

Spring 2019

Iteration, and The Iron Theater

Kurt Breshears

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Iteration, and the Iron Theater

Kurt Breshears

**Graduate Catalog
Master of Fine Arts Degree
Fort Hays State University
Hays, Kansas
2019**

Tisa Mason - President of FHSU

Dr. Jennifer Bonds- Raacke - Dean of Graduate Studies

Graduate Committee

Tobias Flores - Associate Professor of Art and Design, Sculpture

Erica Bittel - Professor of Art and Design, Art History

Gordon Sherman - Professor of Art and Design, Printmaking

Eric Deneault - Assistant Professor, Applied Technology

Karrie Simpson Voth - Department of Art and Design, Chair

This catalog is submitted to the Graduate School in partial credit fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Fine Arts.

Kurt was born in Denver, Colorado in 1977 and has made his home there ever since. Philosophically speaking, Kurt believes that we never stop learning and that we should explore as many subjects as possible. He believes this will expand his worldview and broaden his lexicon of art vocabulary.

Kurt works primarily in the medium of cast and fabricated metal, but considers himself a mixed-media artist. Kurt draws inspiration from life experiences, philosophy, abstracted nature, patterns and textures, and technology. In order to start a work, he asks questions regarding mathematics and philosophy to try understand his place in the world. Granted, some questions remain unanswered, he gains insights toward these questions. This in turn, will help shed light on our place in the world.

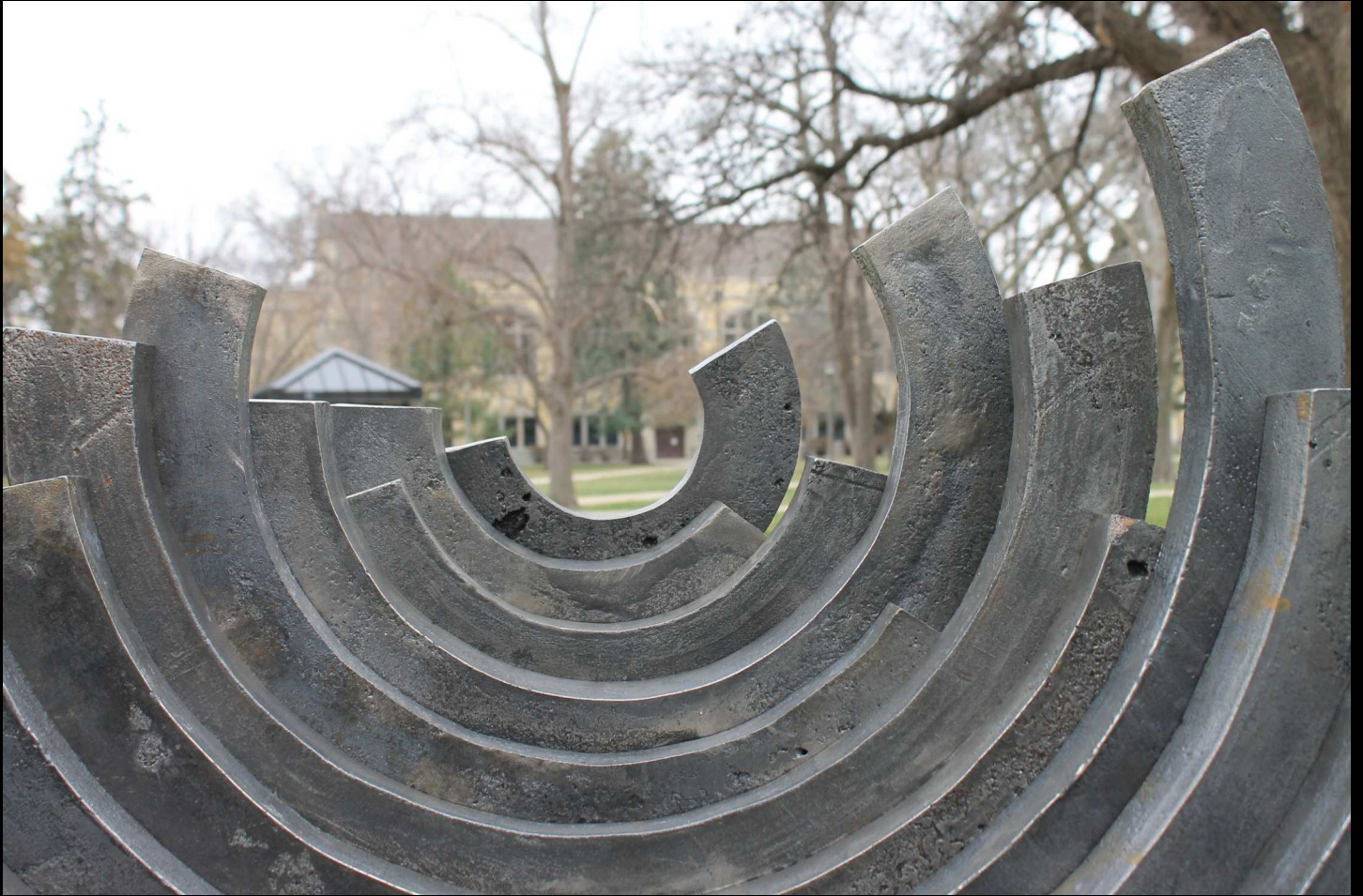
During high school he studied water color and thrown ceramics. In 1996 he took a course called Comprehensive Building Trades which certainly has had an architectural influence on his work. In 1998 he attended Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design studying larger ceramic sculpture.

From 1999-2001 Kurt apprenticed in an art glass studio that made products for the local gift shops and galleries. In 2005, Kurt studied culinary arts at the Art Institute of Colorado. Since then Kurt had spent his time working on a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a minor in Environmental Science. Kurt completed a B.F.A at Colorado Mesa University in 2016.

There has always been a common theme with all of Kurt's endeavors. Whether it was building a house for a construction class, a delicious dish for a culinary class, works of art from a private studio, or various art classes, there has always been a tangible product.

Kurt hopes to help maintain and perpetuate the current artistic conversation by incorporating traditional techniques from multiple disciplines with modern technology and mathematics.





Ambient Current

Cast Iron, Steel

Radius 4.5' x 4'

2019





Ambient Current (Detail)

Cast Iron, Steel

Radius 4.5' x 4'

2019





Conductivity

Cast Iron, Steel, Porcelain, Brass

5' x 2' x 3'

2019





Primitive Curio
Cast Iron, Steel, Forged Steel
10" x 16" x 26"
2019





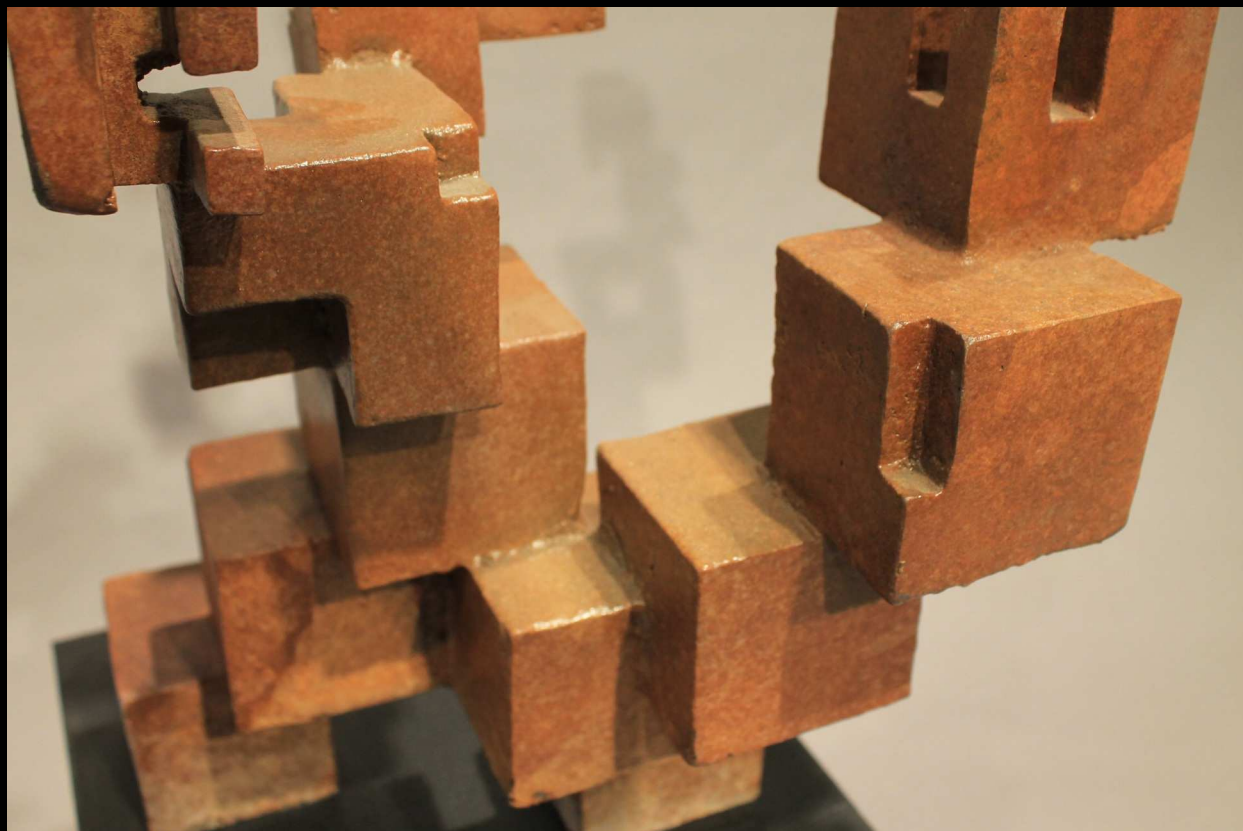
Cairn v2

Cast Iron, Limestone

5" x 5" x 12"

2018





Cubes
Cast Iron, Wood
1' x 1' x 2.5'
2017





The Wave and The Sphere

Cast Iron, Stained Glass, Aluminum, Steel

1.5" x 1.5' x 3"

2017





Queen Bee

Bronze

19" x 15" x 16"

2019



Pose

Bronze, Marble

1' x 1' x 1'

2018



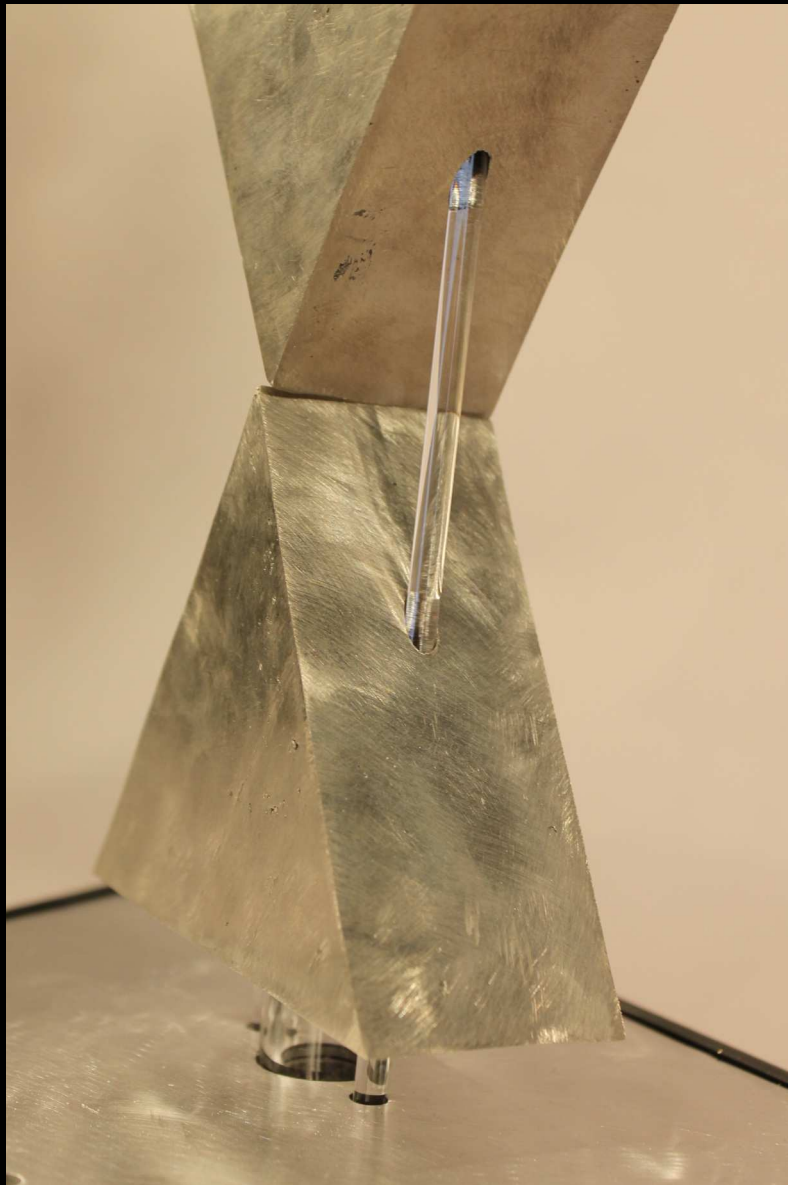
Atmospheric Reworking

Bronze, Wood

10" x 8" x 12"

2018





Weightless

Cast Iron, Steel, Glass

12" x 12" x 18"

2018



Moment 1

Cast Iron, Wood, Plastic

10" x 20" x 12"

2017



Timeline

Cast Iron, Wood

8" x 18" x 10"

2017

The following pages depict Kurt's
performance art work.

Hungry Hungry Hippos Performance

Cast Iron, Cast Aluminum, Steel, Rubber,
Plastic, UV Flashlights, Wood, Paint

14' x 14' x 3'

8th International Conference of
Contemporary Cast Iron Art

Scranton, PA

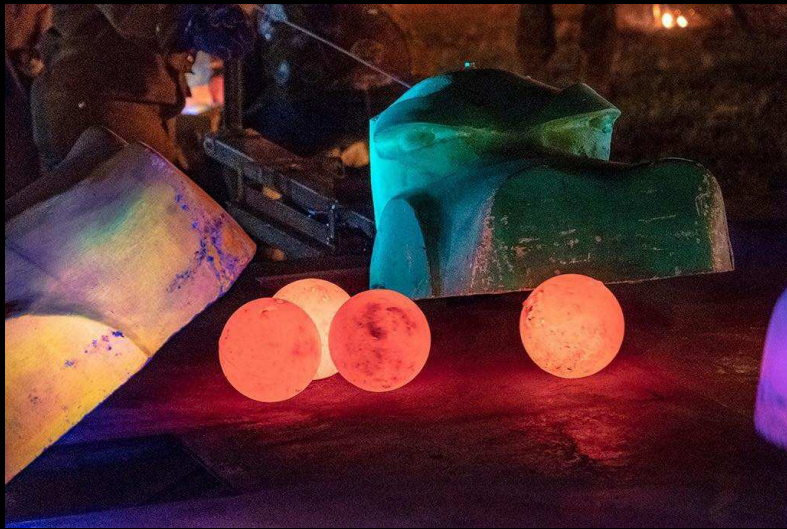
Pages 27-33

















Marble Run
Cast Iron, Steel, Wood
National Conference of Contemporary
Cast Iron Art
Birmingham, AL
2017



Fireball Tetherball

Cast Iron, Steel, Cable, Cotton, Kerosene
National Conference of Contemporary Cast
Iron Art
Birmingham, AL
2017



Top

Cast Iron, Steel, Aluminum

Top: 7" x 7" x 12"

Sheet Steel: 4' x 8'

National Conference of Contemporary Cast Iron Art

Birmingham, AL

2017



Top

Cast Iron, Steel, Aluminum
Western Cast Iron Alliance Conference
Scottsdale, AZ
2016

Kurt Allen Breshears
720-224-3495 | kurtbreshears@gmail.com

Degree

2019	MFA – Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS
2016	Bachelor of Fine Arts - Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO

Education

2016-2019	Fort Hays State University, MFA, Hays, KS.
2011-2016	Colorado Mesa University, BFA, Grand Junction, CO.
2009-2011	Arapahoe Community College, Littleton, CO.
2006	Colorado Institute of Art, Denver, CO.
2001-2002	Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, Denver CO.

Teaching Experience

2017-2019	Assistantship Teacher at Fort Hays State University – Hays, KS, 3D Design, Sculpture 1.
2016	Teaching Assistant - CMU - Sculpture 1.

Extracurricular/Community Service

2019	“Laumeier After Dark: Fire and Light”, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Louis, MO.
2018	Aluminum Casting Workshop, Ness City High School, Ness City, KS
2018	Commission Work for local Artist, Hays, KS.
2018	Aluminum Casting Workshop, Bickerdyke Elementary School, Russell, KS.
2017	Sand Mold and Aluminum Casting Workshops, Kansas Artist Craftsman Association, Lindsborg, KS.
2018	Aluminum Casting Workshop, High School Art Day, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.
2018	Iron Casting Workshop, Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE.
2018	Blacksmithing Workshop, Colby Community

- College, Colby, KS.
- 2016 Aluminum Casting Workshop, Victoria High School, Victoria, KS.
- 2016 Aluminum Casting Workshop, High School Art Day, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.
- 2018 Commission Work for local Artist, Hays, KS.
- 2014-2015 Club Advisory Board representative for Sculpture Guild, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2015 Participated in the construction of an effigy for homecoming week, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2015 Volunteer foundry work for a former retired professor, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2014 Treasurer for Sustainability Council at Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2014 Constructed a student-run composting facility for Sustainability Council, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2014 Participated in the construction of an effigy for homecoming week, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2014 Volunteer foundry work for commission for a local business, Grand Junction, CO.

Job Experience

- 1999-2001 Glassblowing Assistant - Heritage Glass LLC - Wheat Ridge, CO.

Performance Sculpture

- 2019 Iron Tribe, *Hungry Hungry Hippo's*, Las Vegas, NM.
- 2018 Western Contemporary Cast Iron Association, *Hungry Hungry Hippo's*, Granite City, IL.
- 2018 International Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art, *Hungry Hungry Hippo's*, Scranton, PA.
- 2017 National Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art & Practices, Performance Night, *Fireball Tetherball* - Birmingham, AL.
- 2017 National Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron

- Art & Practices, Performance Night, *Marble Run*
Birmingham, AL.
- 2017 National Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron
Art & Practices, Performance Night, *Tops* -
Birmingham, AL.
- 2016 Western Cast Iron Art Alliance Conference -
Performance Night, *Tops*, Scottsdale, AZ.
- 2015 *Fired* - Personal Cast Iron Performance, *Jupiter's*
Pendulum - Arvada, CO.

Professional Development

- 2018 Western Contemporary Cast Iron Association,
Granite City, IL.
- 2018 International Conference on Contemporary Cast
Iron Art, Scranton, PA.
- 2017 Crested Butte Community Iron Pour, Crested
Butte, CO.
- 2017 Kansas Artist Craftsman Association, Lindsborg,
KS.
- 2016 Western Cast Iron Art Alliance Conference in
Scottsdale, AZ.
- 2016 Crested Butte Community Iron pour, Crested
Butte, CO.
- 2015 25th International Sculpture Conference,
Phoenix, AZ.
- 2015 National Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron
Art and Practices, Birmingham, AL.
- 2015 Vinotok Fire Festival Inaugural Community Iron
Pour, Crested Butte, CO.
- 2014 Western Cast Iron Art Alliance 4th Biennial
Conference, Laramie, WY.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2019 Iteration, and the Iron Theater, Hays, KS.

Group Exhibitions

- 2019 Metal Militia, Center of Applied Technology
Gallery, Hays, KS.

- 2018 I Think it Got Infected and What Not, Ellis County Historical Society, Hays, KS.
- 2018 John Heinrichs Scholarly and Creative Activities Day, Fort Hays State University Student Union, juried exhibition, Hays, KS.
- 2018 Size Matters, Steamtown Gallery, group exhibition, in conjunction with the International Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art, Scranton, PA.
- 2018 Metalicious, Center of Applied Technology and Sculpture Gallery, group exhibition, Hays, KS.
- 2018 Not Alumni Show, Center of Applied Technology and Sculpture Gallery, Hays, KS.
- 2018 Russell Original Art Review, Russell County 4-H Fair Building, juried exhibition, Russell, KS.
- 2017 Professional Show, National Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art & Practices – Birmingham, AL.
- 2017 Russell Original Art Review, Russell County 4-H Fair Building, juried exhibition, Russell, KS.
- 2016 The Viewfinder: CMU Printmaking and Photography Exhibition- The Grand Junction Public Library - Grand Junction, CO.
- 2015 CMU Juried Student Exhibit - The Art Center - Grand Junction, CO.
- 2014 The 38th Annual Juried Student Art Show - The Art Center, Grand Junction, CO.

Awards

- 2018 1st Place in Category of Sculpture, John Heinrichs Scholarly and Creative Activities Day, Fort Hays State University Student Union, juried exhibition, Hays, KS.
- 2017 Honorable Mention, Russell Original Art Review, Russell County 4-H Fair Building, juried exhibition, Russell, KS.

Catalog List

- Ambient Current*, Cast Iron, Steel, Radius 4.5' x 4', 2019
- Conductivity*, Cast Iron, Steel, Porcelain, Brass, 5' x 2' x 3', 2019.
- Primitive Curio*, Cast Iron, Steel, Forged Steel, 10" x 16" x 26", 2019
- Cairn v2*, Cast Iron, Limestone, 5" x 5" x 12", 2019
- Cubes*, Cast Iron, Wood, 1' x 1' x 2.5', 2017
- The Wave and The Sphere*, Cast Iron, Stained Glass, Aluminum, Steel, 1.5" x 1.5' x 3", 2017
- Queen Bee*, Bronze, 19" x 15" x 16", 2019
- Pose*, Bronze, Marble, 1' x 1' x 1', 2018
- Atmospheric Reworking*, Bronze, Wood, 10" x 8" x 12", 2018.
- Weightless*, Cast Iron, Steel, Glass, 12" x 12" x 18", 2018
- Moment 1*, Cast Iron, Wood, Plastic, 10" x 20" x 12", 2017
- Timeline*, Cast Iron, Wood, 8" x 18" x 10", 2017
- Hungry Hungry Hippos Performance*, Cast Iron, Cast Aluminum, Steel, Rubber, Plastic, UV Flashlights, Wood, Paint, 14' x 14' x 3', 2018
- Marble Run*, Cast Iron, Steel, Wood, 2017
- Fireball Tetherball*, Cast Iron, Steel, Cable, Cotton, Kerosene, 2017
- Top*, Cast Iron, Steel, Aluminum, Top: 7" x 7" x 12", Sheet Steel: 4' x 8', 2017

Special Thank You My Mentor:

Tobias Flores

My Committee:

Tobias Flores

Erica Bittel

Gordon Sherman

Eric Deneault

Department Chair for ongoing support of arts:

Karrie Simpson Voth

My love for her unwavering support:

Ashley Smith

My Parents

Beverly and Lyle Breshears

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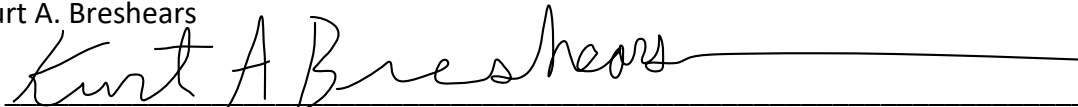
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Thesis: Iteration, and The Iron Theater

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Date: 5-29-2019