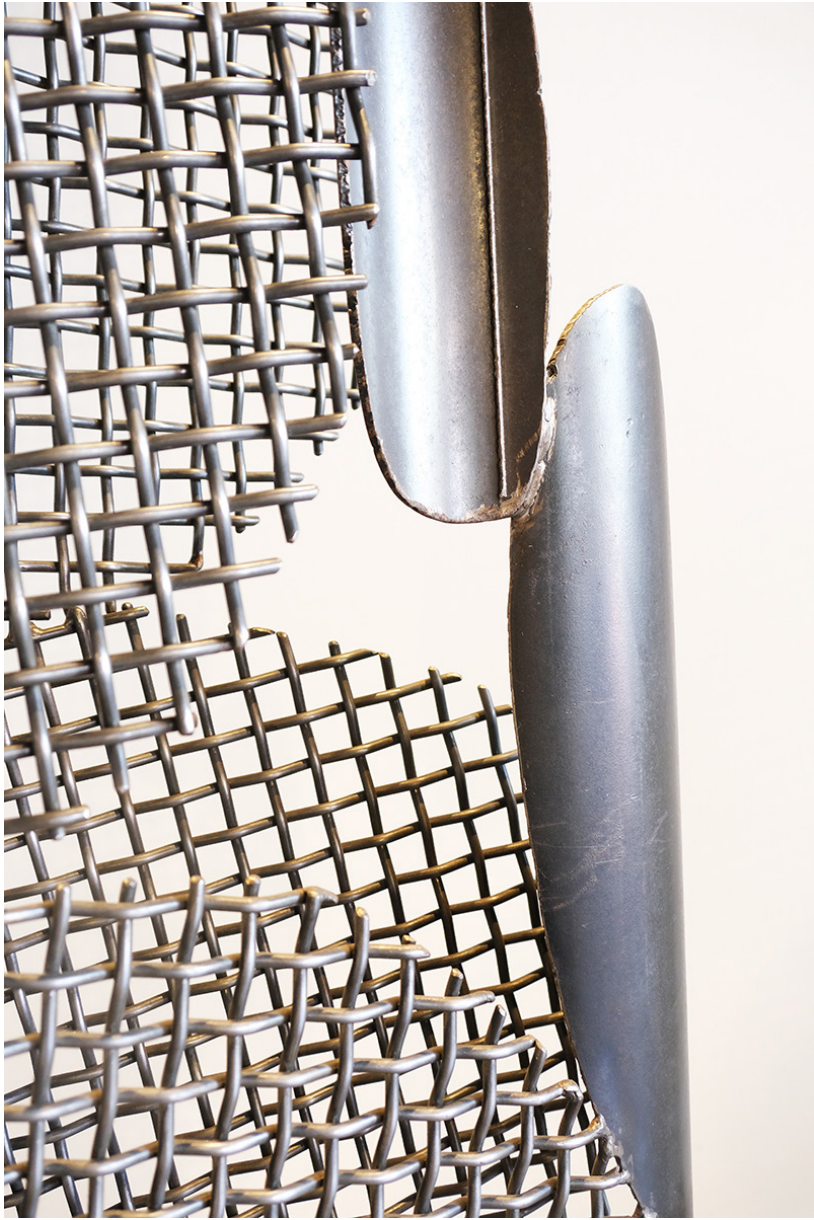
EXHIBITION INSTALLATION PHOTO



EXHIBITION INSTALLATION PHOTO



ISLAND LIFE - DETAIL



SEASIDES - DETAIL

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JAMES ROGERS

VIEW CV

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WRACK

4 – 20 MAY, 2023

Pre-opening Artist Talk

Thursday 4 May, 5.30pm

Opening Drinks

Thursday 4 May, 6 – 8pm

Nanda\Hobbs acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the land upon which our gallery stands, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

12-14 Meagher Street
Chippendale \ Sydney

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