

## Claudia Widdiss

### Statement

Metal, used as a material for creative expression, has a special magic for me. Although I have worked with clay, wood and stone – my passion is metal work. Transforming a flat sheet of steel into movement and form is a very exciting challenge.

Fourteen years ago I started a series called Healing Curtains. These pieces were made of steel to hang in a window or on a wall. This work was inspired by childhood memories of growing up in a tiny apartment in Harlem with police gates on every window. The menacing shadows from criss-crossing bars branded my essence. My mother made beautiful curtains to hide the bars. The intense involvement with pattern in The Healing Curtains series expanded into free-standing sculptures. Shadows became an important element in my work.



Claudia Widdiss, *A Healing for Maggie*, 2008, Aluminum relief, 28" x 20"