



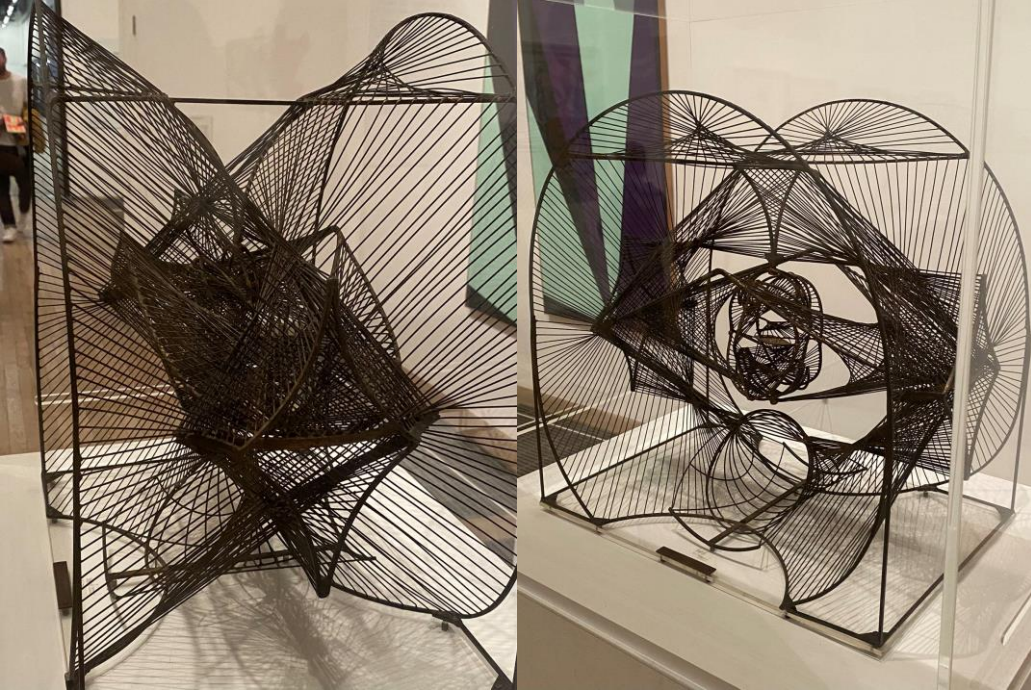
***Bable* (2001) - Cildo Meireles**

Cildo Meireles (born 1948), Brazilian installation artist, conceptual artist and sculptor, who often put social and political reflection into his work.

Bable is a tower made by hundreds of radios being placed layer by layer, of different devices and playing different stations. Meireles wanted to use this sculptor to talk about how the media nowadays has overloaded the people with the information and is causing division alongside with lack in understanding within the human society, just like the outcome of the mythological story which he got the inspiration from, the Tower of Babel, which himself referred it as a 'tower of incomprehension'. As Meireles deliberately made all radios play different stations, the mixture of the information became a extremely irritating noise in order to represent how people nowadays have been influenced, irritated and lost due to the overwhelmingly large quantity of information they receive everyday.

What I found extremely attractive is that *Bable* used such a impactful and concretized to express its message to the audiences, with no room of misinterpretation, which I think is very important for a satire work but it is often being ignored.

In addition, I am also agreed with the theme Meireles wanted to talk about, I do find the overwhelming information is exhausting ourselves as we start to worry about things that's largely exaggerated or irrelevant to us, whereas we still have more urgent things to think about. The exaggerated and poled opinions also caused unnecessary divisions within the society, under all these motive and attractive slogans our society are indeed being teared apart, like the people who are punished by God because of the Tower of Babel



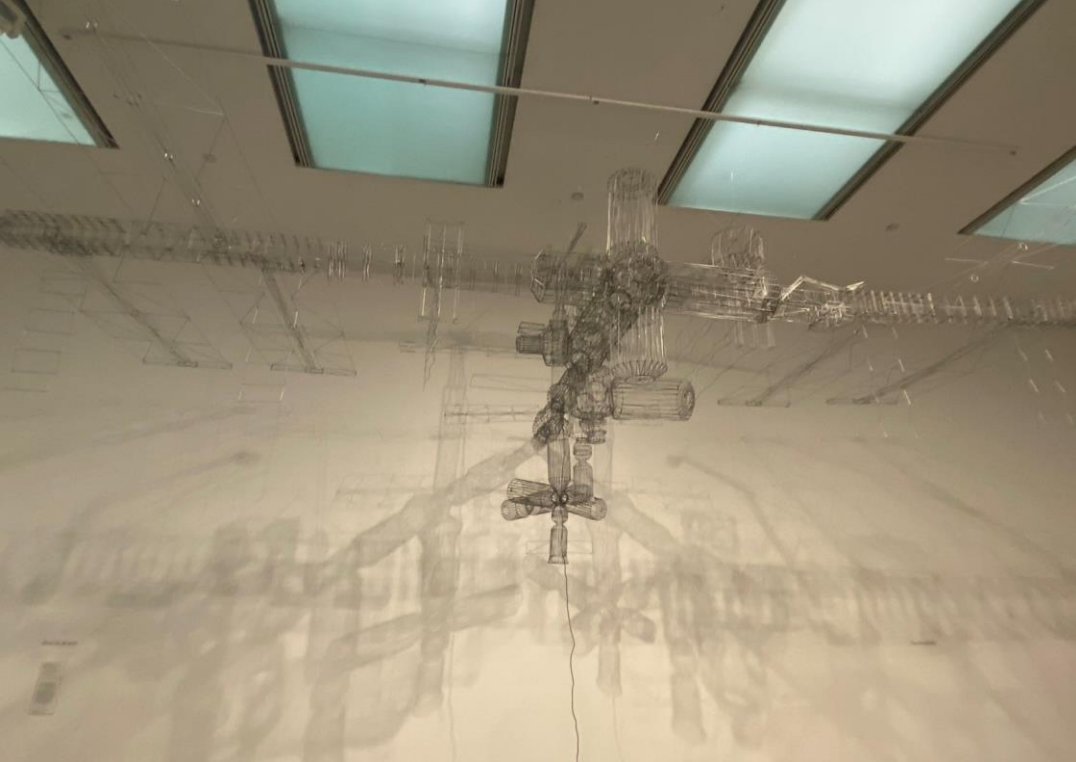
Maquette of a Monument Symbolising the Liberation of the Spirit (1952) — Antoine Pevsner

Antoine Pevsner (1886-1962) Russian sculptor, his works often involve new material at the time, such as plastic. Due to his enthusiasm in mathematics, as he said: “Art must be inspiration controlled by mathematics.” he often made links between maths and art in his works, via frequently using mathematical theories and geometric shapes to construct his sculptures.

The *Liberation of the Spirit* is a great example of such ideology, which he uses bronze thin rods to construct this entire structure, to create a symbol of imprisonment. The entire ‘prison’ has almost no realistic representation of a prison in people’s common sense, but uses a combination of interlocking geometric shapes and lines to form the abstract feeling of being engulfed and limited, like a prison.

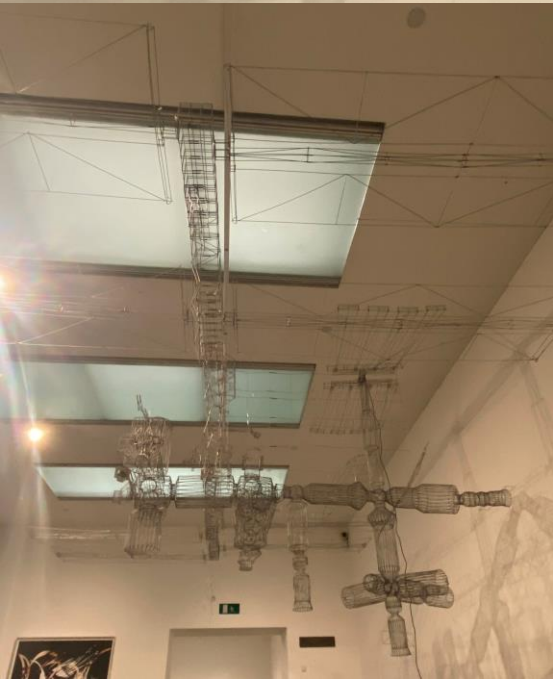


For me what I find interesting about this sculpture is that it has a great aesthetical view from any perspective, and is solely representing the beauty of geometric shapes, which is also the beauty of human wisdom and logic. I am also inspired by how the level of intensity of the lines is able to provide different tones to the sculpture, just like line sketches, but which also effect the feeling when observing from different perspectives.



Jennifer Allora (1974) and Guillermo Calzadilla (1971) are collaborative artists who live and work together in the USA. Their artworks, which involves videos, performances, sound works and sculptures, often involve strong political opinions, in reflection to the contemporary social and political events.

For this piece, the artists used metal, plastic, radio transmitter and microphone with nylon to construct this giant ISS model. This piece is also a reference to the contemporary events at the time, when the International Space Station is able to be contacted via radio when flies past.



Ten minute transmission (2003)

– Jennifer Allora,
Guillermo Calzadilla

What I found attractive about this work is it's detail and the significant size, I think such great effort and detailed research behind it is a reflection of people's enormous passion towards the space. As someone who is interested the space exploration I am quite disappointed about the slow progression in the related area nowadays, even the ISS is about to retire, but I believe exploring the space would eventually be the only direction for building a greater human society, so I highly value the artwork with such topic, as something which is able to motivate people towards that direction today and also act as monuments to remember these giant leaps we human has achieved.