

Michael Chaikin Moving Sculptures



Michael Chaikin was born in 1957 in Kinston-on-Thames, UK.

Obtained a degree in Fine Art/ Sculpture at Falmouth University, Cornwall, UK in 1990. Before that he was a hospital doctor and GP. He lives in West Cornwall with his wife and two daughters.

Statement:

I love the idea that sculpture can be fun and beautiful.

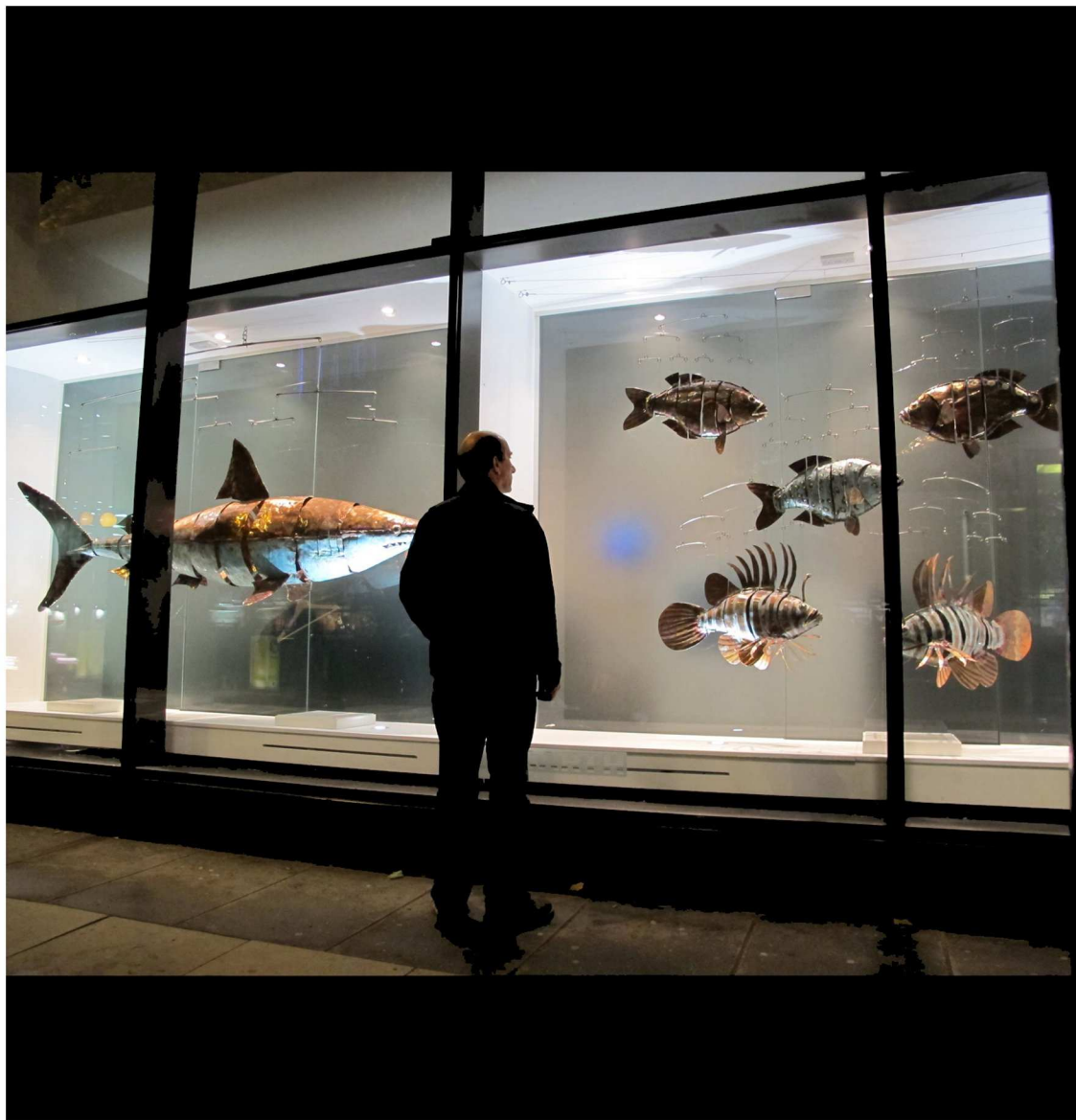
Movement and form are my obsessions. I am always on the hunt for drama, spectacle and beauty. I love strong images that surprise and fascinate. I believe that you should put as much of yourself into your art as possible this includes humour, cunning and engineering skills. Random movement fascinates and mesmerises. One way to achieve this is by using the wind - a true source of fickle randomness.

My copper fish sculptures move in the wind and my perspex and stainless steel wind sculptures and mobiles harness passing swirling gusts of wind or gentle breezes to whizz around or slowly, unpredictably, point and balance.

One of my tasks as a sculptor is to solve the difficult engineering problems of movement and balance as elegantly and smoothly, silently and robustly as possible. So that the viewer just sees a beautiful sculpture, a silently running piece of art and is unaware of the mechanics.

This book illustrates current works and is divided into two main sections: **Copper fish** and **Perspex wind mobiles**.

For past works please go to www.metalchicken.co.uk





above: 70cms long "Hamour" Lacquered gold spots and verdigris. The Gold coloured spots are, in fact, silicon bronze as are all the other fish.

Left: "Fish Tank" A 15metre window display at 164 Shaftsbury Avenue, London. Commissioned by HogarthWW



Above: 300cm long moving shark at The Hospital Club, an Arts Club in Covent Garden, London.

The shark has a motor to keep it swimming attached by a wire to its suspension bars right at the top near the ceiling.



One man show at Kestle Barton Gallery 2010.
The large grouper is 240cm (8ft) long. Also in the picture is a sea urchin
(top right) and a copper fish.



(Above) A 175cm (6ft) long shark at the L'wzaar Restaurant in Doha. This shark's tail has a fine wire attached to an electric motor to make it swing steadily and look like its swimming along. The fish makes a quiet clanking sound but not enough to be heard above the ambient noise.



Striped grouper.
Length 100cm



Mackerel
length 70cm



The brazing process using bronze wire and oxyacetylene



The fish is cut into eight sections
fins added and then balanced





Above: a 100cm (3ft) long grouper with gold spots and verdigris

Facing page: Fish At the Majlis Gallery, Dubai, UAE





top:
60cm long copper fish
Lacquered copper
and bronze (to keep
its colour)



middle:
100cm long fish with
green body and gold
spots



bottom:
130cm long grouper
gold spots and green
verdigris on the body

Facing page: A slowly
swirling circle of fish
at 'The L'wzaar
restaurant main
entrance, Doha.

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Above: "target fish" 60cm long.
copper with stainless steel wires.

Opposite. Lion Fish. Length 75cm
copper, "gold" and verdigris





A 110cm long "Hamour" - a fish local to Qatar and really delicious.
Part of a Large installation of over 17 fish in the L'wzaar fish restaurant.



Perspex Sculptures

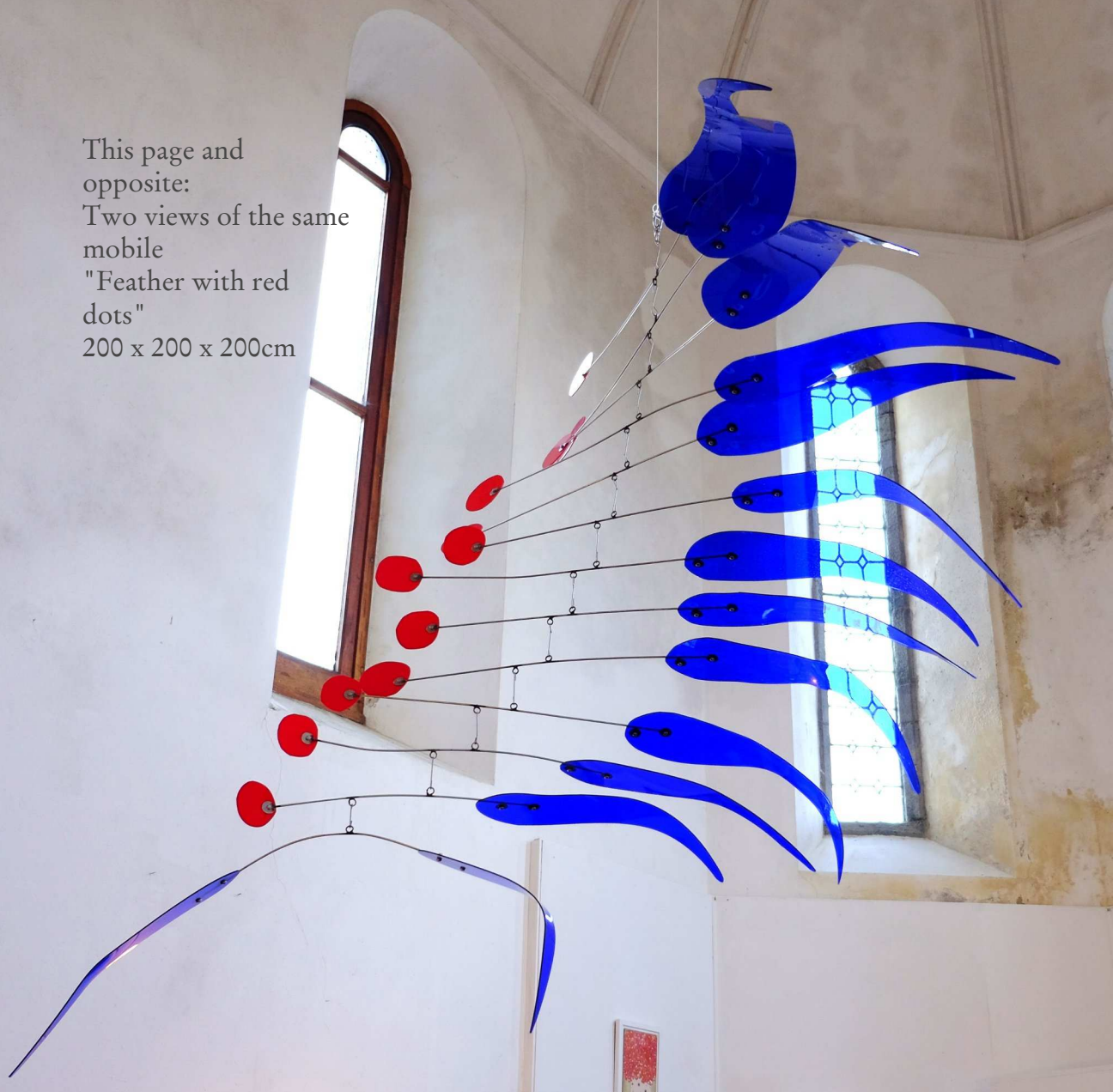
This piece is
200x200cm. clear
orange and light blue
perspex. each piece is
balanced and moves
separately.

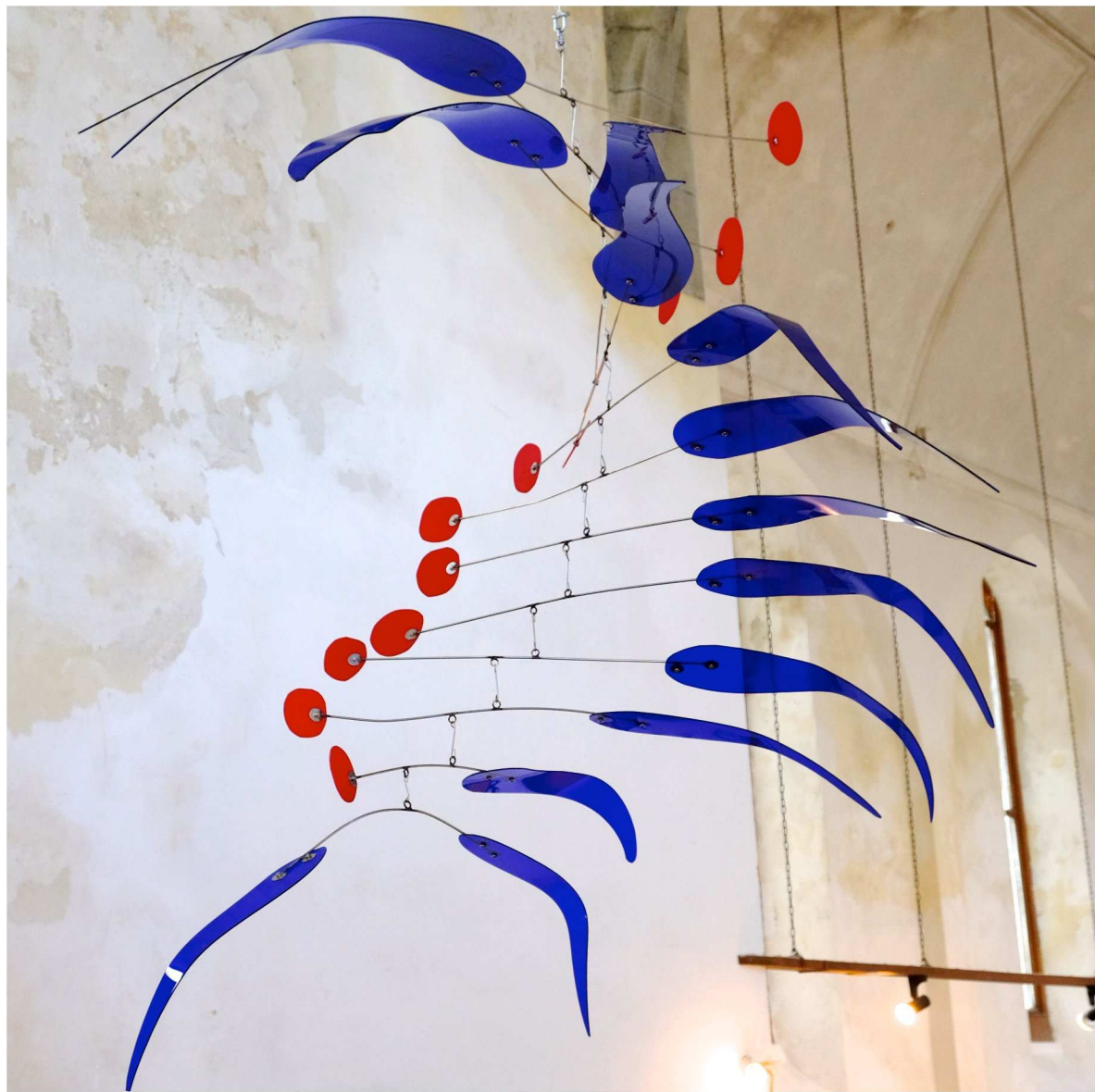


This page and
opposite:
"Jellyfish"
220 x 220cm
Perspex and
stainless steel



This page and
opposite:
Two views of the same
mobile
"Feather with red
dots"
200 x 200 x 200cm





"Silver Tree"
Mirrored perspex,
stainless steel
The leaves move
separately in the wind.





Sculptures at
Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens
Penzance, Cornwall. UK



Above: this "red pecker" moves crazily in the wind with a rocking and spinning motion. size 200 x 200cm

Opposite: Red Flower. 200x200cm. The two main windmills move in opposite directions producing a "strobing" effect.







Above: Red swirling spiral arrow. Length 220cm. Translucent red, mirrored perspex and stainless steel.

Opposite : "blue flower with bluebird" 200cm x 150cm. Material: transparent blue perspex and stainless steel. All the circles of petals revolve in opposite directions to each other.



Michael Chaikin in his studio constructing "Blue wings" and the finished piece opposite.
The perspex feathers are bolted on to the stainless steel spars.



left: Blue wings
at Tremeneere.
wingspan
240cm. Blue
transparent
perspex.

Inset above: a
sketch book
drawing 2015

"silver wings"
wingspan 240cm
Mirrored perspex



another view of
"silver wings"
with the red and
silver spiral arrow in
the background





Blue and red wings at the Moushole festival in 2016 on the harbour wall. Both pieces in transparent perperx



Two views of
"blue feather" In
transparent deep
blue perspex.
height approx
300cm

Opposite:
"Cascade" in
mirrored perspex
on loan to
Falmouth
Library, UK









Lion Fish. Length 75cm.

Lacquered and patinated copper

For more work and to see the sculptures moving go to www.metalchicken.co.uk

For the latest work please go to [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/michaelchaikin) & look up Michael Chaikin

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