

## FIN 130 UNIT 1 RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT: Art + Design using 3D line

### Extra notes and info

#### Alexander Calder

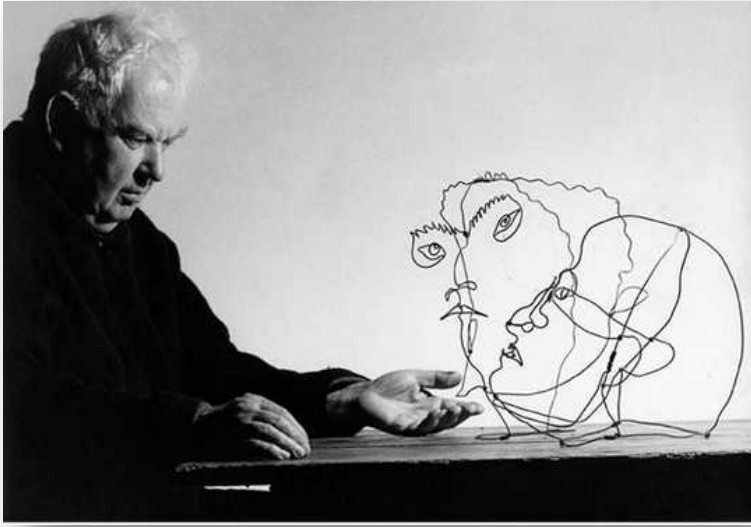
- ◆ Alexander Calder, known to many as 'Sandy', was an American sculptor from Pennsylvania.
- ◆ Alexander Calder is known for inventing wire sculptures and the mobile, a type of kinetic art which relied on careful weighting to achieve balance and suspension in the air.
- ◆ Initially Calder used motors to make his works move, but soon abandoned this method and began using air currents alone.
- ◆ He trained as a mechanical engineer at the Stevens Institute of Technology in his early twenties. He began to pursue painting in earnest a few years after receiving this degree.



Sacha Stone

Alexander Calder with his Cirque Calder, 1929

Photo credit: Calder Foundation, NY/ Art Resource, NY



Ugo Mulas

Alexander Calder with “Edgar Varese” and “Untitled”, Saxe, France, Gelatin silver print, 1963

Courtesy Ugo Mulas Archives

- ◆ Calder always carried wire and pliers with him so that he could “sketch” in his favorite material. This has come to be known as ‘drawing in space’ because he would use the wire to create a drawing in the air.
- ◆ Calder avoided analyzing his work, believing that: “theories may be all very well for the artist himself, but they shouldn’t be broadcast to other people.”



*Untitled, 1959*

*Sheet metal, wire, and paint, 7 1/4 x 6 1/2 in.*

*Private Collection, San Francisco*

- ◆ *This piece of work makes me feel how balance plays such a vital role in art.*
- ◆ *The piece is small yet so powerful and eye-catching.*
- ◆ *Red added with black makes it remarkably interesting and creates a rhythm in this.*
- ◆ *The sharpness of the lower part and the soft feel of circles is what I like the most.*
- ◆ *Repetition of shape and design features creates a harmony throughout the piece.*
- ◆ *It looks like a light wind would make it move and wiggle- making it an interactive piece.*



## Cirque Calder

Year, 1926–31

Type, sculpture

Wire, wood, metal, cloth, yarn, paper, cardboard, leather, string, rubber tubing, corks, buttons, rhinestones, pipe cleaners, and bottle caps, 137.2 cm × 239.4 cm × 239.4 cm (54.0 in × 94.3 in × 94.3 in)

- ◆ This piece made me stop in my tracks and really take extra time to focus in on each section – or at least as many as I could.
- ◆ There are so many elements in this piece that the eyes keep moving all around.
- ◆ It is amazing to see how so many materials can be used together and look so balanced.
- ◆ The ingeniously articulated animals, clowns, and acrobats. In total, the circus consists of an elaborate troupe of over seventy miniature figures and animals, nearly 100 accessories such as nets, flags, carpets, and lamps, and

over thirty musical instruments, phonographic records, and noisemakers makes the piece quite different from all other work.

- ◆ It reminds me of the miniatures I used to see in the hobby shop in Campbell River, and Miniature World in Victoria (you should totally go if you haven't yet- it's one of my favourite random attractions of the island).

Resources:

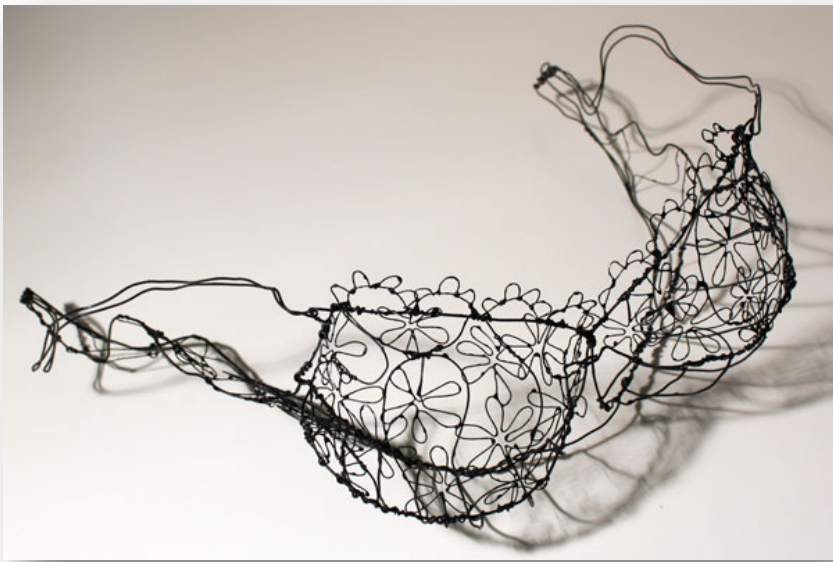
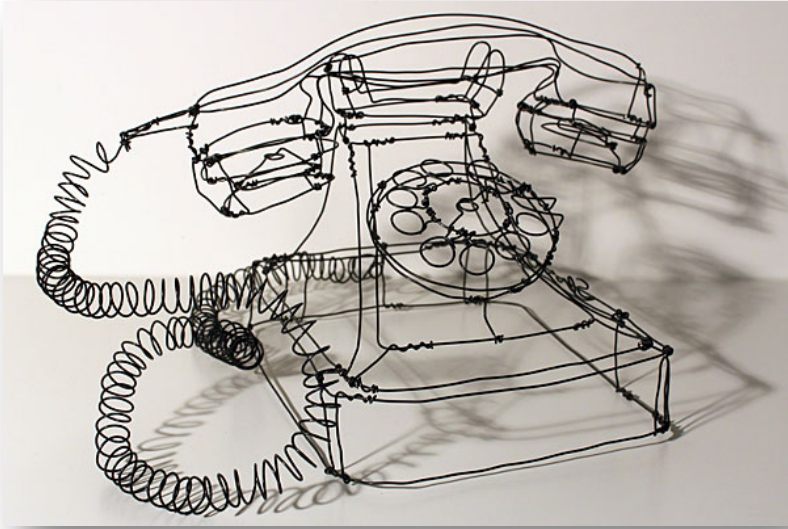
<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/alexander-calder-848/who-is-alexander-calder>

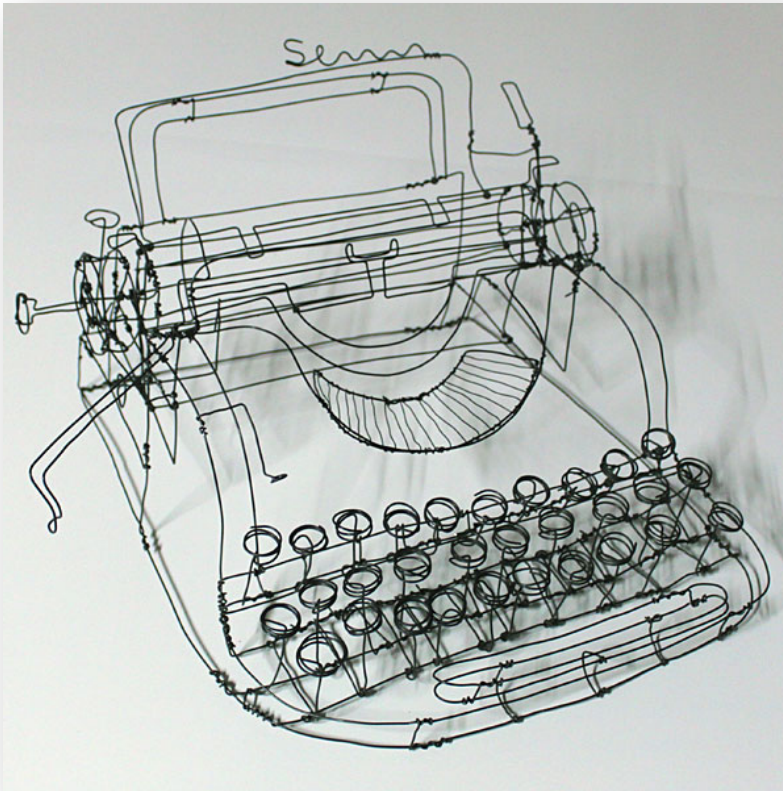
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cirque\\_Calder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cirque_Calder)

<https://whitney.org/collection/works/5488>

## Martin Senn

- ◆ Martin Senn is an established contemporary visual artist.
- ◆ Martin Senn was born in 1960.
- ◆ German artist Martin Senn uses metal wire to create exceptional sculptures of retro objects such as a rotary telephone, a 60s era typewriter, and an antique camera.
- ◆ From afar, his pieces resemble expressive sketches instead of three-dimensional creations.





- ◆ There is not much information given about the artist and his work (date, size) but his work is amazing.
- ◆ When I saw these pictures of artists' work, I just loved them.
- ◆ They are so flawless that they look like sketches.
- ◆ Such intricate detail and attention paid to every piece of an object. He must have spent hours just looking at the objects before he even started rendering them in wire.
- ◆ All the pieces are made up of only using wire, still they are bold and eye-catching,
- ◆ The wires are connected with each other so we cannot even see the ends- makes you feel like you're looking into a 2D realm. In the science of dimensions, they talk about how when you look at a tesseract, that is the shadow a 3D object would make in a 4D world (or something like that, I don't really remember but it was cool) and I think this is kind of like that concept of seeing something and knowing that its 3D, but your brain wants to see it as 2D because of the medium.

Resources:

<https://designwrlld.com/three-dimensional-wire-sculptures/>

<https://mymodernmet.com/martin-senn-wire-art/>