

CHARLOTTE JACKSON FINE ART  
PRESENTS:

**DIALOGUES IN STEEL**  
Elliot Norquist and Jeremy Thomas



April 27, - May 27 2012

Sculptors, particularly those who work in various metals, must anticipate every bend, crease, cut and weld. That the raw material at times informs the shape of the finished piece rather than yielding to the will of the artist's hand isn't lost on Elliot Norquist or Jeremy Thomas; two artists who have spent the majority of their careers in conversation with the feral material into seemingly effortless forms. "Dialogues in Steel," is the first collaborative show between Norquist and Thomas.

Thomas is a former student of Norquist's. Each has been privy to one another's progress as artists and have reached distinctive conclusions with their respective work. In this, "Dialogues in Steel," is a moment in the lives of these two artists reconnecting in their ongoing conversation about pushing metal into broader landscapes. "Dialogues in Steel," pairs two primary architects in the world of contemporary sculpture.

Norquist creates works of high sophistication and abstraction; it is a kind of contemplative minimalism. Norquist's work dances between a series of contraries: the circle in the square, the simple in the complex, the personal in the abstract, the natural in what is man-made. Shape and color are all important. A square with a circle cut from the center, a circle with a square cut. Norquist uses the sparsest of visual vocabularies. Color and shape must retain their integrity and yet merge to become art. Norquist describes this precarious walk through contraries in an elegant way.

Thomas welds forms together that he can then heat and inject with pressurized air, inflating, or "growing" them into their final shape. The final pieces contain paradox: metal molded by air, sensual forms in forceful fetish-finish primary colors gleaned from tractor manufactures. These sculptures are changeable (as one continuously finds new approaches in their creases, angles, and wrinkles); they allow a dialogue between viewer and work much in the way Thomas says he engages in an ongoing dialogue, a give and take, with his materials. As he says, "Art is the science of play," a creed that Thomas seems to take to heart, both in his work and in his life.



















Jeremy Thomas  
Soul Green, 2012  
forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic  
14 x 14 x 15 inches  
JT242



Jeremy Thomas  
Aeoptolabrus Constricticallis, 2012  
forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic  
11 x 20 x 21 inches  
JT234



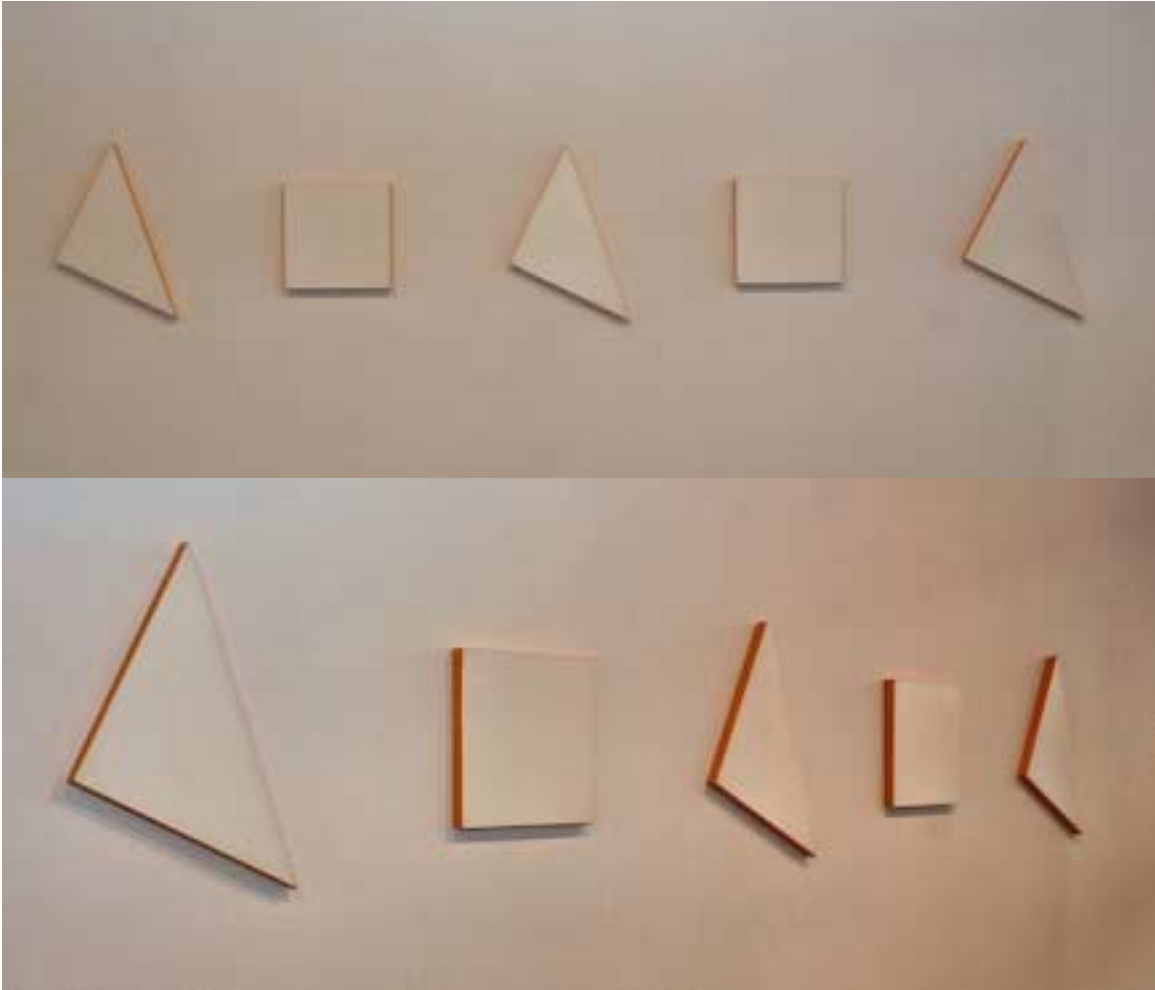
Jeremy Thomas  
Southern Tailed Birdwing, 2012  
forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic  
15 3/4 x 14 x 18 1/2 inches  
JT241



Elliot Norquist  
Kansas Sunflower, 2011  
painted steel  
40 x 40 x 3/4 inches  
EN0068



Jeremy Thomas  
Morpho Didius Blue, 2012  
forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic  
20 x 26 x 19 1/4 inches  
JT247



Elliot Norquist  
Triangle Dance (series of 5), 2012  
painted steel  
18 x 18 in. square  
20 x 20 x 28 in. triangle  
EN0073





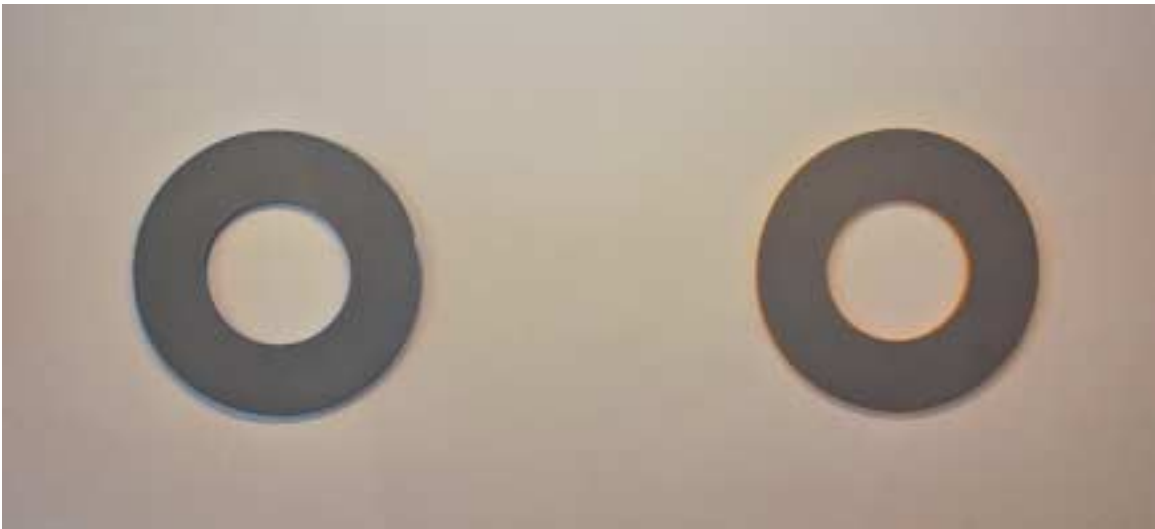


Jeremy Thomas  
Bailer Yellow, 2012  
forged mild steel, powder coat and oil ploymer  
59 x 88 x 55 inches  
JT249





Jeremy Thomas  
Gleaner, 2012  
forged mild steel, and powder coat  
74 x 79 x 56 inches  
JT250

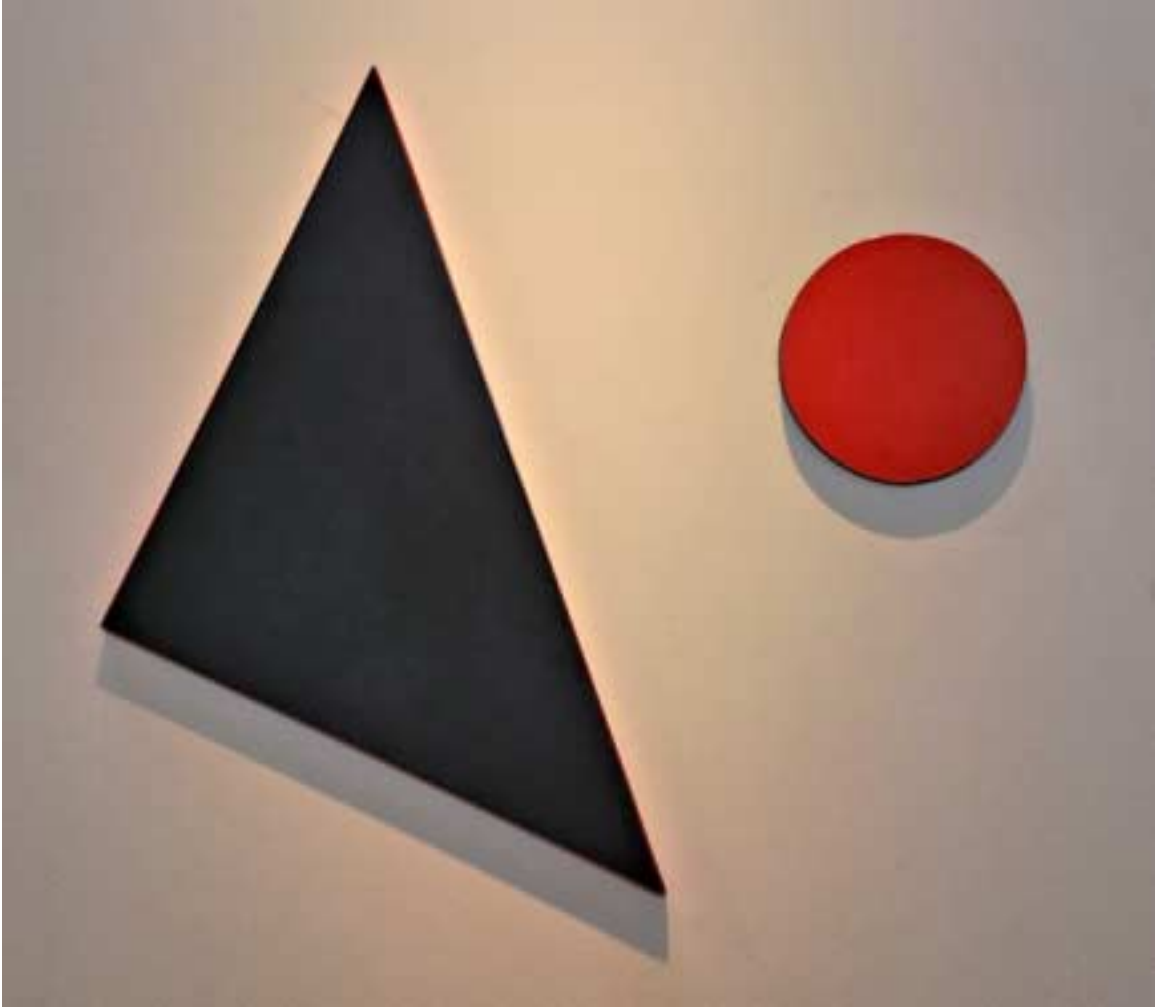


Elliot Norquist  
Cat Scan, 2012, and Boost Dose, 2012  
painted steel  
40 x 40 x 1 1/8 inches  
EN0070





Elliot Norquist  
Red Cherry Life Saver, 2012  
painted steel  
47 x 47 x 1 7/8 inches  
EN0069



Elliot Norquist  
Blackie's Triangle and Blackie's Bowl, 2012  
painted steel  
8 in. diameter x 1 1/8 circle  
20 x 20 x 1 1/8 in. triangle  
EN0074





Jeremy Thomas

Liner Black, 2012

forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic

17 x 21 x 15 inches

JT248

Spitfire Red, 2012

forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic

15 x 17 1/2 x 19 inches

JT244





Elliot Norquist  
Fire Season, 2012  
painted steel  
20 in. diameter x 1 3/8 circle  
EN0077



Elliot Norquist  
Diagnosis, 2012  
painted steel  
24 x 24 x 1 inches  
EN0066



Jeremy Thomas  
Sever Press, aka John Chamberlain Blues, 2011  
forged mild steel, nickel and acrylic  
10 1/2 x 10 1/2 x 4 inches  
JT237





Elliot Norquist  
Split Decisions, 2011  
Steel, bondo & cardboard  
24 x 24 x 1/2 inches  
EN0067



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