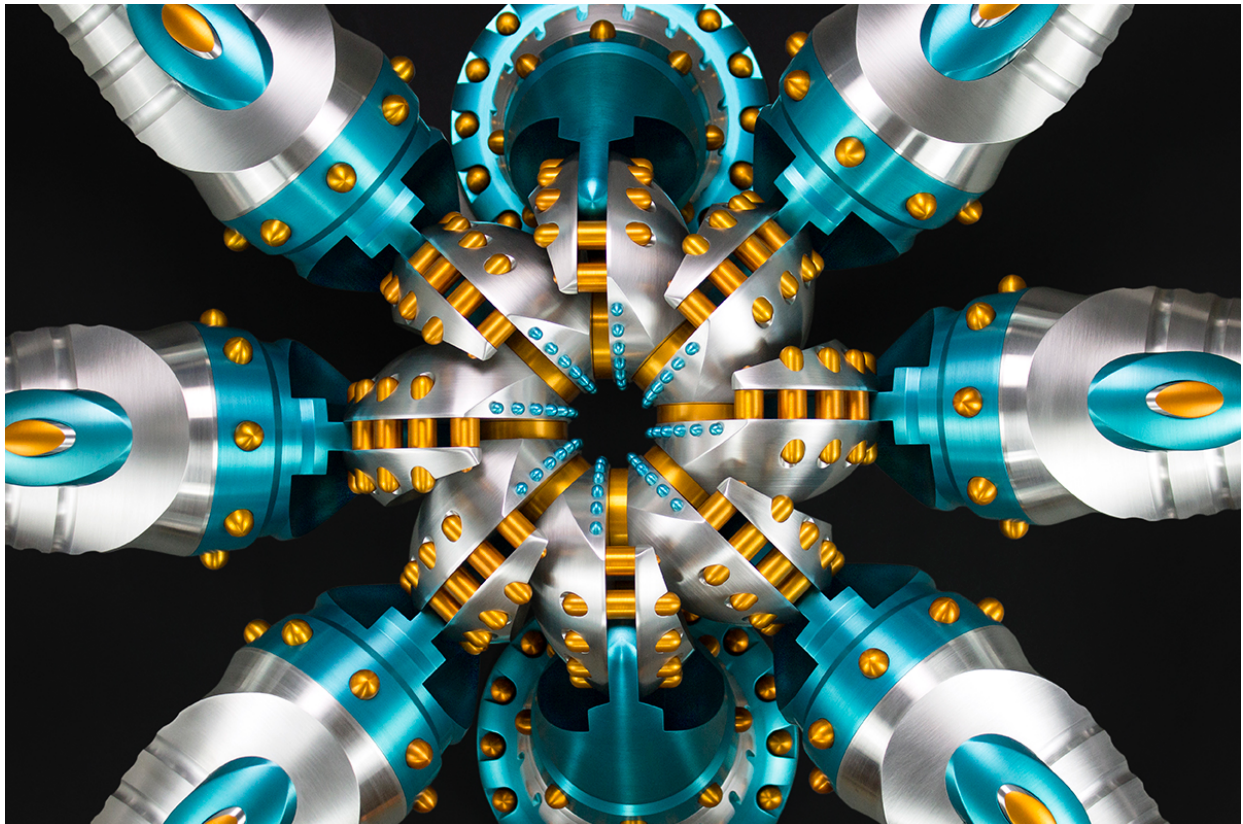


# The Machinist Sculptor

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I am a self-taught machinist, machine builder, and sculptural engineer. I have spent over two decades building and modifying a variety of metalworking tools and automated machinery to create intricately machined metal sculptures that defy easy classification. My works are fundamentally engineered, every detail methodically designed from the ground up. They illustrate that creativity alone does not drive human imagination, but that inspiration comes from the need to overcome technical challenges. By combining the math and logistics of modern machine work with an emotive problem-solving ethic, I bend the constraints of my medium to an aesthetic that plays on ideas of utility and ambiguous design intent. The result is precise and other worldly art objects that exude a creative logic all their own. My book, *The Machinist Sculptor: Industry Meets Craft* [1], explores the history of machine work and its evolving status as a fine art craft, through the lens of my pioneering sculpture practice. It serves as a contemporary reflection on the modern state of craft, and a historical corrective to the technological dogmas that emerged during the studio craft movements of the 20th century.



**Figure 1:** Sculpture BU 622411311751 by *Chris Bathgate*, machined aluminum and stainless steel, 2018.

## References

- [1] C. Bathgate. *The Machinist Sculptor: Industry Meets Craft*. Schiffer Craft, 2023.