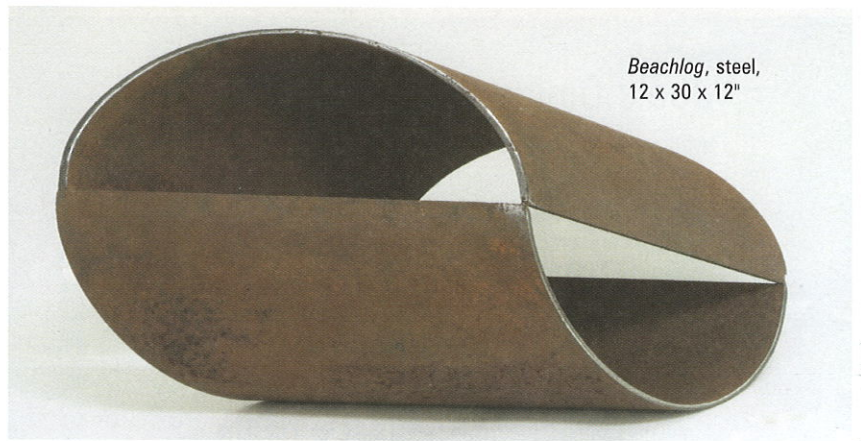


Seam,  
painted wood,  
16 x 16 x 6"



Beachlog, steel,  
12 x 30 x 12"

## Peter Millett


sculpting songs into physical forms

by Stephanie Love

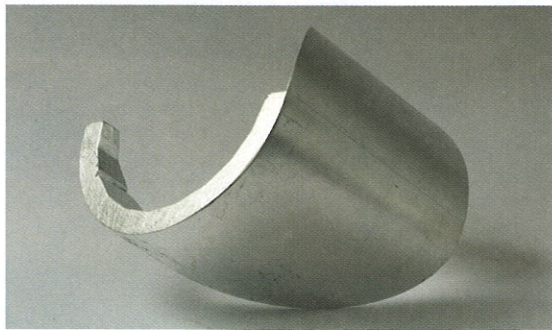
THE WORK OF SCULPTOR Peter Millett is a Canyon Road staple for collectors of impeccably crafted geometric abstracts, and Millett's show *Venus* will add a fresh perspective to that niche. For his third solo exhibition at Chiaroscuro Contemporary Art, the steel and wood artist will showcase about a dozen pieces that are softened versions of his signature angular forms. Curvilinear compositions and innovative finishes will pleasantly surprise viewers with their sensual originality.

Functional creativity is part of Millett's heritage—his father was an architect, and his mother worked in musical theatre and opera. The structure and aesthetic of both influences are apparent in all of his work, which captures the geometry of buildings with organic, natural finishes that make each piece more accessible. Many of these new sculptures evoke the feeling of an embrace in a harmonious, contained experience. Following a masculine, architectural exhibition of monumental sculptures in his home base of Seattle, this particular show feels more melodic than most, and is perhaps its more feminine counterpart. Millett points out that "There's more songs than one [that] I like to sing."

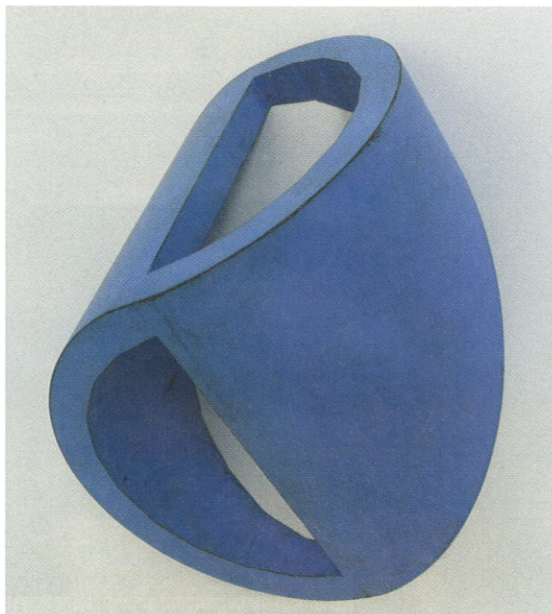
Millett knows exactly what his work is about—simple shapes that make complex compositions—but he is also fascinated by light's influences on the textures of an object, saying, "I like the dynamic of bouncing and absorbing light." In fact, this has helped inform his material selections for his 30-plus years as a practiced artist. This attention to the balance of darkness and luminosity has brought another unexpected element to his work for this show: the layering of copper and silver leaf on wood. By applying reflective surfaces to his wood sculptures, he holds more control over how light affects his pieces than ever before.

The focus on gently curved forms and new material finishes in *Venus* will make for an entirely unique and imaginative experience for Millett's audience. 

*Peter Millett: Venus, December 4–January 2, Chiaroscuro Contemporary Art, 558 Canyon, [chiaroscurosantafe.com](http://chiaroscurosantafe.com)*



Embrace, metal leaf on wood, 12 x 16 x 12"



Blue Moon, painted wood, 16 x 12 x 9"