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## ‘A Long Road Back’ Breathes New Life into Found Metal

Latest UM Museum exhibit showcases sculptures by George Tobolowsky

AUGUST 20, 2018 BY KATE WALLACE

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Internationally-acclaimed sculptor George Tobolowsky oversees the installation of one his sculptures at The Inn at Ole Miss. Tobolowsky's metal sculptures will be on display inside and around the University of Mississippi Museum, as well as throughout Oxford and the UM campus, through Dec. 8. Submitted photo

OXFORD, Miss. – Discarded machine parts, scrap metal, and other found objects serve as the inspiration for the **University of Mississippi Museum's** latest exhibit, "A Long Road Back," by Texas-based sculptor George Tobolowsky.

Tobolowsky's metal sculptures will be on display inside and around the museum, as well as throughout Oxford and the Ole Miss campus, through Dec. 8.

This series of steel and stainless steel sculptures ranges from abstract winding forms to representational subjects and elaborate menorahs. The incorporation of bold colors and found metal scraps create unexpected outcomes that pay tribute to the modern art movement.

"I make abstract metal sculptures from steel and stainless steel 'found objects,'" Tobolowsky said. "These found objects, however, are not of the everyday sort, but rather bulky industrial metal castoffs that I scour scrap yards and fabrication plants to find.

"I rarely alter these metal pieces, but instead work to fit the individual scraps together, much like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, into a balanced composition. My sculptures are one part assemblage and one part recycling."

A Dallas native, Tobolowsky received degrees in business and law with a minor in sculpture from Southern Methodist University in the 1970s and then focused on his corporate career for more than three decades.

In the years following, he remained active in the local arts community but did not have his first solo exhibition until 2006 at the Gerald Peters Gallery in Dallas. His work immediately captured the attention of the art world, and he began shifting his focus to his art.

Since then, Tobolowsky's work has been displayed across the globe, including the International Exhibition of 12 Texas artists at the National Academy of Art in New Delhi, India, in 2015, the Jerusalem Biennale for Contemporary Jewish Art in 2017, and most recently at the Venice Biennale for Architecture and Sculpture in Italy in 2018.

"The University of Mississippi Museum is highly honored to present this fall the work of internationally exhibited sculptor George Tobolowsky," said Robert Saamio, museum director. "Mr. Tobolowsky first

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OXFORD, Miss. – Peer recognition is a rewarding experience for anyone, but University of Mississippi researcher Amir Mehrara Molan was elated when an article he co-authored recently received the Most Cited Paper Award at the 102nd Transportation Research Board meeting in the nation's capital. The International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology presented the civil engineering

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OXFORD, Miss. – Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy's new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying "thank you." "It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK – The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to

exhibited in Oxford with a piece in the inaugural Yoknapatawpha Sculpture Trail installation in Pat Lamar Park.

"From large-scale floral motifs to menorahs, and from figural to abstract works, these steel sculptures possess dynamism and a multihued vibrancy that compels attention and rewards viewing from multiple vantages. In addition to our museum gallery installation of George's smaller-scale work, we are excited to exhibit works by the artist in the outdoor environments of the campus, the museum landscape and multiple outdoor Oxford business locations."

Besides the museum grounds and the Walton-Young house, Tobolowsky's works can be seen around Oxford at Rowan Oak, The Graduate Hotel, The Inn at Ole Miss, Oxford Canteen, FNC's offices on Office Park Drive, Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi, South Lamar Court and the Green Roof Lounge.

Museum collections manager Melanie Antonelli and preparator Taylor Kite led efforts connected to the installation, exhibition design and layout. Sculptures sited around the city were installed with assistance from local artist Earl Dismuke.

The UM Museum will host an opening reception at 6 p.m. Sept. 13 and an artist talk with Tobolowsky at 6 p.m. Nov. 8. The museum is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. Admission is free.

More information about the UM Museum and all its exhibits can be found at <http://museum.olemiss.edu/>.

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