



How to do Storytelling with Wire Art Sculptures?

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This line drawing of the man with umbrella can be rendered in wire art. I recommend doing line drawing and telling some sort of story with the wire art. Start with a simple message in your wire-storytelling. Notice how this is a flat, two-dimensional wire art piece.

What story aspects do you want the audience to focus on? Give that part of the sculpture more detail, and leave the rest subtle in outline (or just missing), so the audience can fill

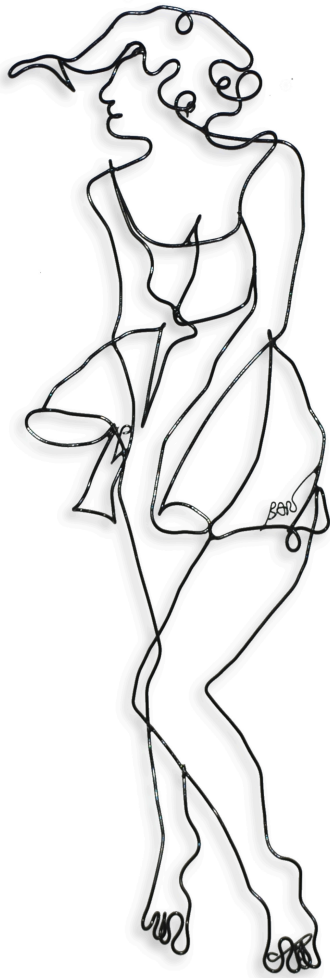
in the blanks, with their own imagination. Imagine your character in a certain situation, place, and time. Make up a little story for yourself. The story you decide to tell will include things you want viewer to notice. One way to tell a wire story is to crop the

figure to essential storytelling elements. Direct the viewer's eye to sensitive details of expression, nervous hands etc.

Attract the viewer's attention with detail, and accents. Simple lines can complete the story. The ballerina has no eyes, ears, hair, but the detail is in the body and dress, its spiral movement. Notice how compared to man with umbrella, this is a three-dimensional sculpture. Use the deconstructive method going forward. Start with more core (the flow of the dress), the solid shapes that are part of the skeleton. Add detail of silhouette to the bones of the skeleton.



I often use spirals in my wire artwork as part of the composition. You can see spirals in the example of the ballerina, and the next one's hair and dress, to give the illusion of movement.



Some wire art is quite sensual and life like. The lady holding her dress has more detail on the dress and legs, and toes, than on the face. There are twists and turns of the wire, give the piece the illusion of movement. To make it three-dimensional (the curves in the dress turn out toward the audience). This is not a flat two-dimensional drawing of man-with-umbrella. Part of the wire curve inward and outward, drawing the audience into the piece.

You can practice imitating these images, until you are at the point to do drawings of actual people, animals, plants, and so on. A good way to practice, is writing your name, and other words, with wire. Note the author's signature, in the dress. Sculpt the action in wire.

The kinetic wire art has 'actual' movement as in the airplane and its wings, which have vibratory and cranked movement. Start with a more solid piece of wire for the crank (brass, for example, or a

thicker gauge wire). The support wires, if not thicker, will vibrate, as you crank, which may or may not be the effect you seek. Anchoring it to a wood block helps keep it stable, as you crank out the movements.

I hope this gives you some ways to practice and develop you wire art.

As you get better at it, you can begin to tell a story. I use the wire art to work out ideas in my writing. My notebooks are full of drawings that I often render in wire, to help me think through an idea, I cannot yet express in words.

