

Ashoke Chhabra Artist Statement

I have always been interested in texture over color; in sculpture over painting. The third dimension is everything. It is there that I hinge my efforts by gouging facets, adorning, and otherwise altering the surface of an object, all in the hopes of garnering interest from the viewer. While I have no doubt grown as an artist, become enamored of new materials and methods, these basic tenets have remained guiding principals for the past the twenty years.

The worked presented here today, "What Bolingbroke saw," can trace its lineage to a much larger work of the same ilk that presently serves as a permanent installation at a gallery located in Altadena California. Its title is based on a passage from a book whose author alludes to a minor characters diary and its esoteric contents. Little more is mentioned beyond this. Its construction marks the culmination of a period of "textilization" of objects as varied as lamps, tables, and chairs. Here however this technique serves to embellish what is primarily a work of contemplation. I will say little more beyond this as any true meaning lies squarely in the eyes of the viewer.