

## EWERDT HILGEMANN | IMPOLODED SCULPTURES



**BorzoGallery** | Keizersgracht 516 | 1017 EJ **Amsterdam** – NL | [info@borzo.com](mailto:info@borzo.com)  
Each piece is unique. Please contact the gallery for availability. Assignments are accepted

**EWERDT HILGEMANN** (\*1938, Witten, Germany)

From the beginning, elementary research has characterized Ewerdt Hilgemann's work. After experimenting with subtle, white wooden wall pieces catching light in the 1960's, he turned into a conceptual sculptor, using natural stone, as well as steel, geometrical shapes in series: positive versus negative.

In 1980 Hilgemann introduced randomness and natural powers beyond his control into his working method. Much to his surprise, he found that also the unpredictable is subject to natural laws, to which he soon could adapt and anticipate.

Is there anything softer than air, more vital for human beings, breathing in and out? Yet, this same air is powerful and capable of pressure, folding large steel containers when the air is being evacuated. That force has become Hilgemann's tool.

**Photo 1995 Ingolstadt**



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## **“Moments in a stream”, The Park Avenue Project**

Fall 2014, a series of seven stainless steel sculptures by distinguished Amsterdam-based German artist Ewerdt Hilgemann were on display on Park Avenue in New York, entitled "Moments in a Stream". Hilgemann's installation paraded along the avenue in seven locations, from 52nd Street to 67th Street, with large-scale pieces, some in groups of two or more, placed on the grassy medians. The seven sculptures, ranging in size from 8 to 20 feet in height, were created especially for the Park Avenue installation using a unique vacuum process, which "implodes" geometric shapes causing the material to deform according to natural laws.

The first Dutch or German artist to have a show on Park Avenue, Hilgemann developed his method in the early 1980's after experimenting with white wooden wall pieces that captured light, influenced by ZERO movement. Hilgemann's "implosion" process begins by fabricating perfect, geometrically pure stainless steel forms, which are meticulously welded and polished. After the pieces are complete, the artist slowly pulls the air out with a vacuum pump, putting the natural atmospheric pressure to sculptural use and collapsing the forms into their final shape. In a delicate balance of planning and chance each piece acquires individual character demonstrating unexpected and striking possibilities of the material.



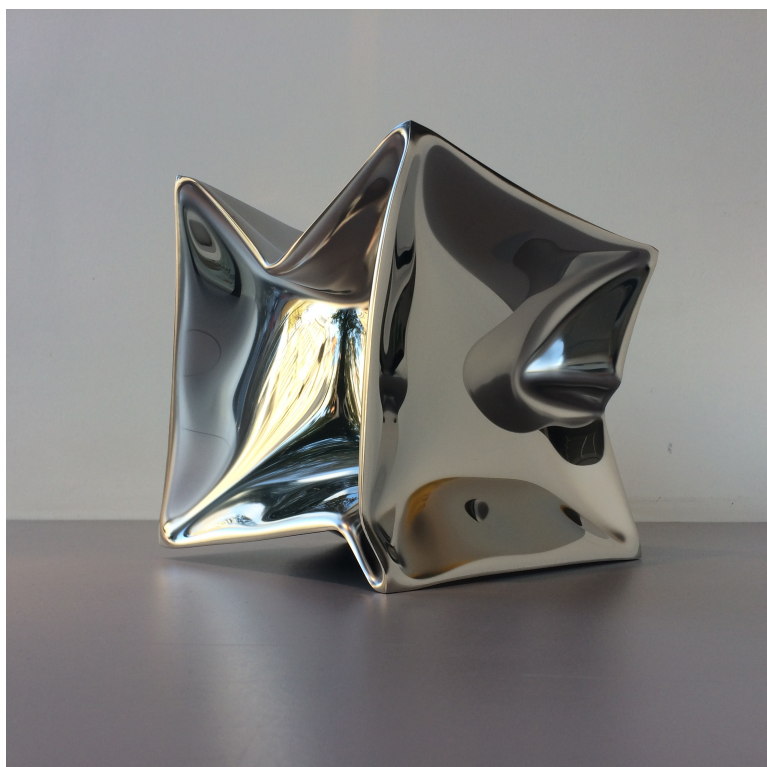
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mirror polished stainless steel 26 x 26 x 26 cm  
(10.23 x 10.23 x 10.23 inch before implosion)



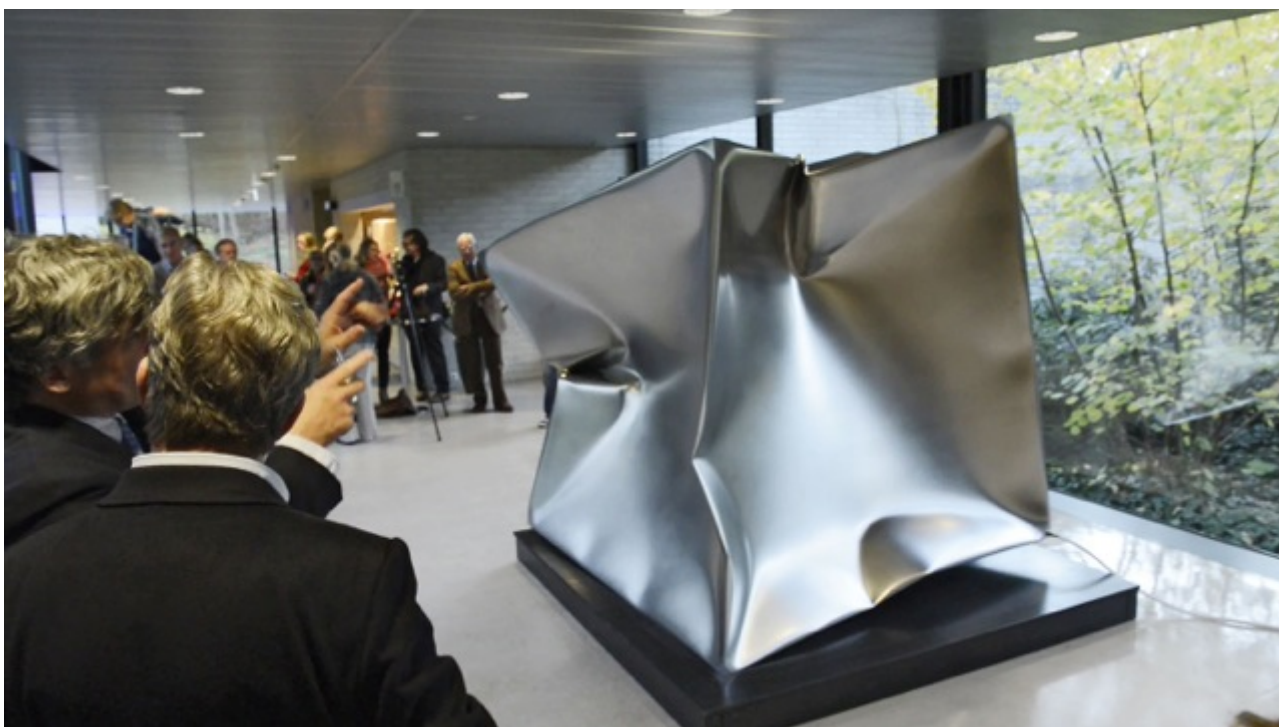
mirror polished stainless steel 22 x 22 x 22 cm  
(8.66 x 8.66 x 8.66 inch before implosion)

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Top: CHICAGO Museumpark “Habakuk”

Bottom: KRÖLLER-MÜLLER Museum, Implosion on the spot



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**“NY model”**, 99 x 24 x 24 cm (38.97 x 9.44 x 9.44 inch before implosion) from three sides



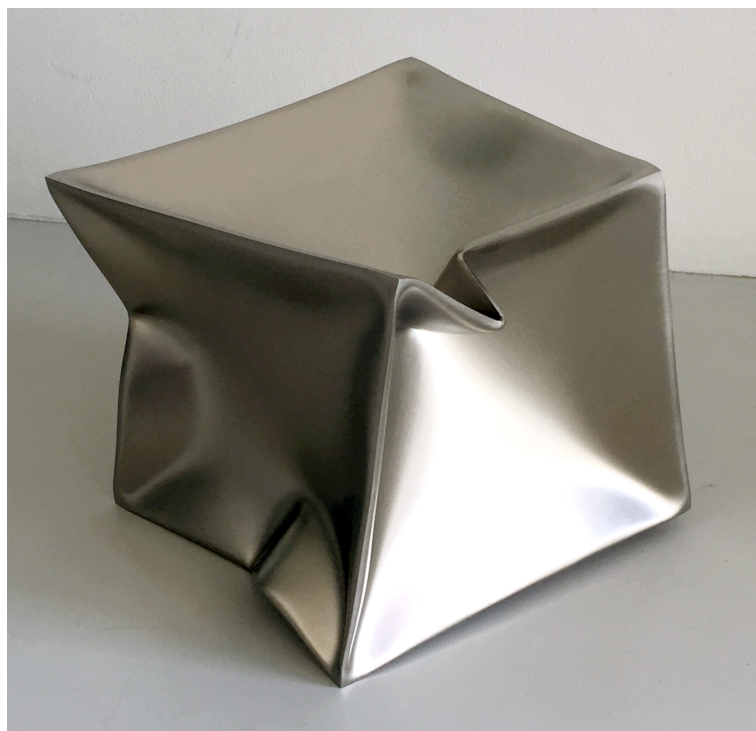
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**“Dancers”**, corten steel and stainless steel  
each 100 x 25 x 25 cm (39.37 x 9.84 x 9.84 inch before implosion)

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stainless steel 22 x 22 x 22 cm  
(8.66 x 8.66 x 8.66 inch before implosion)



mirror polished stainless steel 22 x 22 x 10 cm (wall piece)  
(8.66 x 8.66 x 3.93 inch before implosion)

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