

Waste to Art

WASTE TO LIGHT

Ugo Matuzzi

Guasila, Sardinia, Italy

Ugo Matuzzi was born sixty years ago in Guasila, a small village in Southern Sardinia.

For years he worked as a carpenter, a trade in which he gained a deep knowledge of the material, respecting it and forging it at his will. Intrigued by the beauty of a series of waste materials and refusing to accept their elimination and neglect, almost for fun, together with his son Davide he started to collect inert wastes of all types and to transform the latter using his skills as an artisan. Completely unrelated pieces originating from totally different paths of existence were combined to give rise to new shapes and forms, primed for a redesigned functionality: the perception of and emanating of light. This has given rise to a series of artistic light fixtures, unique sculptures evoking a world of manifold colours comprised of robotic female forms, ancient warriors, fragments of distant civilisations,

of space ships... (Figure 1) Some are imaginary works of fiction which, as an abstract art, assume particular significance in the eyes and propensity of the beholder.

The works created by Matuzzi are not confined merely to their sculptured or multi-coloured form, but rather gain in significance thanks to an effect of light and shadows, achieving a spiritual contrast reminiscent of the yin and the yang. Two diametrically opposed energies, one light and the other dark, necessary and complementary, with the existence of each interdependent on the other. All objects and all situations connect to this powerful duality, crucial in the life search for an equilibrium fostering the conquest of serenity and wellbeing. An added sentiment for those who view the light sculptures forged by Matuzzi.

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FIGURE 1: The light sculptures created by Ugo Matuzzi.

