Antara Tulisyan

When I work on my art I enter a place of retreat, a meditative zone blocking out everything else. My art is a reflection of my feelings and moods that I cannot express in any other way.

When I look at my sculptures, the lines speak to me because of the emotions they depict, as in a journal. My sculptures’ elemental, organic shapes and lines and curves represent different feelings, but they complement each other to form a simple yet complex piece. Just as I transform these emotions into simple lines, I hope my work can generate unique responses in all who view it.

I use shapes that are abstract but reflect some aspect of my feelings, including the frustration of getting them to look the way I want. The materials are based on how I want the piece to “feel,” and while I like bold colors I often use just a few to create contrast and differentiate between individual components. I start a sculpture based on my current frame of mind and then find a theme to work around it. Often times, the sculpture is shaped by the challenges and technical difficulties I face, but my moods inform its development.

While making sketches to come up with an idea for this sculpture I found that they all had many different parts that could exist as sculptures on their own. This lead to an exploration of what it meant to have individuals that could join as one entity. I started out wanting to make an interactive mobile of many small birds, arranged in the shape of one large bird. I wanted the piece to have movement generated by the viewer to create a sense of playfulness. Observing flocks of flying birds to find an overall shape for my sculpture, I decided to incorporate a background to give the birds a sense of placement. After trying different backgrounds, I am now attempting to create a minimalistic environment with few details in order to focus on just the elemental forms and colors of our surroundings. I hope my future work will reflect the same simple lines and organic components within a variety of environments.