

Complexity

24 x 70 x 14 inches

882 Pieces of repurposed pallet wood



Michael Pantzer

Bio

Michael Pantzer was born in Berlin, Germany in 1960 and is currently residing in Lowell, AR United States. He lived in Germany for his first 27 years and had worked there in vehicle prototyping. He advanced his career in the United States holding multiple management positions, transitioned to work for himself through consulting contracts and eventually started a new business with his own product line. Based on the skills of his professional career he recently entered the art world and became a sculptor. He is distinguished by creating contemporary and abstract sculptures ranging from simple to very complex structures entailing hundreds of pieces. The use of repurposed wood, plastic and metals contributes to the sophistication of the artwork. Discarded objects are reshaped to give them a new form to fit the elaborate compositions. New sculptures are constructed in a way to advance an evolving architecture.

The artwork's identity comes from the artist's multinational work experience and the profound studies of the dense and diverse global cultures. His work reflects the ever-increasing complexity of our human existence. The use of found objects brings attention to items which usually get thrown away, leading to environmental stress on our society and our planet. They are reborn by getting new shapes and serve a completely different purpose. Other works are created to target commercial product enhancement and aid marketing.

Michael Pantzer's work has been displayed at galleries in Northwest Arkansas and a large brewery. Collaboration with another artist resulted in the creation of a memorial sculpture, *Tornado Town*, following a devastating severe weather event, which was covered by multiple media organizations and on public display. Michael Pantzer's recent start has gained quick attention from galleries and media. His Instagram stats show strong growth and his portfolio will continue to expand.

Artist Statement

Michael Pantzer, born 1960 in Berlin, Germany, came to the U.S. at 27 years of age. After retiring from an extensive career in prototyping he became a found object sculptor and currently resides in Lowell, Arkansas. He is known for his contemporary sculptures reflecting on the complex fabric of our global society.

The art process starts by intercepting objects from entering the waste stream. Their condition determines how they can be used for a sculpture. In many cases, they are going to be disassembled or cut into specific pieces. Sculptures created can consist of just a few simple pieces to highlight the texture or shape of the object itself or they can be made of hundreds of pieces mirroring complicated issues of our existence. Objects are reshaped in a small, typical wood/metal shop. They are joined together with glues, fasteners and by alternative methods.

The complex global human presence and the ever increasing conflict with nature is a driving factor for the composition of the artwork. In addition, the artist's fascination of large scale metropolitan architecture influence the creation of sculptures. There is a constant drive to make the art as three dimensional as possible to challenge the structural architecture.