

Hi There

I hope you are well.

For the last 5 years I have been marinating an idea that I was given in my philosophy group, to do with the musical octave. The octave follows the universal laws of nature – which is what we too are subject to, so the theory – philosophically – is that by understanding these laws through studying the nature and character of the octave, it is helpful to our understanding of ourselves and the world around us.

I became interested to see if the character of the octave would be maintained if it was made as a visual thing – as opposed to an auditory thing, so I took the maths of the octave (see table below) and translated it to sizes and weights.

cycles per second							
100	112.5	125	133.3	150	166.6	187.5	
Do	Re	Mi	Fa	Sol	La	Si	
<hr/>							
9/8	10/9	16/15	9/8	10/9	9/8	16/15	

In visualising an octave, I always saw it as a circle. I am content with the symbolism of the circle. For me it represents the notions of totality, original perfection, the Self. The first form it took was this:



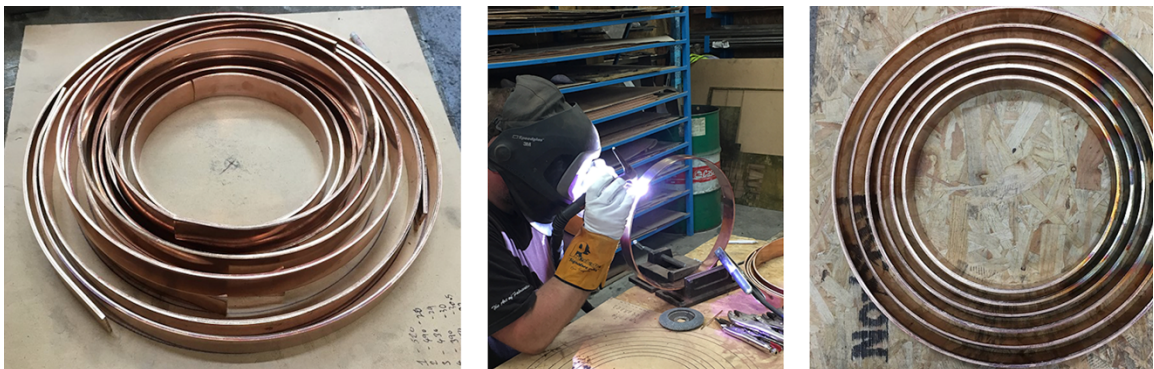
There are 15 rings here – 7 notes of the octave up plus the first note of the next, and then 7 down the other side. Each ring is sized exactly according to the maths of the octave – as are the spaces in between the rings; as are the fabrication points around the rings. This had many of the resonances I was looking for, but it did not feel resolved.

In these newsletters, I have referred before now to my enquiry into the parallel concepts of ‘Constancy & Change’ in nature. I felt that the first iterations of this idea did not support that enquiry. So, the next iteration was an aluminium maquette that looks like this:

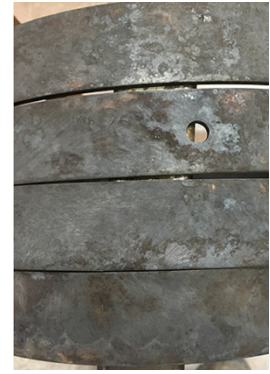
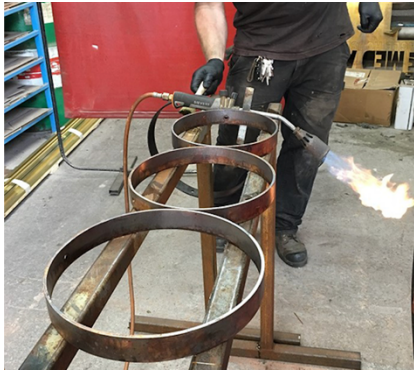


Still based on the mathematics of a musical octave, I found this engaging in the context of my enquiry.

The idea then took form in phosphorous bronze:



Which then took on its first stage of patina:



And we assembled to leave outside to age and colour, and after a week hanging outside, it looked like this:



I have collaborated with my colleague Simon Hebditch, and his team of amazing fabricators at [Inspired Metal](#) in bringing this work to fruition, and I have also collaborated with my client who shares my philosophical interests, and who has supported this idea in its development.

The 'Mark I' version is complete. We placed it in situ yesterday:



And of course it moves:



This sculpture can be placed in the garden or the home or workplace. It combines atheistic beauty with a philosophical intrigue. I have also made a [version](#) that hangs, and gently moves, and can be further changed by moving any one or a combination of the circles. For further images and iterations, please keep an eye on my website and Instagram account throughout August.

Save the Date:

I plan to include one or two versions of Octave Circle (and Octave bowl) together with a range of other sculptures I have been working on over the last 3 or 4 years, in my forthcoming exhibition at The Catto Gallery, 100 Heath St, Hampstead from 24th October – 11th November 2019. More details to come, but for now, please save the date.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact me directly, if there is any aspect of my work that you would like to discuss. It would be a pleasure to welcome you to my studio at any stage.

With warm wishes,
Tom