

Luis Avalos

Beginning with simple forms like spheres or tubes, I create multiple units and assemble them into complex organic organisms. Initially drawing inspiration from the variety of insects and deep sea creatures, the work evolved to reference more specifically cnidarians like corals, sea anemones and jellyfish. The resultant creatures embody a sense of unfamiliar or yet to be discovered organisms that would fall into a specific taxonomic phylum. The organic characteristics are aided by equally spaced segments, which may have multiple appendages. The placement and visual relationship of segments and appendages evoke a dynamic of subtle movement and pattern. Additionally, the appendages represent ideas of purpose or functionality in the organism, specifically with regards to sexual reproduction. Cnidarians have asexual reproduction characteristics, which are incorporated into the pieces. This suggests strobilation or transverse fission, a type of reproduction that consists of spontaneous transverse segmentation of the body where polyps are fragmented and released. These small sculptures, with their phallic and orifice like forms, possess an abstract sexual ambiguity as well as an overall sense of mystery and discovery.