

FRÉ ILGEN



Autotunage, 2011, red copper, industrial paint, 24"H x 22 1/2"L x 19 3/4"W

Fré Ilgen's sculptures and mobiles depict a reality that is not a solid mass but a swirling movement of shifting relationships. This emphasis on movement or "gravity defied" is an expression of Ilgen's reverence for change and a desire to challenge the viewer's visual memory. Ilgen also explores Eastern ideas of enlightenment or sunyata and the Western mathematical theories of quantum physics. His sculptures are constructed of painted wood and stainless steel, varying in size from modest to monumental. In each piece, there is a simulation of spiraling forces, reminiscent of the energies of the chakras as well as the double helix of human DNA.

Ilgen is a unique figure in the world of contemporary art. He is not only a sculptor and a painter, but also a theorist and curator. His work is exhibited widely in the United States, Europe, South America, Russia, Asia, and Australia. He has created many site-specific pieces for private, corporate, and public collections in The Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Korea, and the United States. Ilgen's work is in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, Hünfeld, Germany; NOKIA, Dallas, Texas; and the Merzbacher Collection, Zug, Switzerland.

In 2000, *Ilgen—The Search*, a retrospective was published, followed by *Art? No Thing! Analogies between Art, Science and Philosophy* in 2004, which focuses on Ilgen's theoretical ideas about art. Ilgen lives and works in Berlin.

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