Artist's Statement

I started out as a painter, and through my concern with the plane of the canvas, gradually moved off the wall into sculpture. It was interesting to see the roots of this evolution explicated by Dr. Margit Rowell in the exhibition "Planar Dimension" at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York.

As for my current concerns, I think of my sculpture as a series of interactions. Light interacts with a polished surface to create shadows and reflections. Motion sets the reflections gliding over surfaces. Wind causes sails to move. Sails, as they billow and flap, make wind force visible. All these effects, which are built into the sculpture but which do not become activated unless there is light and motion, are interactions.

If no one has turned on a light or a motor, or if there is no breeze, the work does not exist as I intended. For the possibilities within a work to be realized; a viewer reflected, a light turned on, sunshine rendering the sails translucent, these are interactions which transform the work, release the potential there.

My work provides an opportunity to perceive interactions and transformations as they occur.

PHYLLIS MARK