

The Museum of Modern Art

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PROJECTS: ALISON WILDING

November 21, 1987 - February 2, 1988

The Museum of Modern Art's PROJECTS series continues November 21, 1987, with the first American museum exhibition of work by British sculptor Alison Wilding. Organized by Beatrice Kernan, assistant curator, Department of Drawings, PROJECTS: ALISON WILDING consists of three wall reliefs and four freestanding sculptures. The exhibition remains on view through February 2, 1988.

In her sculpture, Wilding blends abstraction and allusion to produce works of uncommon beauty and expressive resonance. Created from such materials as sheets of cut metal, wood, and rubber, the pieces often evoke images from nature by virtue of their curved or swollen forms. Sources for the artist's highly personal style can be found in recent sculpture, as well as in the iconography of abstract Surrealism, the purism of Constantin Brancusi, and the biomorphism of Hans Arp.

In several works of 1984-86, Wilding pairs objects, setting up complex relationships. Ms. Kernan writes, "the interaction of sculptural elements within each work is metaphoric and suggestive of rich and often paradoxical relationships. The exchange between sculptural components can speak alternately or simultaneously of such states as threat and protection, or alienation and accord." In Nature: Blue and Gold (1984), for example, two forms--a polished brass oval and a wooden ovoid rubbed to a deep blue--are interlocked in a precarious balance. Their connection is ambiguous: the brass and wooden pieces appear both to support and to overwhelm one another. The contrast between the

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