

## **Delbert Jackson Artist Statement**

Del Jackson is a mixed media artist living in Iowa City, Iowa. He received his Bachelor of Art degree from the University of Iowa in 2004 and then a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering in 2009. He is currently a Graduate Student in Metal Arts and Design at the University of Iowa School of Art. He is currently also working as a research assistant developing new software and computerized fabrication tools for the Metal Arts program.

Del Jackson's work incorporates elements of his initial training as a civil engineer along with his fascination with the randomness and asymmetry of nature. He is inspired by natural themes that range from microscopic structures to living organisms. His pieces demonstrate the evolution of simple geometric 2-dimensional elements into complex twisting 3-dimensional structures. Starting from outlines of simple shapes, Del uses virtual reality software to render virtual free-form organic structures. He then deconstructs these virtual shapes into individual leaf-like pieces that are fabricated and bonded together to produce the final sculpture. Though produced using sophisticated technology, the inspirations, cellular composition and final shape of his works evoke the essence of nature.