Stephen Cartwright *Moraine*



Detail of *Kinetic Mesh*, brass, acrylic, aluminum, motors, electronics, 79" x 39" x 46", 2012.

The McLean County Arts Center presents the sculptural work of Stephen Cartwright in the exhibition *Moraine* from September 20 through October 26, 2013. A free and public opening reception for the exhibition will be on Friday, September 20, from 5pm to 7pm in the Brandt Gallery. Cartwright will give an Art Talk on Saturday, October 26 at 2pm to close the exhibition.

Stephen Cartwright's art making process begins with the meticulous mapping of his movements on earth. An avid cyclist and hiker, Cartwright records on daily spreadsheets his latitude, longitude, and elevation, whether he's biking through mountain passes in Europe or walking to the store from his home in Urbana. In his exhibition *Moraine*, a geological term referring to materials deposited by the movement of glaciers, Cartwright presents sculptural work created by deciphering years of this collected data. The work titled *Mesh 1*, a suspended, fluorescent yellow, acrylic three dimensional form, mimics a mountainous landscape by translating cycling mileage plotted over the course of twelve years. An electronically programmable piece titled *Kinetic Mesh* takes the concept further by continuously relaying information through an undulating topography of shiny brass rods clicking as they expand to peaks and contract to valleys. A meditation on real and imagined landscape and an exploration of new technologies in fabricating sculpture, all the work is mesmerizing in its manipulation of scale, minimalist aesthetic, and in the artist's commitment to quantifying and conveying his life journey.

Stephen Cartwright is an artist and Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the Sculpture and Painting Department of the School of Art and Design. Cartwright earned his MFA from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and exhibits his work nationally.

The exhibition is generously sponsored by Vitesse Cycle Shop & Often Running.