

The Comfort in Confinement

Charlie Coleman
Selected works 2019-2023

Artist Statement

My art explores the contrasts and coexistence of comfort and confinement. Sometimes, I create works that use chain links in order to illustrate a sense of restriction within them in the final result. By creating sculptures and jewelry items that are inherently supposed to be objects of beauty and giving them an unexpectedly morbid twist, I modify the connotation of metal art itself.

I create art composed primarily of metals such as copper, silver, and brass, but some pieces include materials like rubber, gemstones, and enamel. They are organic and contrasting, with variances in color, texture, and patina. The technique of chain making is a prevalent motif throughout my body of work, interacting and moving with the body. Through my art, I bring up the idea that what we wear can function as a constricting force rather than a liberating form of self-expression.

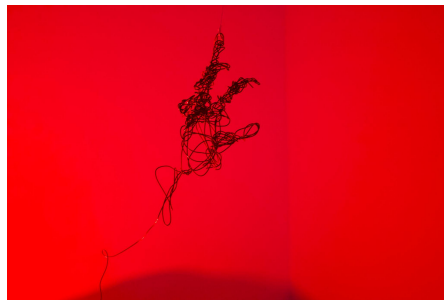
In my newer art, I continue the concept of confinement, but I start to ask the question, How can we break out? I create pieces with flowing lines that imply a sense of movement.



Little Wing | Wood, steel, paracord, bathtub, branches, iron | July 2022 |
Exhibited at UCLA's New Wight Gallery



Boa | Brass | March 2022



This Little Light | Plaster, bedsheet, steel, lightbulb, wood | July 2022 |
Exhibited at UCLA's New Wight Gallery



Train of Thought | Heat-patinated copper, brass | February 2020



Creep| Silver, turquoise, plasti-dip, brass | November 2021



Untitled | Silver, copper, enamel | January 2022



La Torse | Copper patinated with liver of sulfur | May 2022



Grasp | Silver, copper | March 2022



Gallows Lily | Copper, enamel | January 2022



Through the Cracks | Heat-patinated copper, artificial leaves | November
2022