

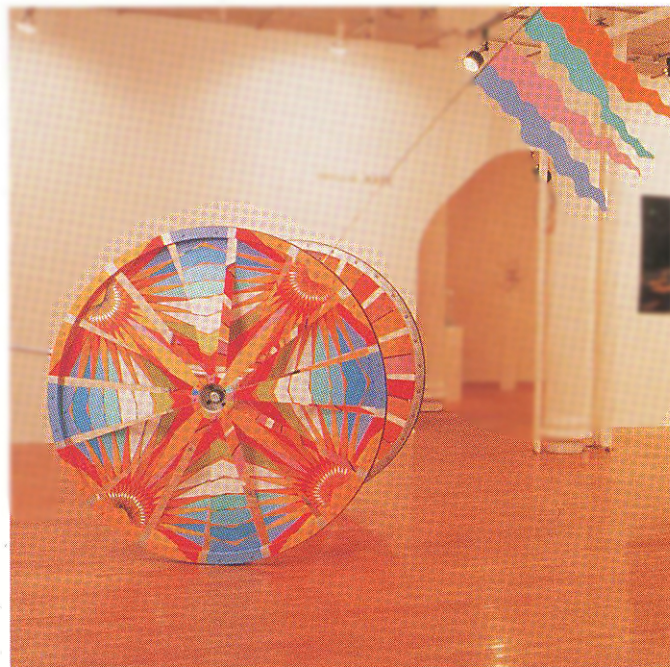
# Phyllis Mark's "Improbable Sites"

by Diana Roberts

**T**raditionally, sculpture has been silent and motionless, but **Phyllis Mark** designs hers to create sound and movement when it meets with the wind and rain, or to change colors as we cast our reflections and shadows across its surfaces. "These," she believes, "are interactions which transform the work and release the potential there."

Her recent exhibition at *Soho 20*, entitled "Improbable Sites," was of site-specific sculpture for locations which were unavailable. This inspired her to create her own installations with photo montages, by superimposing enlarged photographs of her maquettes onto mural-sized photographs of the sites.

*Sun Chariot*, her most recent work, is a full-sized piece (wheels 5½' in diameter) made from aluminum, and painted with acrylics in bright oranges, yellows and blues, the colors of the sun and sky. Viewers are encouraged to push the chariot to watch its colors spin and blend—in effect, to play Apollo and bring ancient mythology into the present while becoming a part of the work. The *Sun Chariot* has also been used for performance pieces including one held recently at Alice Tully Hall, at Lincoln Center. Mark's photo montage (6½' x 4') shows the chariot poised on the edge of a cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean where it has come to rest at sunset.



Phyllis Mark, *Sun Chariot*, 5 1/2' in diameter

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