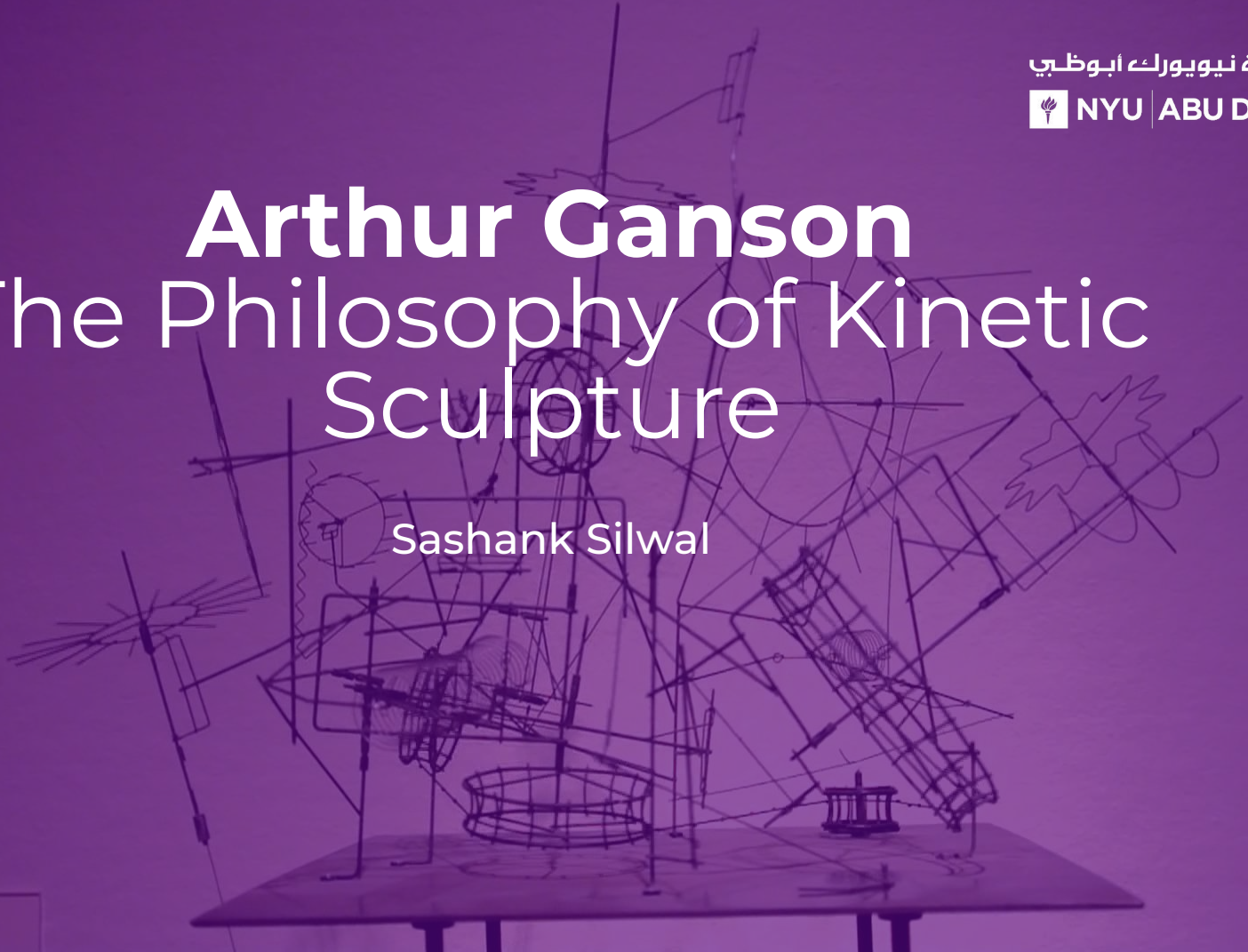




Arthur Ganson

The Philosophy of Kinetic Sculpture

Sashank Silwal



Background

- Born in 1955, studied art at the University of New Hampshire
- Began making kinetic sculptures using materials like wood, metal, wire, and rubber bands
- Draws inspiration from nature, physics, psychology, literature, music, and spirituality
- Approach: gestural engineering, creating mechanisms that produce expressive gestures



Creative Process

- Combines mechanical engineering and choreography
- Designs and builds intricate mechanisms using wires, gears, chains, springs, and motors
- Employs elements to transmit force, motion, and energy
- Creates contrast, tension, and harmony between rigid, flexible, and elastic materials
- Synchronizes movement with sound to evoke moods and emotions



Themes and Motifs

- Ganson's sculptures: metaphors for human emotions, experiences and dilemmas by using simple machines to create complex gestures that convey meaning and emotion
- Uses simple machines to create complex gestures that convey meaning and emotion
- Explores themes such as identity, freedom, desire, conflict, loss, hope and more
- Questions the nature of reality, existence and consciousness

"I think there is something very human about these machines, because they are imperfect. They are emotional; they have their own temperaments; they fail; they break down. I think we can relate to them because we are also imperfect. And I think there is something very beautiful about imperfection, because it implies movement. It implies change. It implies growth."

Machine with Chair



- A machine that lifts a chair off the ground and then drops it. The sculpture creates wonder and curiosity for the unexpected and absurd action

Thinking Chair



- **Thinking Chair:** A chair that rocks back and forth by itself. The sculpture implies humor and mystery for the presence of an invisible occupant.

Artistic Vision

- Challenges our understanding of machines and their meaning to humans
- Gestural, humorous, evocative, and introspective sculptures
- Creates machines that surprise and confuse viewers, questioning assumptions about machines, art, and engineering
- Reminds us of the wonder and magic in mundane objects through the lens of art

Machine with Concrete



- **Thinking Chair:** A chair that rocks back and forth by itself. The sculpture implies humor and mystery for the presence of an invisible occupant¹.

“Machine with Oil”



- **Thinking Chair:** A chair that rocks back and forth by itself. The sculpture implies humor and mystery for the presence of an invisible occupant¹.

Thank You

جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي

