

Dedicated to my children, Shaked and Geffen.  
You are my strength.

# Depths of Heaven

Ariel Lavian

Depths of Heaven is a series of objects meant to express the depths of my soul, my feelings in recent times, in a reality where optimism and joy were aggressively pushed out by fear and uncertainty. In this atmosphere, I felt a fiery passion to fathom the layers wherein life exists in utter opacity, where there is bloom without light, places where darkness rules, yet shape and color still endure.



**From the depths of heaven**  
Ariel Lavian

Darkness closes in, reigning

Destroying our world  
Increasing our greed  
Silencing our conscience

Darkness closes in, reigning

Blinding our eyes  
Petrify our hearts  
Shallows our thoughts

Darkness closes in, reigning

Threatening our existence  
Challenging our sanity  
Aggravating our fears

Darkness closes in, reigning

Gnawing at his heart, his soul  
Enveloping him entirely  
Sneaking into his mind  
Enervating his body

Darkness closes in, reigning

And he refuses to surrendered  
Hopes to find solace  
For his weary spirit  
His injured soul

Darkness closes in, reigning

In the course of formation  
He challenges hope  
And he's still searching  
For the blossom in the  
depths of darkness

# Depths of Heaven

Corona times urged Ariel Lavian to take a step back, close down the shutters facing outward and focus on creating a new series, the “Depths of Heaven,” which unfurls a new branch of his work.

In his new solo exhibition, at the Periscope Gallery, Lavian presents jewelry and other objects made of copper and silver. The technique he uses, foldforming, is based on folding, refolding, and hammering of thin metal foil. As with paper, the creasing and uncoiling give the sheets strength and three-dimensionality, while hammering them works the metals’ plasticity and reinforces it.

Just as in foldforming where the starting point is a clear and smooth sheet of metal, Lavian himself has opened a new and intriguing sheet. The social critique that emanated from his earlier work is now directed inward; Lavian has conducted a rigorous interrogation of his own self in order to hone his intentions and create objects that give precise, tangible expression to his personal responses. He clears away unnecessary

background noises and chooses to delve into metalworking, a narrowing in that leads him to a plenitude of ideas and forms in pieces that hold a closer dialogue with the world of classical jewelry making. In this period of global uncertainty and confusion, Lavian’s current series offers lucidity and spaciousness. Lavian here matures into his art through his dedicated attention to the creative process.

In the choreography between hammer, metal, and anvil, generated by the artist’s initials, inward impulse, a vibrating pulsation emerges and extends itself far beyond the workbench and simultaneously resounds back into the body and affects the rhythm of successive movements. The continuous hardening of the metal decrees a consistent change in its surface and creates an intimacy that unites the artist with the responsive material in a delicate, mutual transformation.

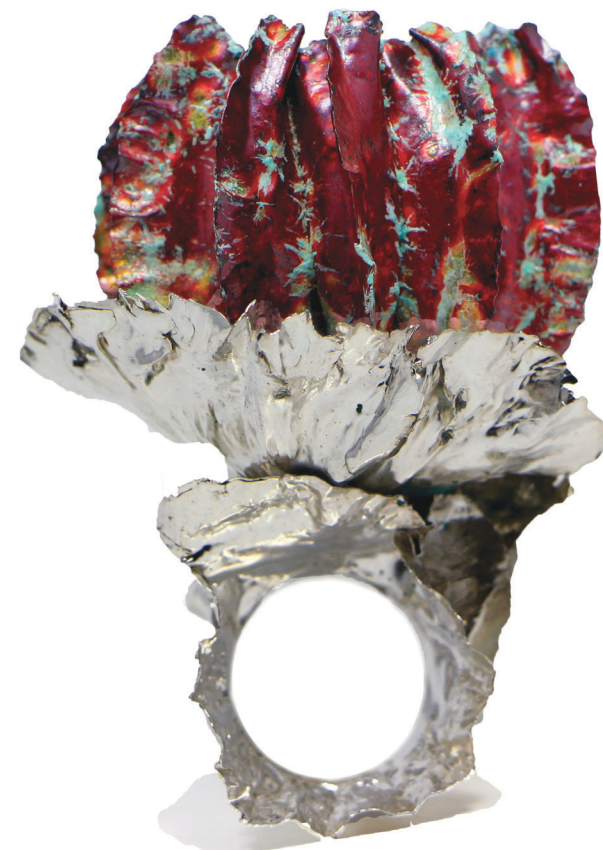
Lavian continues and evolves his craftsmanship in patina coating that creates a protective layer and an impressive, colorful presence, giving his objects assorted textures and a sensation of varying temperatures. Some of the objects appear to be rising and blooming from secret depths, and others resemble life forms that have evolved in arid, challenging conditions. The garden of works that unfolds in the space looks like an amalgamation of botanical species emerging from secret worlds that were previously visible to the eye, but can now enter the heart.

“Every movement requires its right time” (Tao Te Ching - Lao Tzu)

Lavian sets out onto his path without leaving his studio. His journey through the materials has found its right moment.

Vered Babai

October 2020



**Ring**

Copper, sterling silver, enamel, epoxy

Size: 86x64x57 mm



**Ring**  
Copper, sterling silver, fine silver  
Size: 92x101x69 mm









**Ring**  
Copper, epoxy  
Size: 89x67x49 mm



**Brooch**  
Copper, stainless steel  
Size: 39x60x84 mm



**Brooch**  
Copper, sterling silver, stainless steel  
Size: 66x65x68 mm



**Brooch**  
Copper  
Size: 51x76x76 mm



Object

Copper, sterling silver, enamel

Size: 175x140x156 mm





**Brooch**

Copper, sterling silver, stainless steel

Size: 67x94x93 mm



**Necklace**

Sterling silver

Size: 287x168x37 mm









**Ring**  
Copper, sterling silver, epoxy  
Size: 95x71x74 mm



**Ring**  
Copper, enamel  
Size: 129x64x58 mm



# Ring

Copper, sterling silver, fine silver

Size: 102x78x61 mm



# Necklace

Copper, sterling silver, fine silver

Size: 393x206x68 mm









**Ring**  
Copper, sterling silver, epoxy  
Size: 76x63x56 mm



**Ring**  
Copper, sterling silver, fine silver  
Size: 78x74x80 mm



**Brooch**

Copper, sterling silver, fine silver, epoxy

Size: 70x66x54 mm



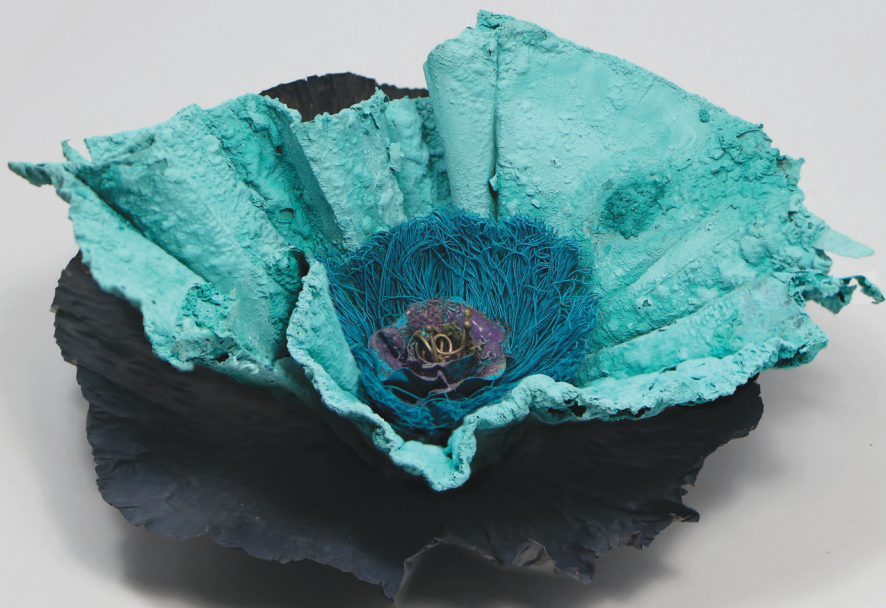
Object

Copper, fine silver, enamel, epoxy

Size: 234x209x216 mm







Object  
Copper, sterling silver, enamel  
Size: 86x176x183 mm



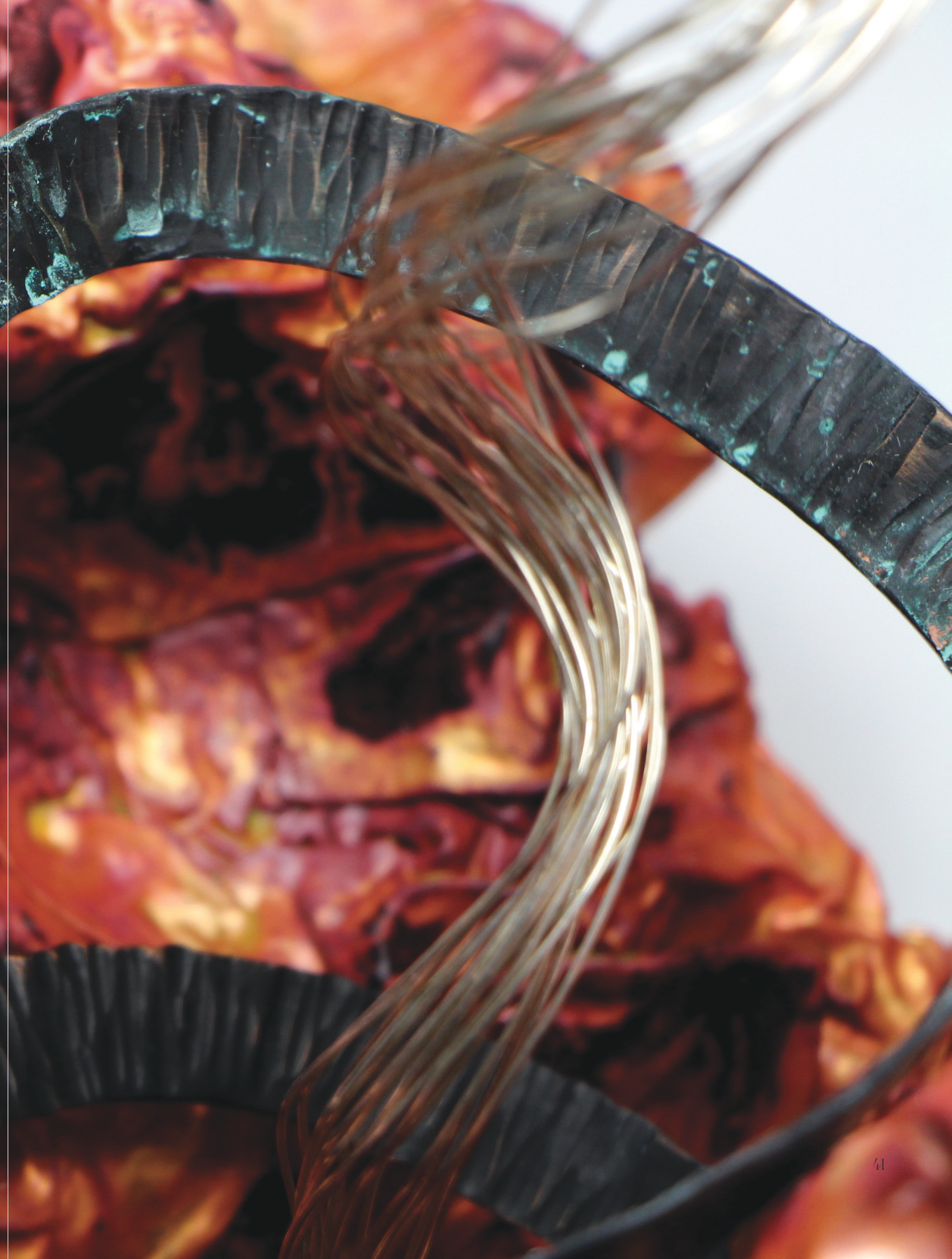
Object  
Copper, epoxy  
Size: 137x230x181 mm





Object  
Copper, fine silver, epoxy  
Size: 297x405x293 mm









Neckpiece  
Sterling silver  
Size: 257x181x51 mm

Support: *My dear wife*

Curator: *Vered Babai*

Graphic design: *Avihai Mizrahi*

First exhibited: *Periscope Gallery*

Special thanks to *Sari Paran*  
for inviting me to exhibit at  
your gallery and to *Danny Schwartz*  
for enduring my madness every day.

