

JAMES CAPPER
EARTH MARKING EXPEDITION
Film, Mobile Sculpture, Component Parts

James Capper's art adopts the techniques, materials and complex problem-solving processes of innovation and engineering to develop the possibilities of sculpture. His sculptural language evolves along different modular chains termed 'Divisions'. Each work can be understood as a prototype and therefore each sculpture produces questions that the next work attempts to answer, so that over time each Division produces its own clear iconography and application in action.



ATLAS MILLS

The *ATLAS MILLS* are unique handmade component part experimental attachments for the Carving Division sculpture *ATLAS PROTOTYPE*. These sculptures were tested in Spoleto this summer as part of the Mahler/LeWitt Studios Residency and you can see the residue of concrete dust on the forms. For this exhibition we have displayed the components, which are indexed A-Z like all of James' component part works, on a steel workbench.



HYDRA SHUFFLE II & SHOVEL TOOTH SLEDGE

HYDRA SHUFFLE II is a fully operational Permanent Contact Earth-Marker (meaning that it has constant contact with the ground beneath the machine) and it uses its Shovel Type Teeth to excavate its way through the earth. The sculpture's movement is inspired by the movement of an insect like a caterpillar or grub. This mobile sculpture uses the mid-mounted double articulating boom assembly in a way to allow the machine to expand and contract to gain propulsion. It drags a sledge with it carrying a range of Shovel Type Teeth for use on different terrains.



HYDRA STEP

HYDRA STEP is a fully operational Step Type Earth-Marker with walking motion in its movement. *HYDRA STEP* is able to precisely mark the ground and step over obstacles. It can also climb gradients or slopes with its four hydraulic legs. Attached to the tip of each leg are component part Teeth allowing the sculpture to be used on different terrains. The sculpture has a wide range of component part attachments including Step Type Teeth and Gripper Type Teeth mounted to its belly.



STEP TYPE TOOTH SLEDGE

This Sledge contains the full family of Step and Gripper Type Teeth, used with the sculptures *HYDRA STEP* and *TELESTEP*. It is made for use in the field alongside the works to which the component parts are attached.



TELESTEP

TELESTEP is sophisticated and fully operational mobile sculpture in the Prototype family with six legs. It has four "Telescopic Legs" from the Mountaineer Type and two "Stepping Legs" from the Hydra Step Type (colored blue). It is a cross pollination of the ideas in *MOUNTAINEER PROTOTYPE* and *HYDRA STEP*, also points directly to the language of much larger parent sculptures of these two - *MOUNTAINEER* and *LONG LEGS* respectively.