

# Morphology to Sculpture

Charles O. Perry

Morphology is a fascinating science. This is the mathematics of all our material world, the architecture and sculpture of nature (and us). My work has always started from this direction.

Three of the recent pieces that I have been working on intertwine mathematics, sculpture and architecture. This was an unconscious effort, for me it's just the way the sculpture "wants to be". The perceptible order of my work is always trying to reach back into our brain and whisper "what does it mean?" The earlier granite piece is called *The Arch of Janus* (see [cover](#)) after the four way Arch of Janus in Ancient Rome. It started as one of those models lying around the studio, left over from some previous study. It was waiting in the wings so to speak. The inspiration came from the client who asked if this dusty model could be made in granite. I immediately answered yes and then proceeded to see if it was possible. What you see stretches the limits of granite while it sits squarely on the border of sculpture and architecture. Moreover it asks you to interact with it. I think of it as both symbolic and playful.

This piece happens to be a torus moebius while the second of the three is not. It's real relation to morphology seems stretched yet it follows its own set of natural laws. The red piece (shown as a model [below](#)) as yet unnamed, is designed for a new college near Tokyo, Japan. Granite was not practical in that seismic environment. The form I desired was something to remember, something friendly to gather by, the vortex of the campus plaza. It was important in this case to make the symmetry less obvious. While the granite piece provides a passage through, this piece is more a focal point for the college.

The third work, shown [below](#), was the for Kinshi Cho Rail Station in Tokyo. It is clearly sculpture, hardly architectural and hides a lot of mathematics. It is called reverently *Rondo* after Mozart's Rondo in D major, (KV382) because it is a moebius which is wound through itself three times.



*Untitled, Charles Perry, Model for Tokyo.*



*Rondo*, Charles Perry, aluminum, 16' × 8' × 6'. Tokyo.

*Charles Perry (Norwalk, Connecticut) has an international reputation as a sculptor and designer. He was a speaker at AM92 and AM95. He is a world leader in the field of sculpture influenced by mathematics.*