Richard Beckman (1957-2004), a beloved artist, professor, and curator, was known for his exploration of tension and the human body in his sculptural work. His later work, inspired by the body’s internal organs, reflects this personal focus. His artistic career was marked by a deep interest in the human body and its interaction with the environment.

Beckman’s early work was often characterized as following the tradition of Minimalism, focusing on the phenomenological relationship between the object, the space, and the viewer's body. His later work moved away from this style, incorporating an exploration of the human body and its relationship with the environment.

Beckman’s work was an ongoing quest to contain and mark the tension between the body and its environment. This tension was expressed through his use of universally accessible geometric forms, which embodied the struggle and human presence.

Richard Beckman's early abstract drawings signal the beginning of a transition to the human body and its internal organs as a theme in his work. This transition continued throughout his career, as evidenced by his later work, which focused on the body's internal organs and their relationship with the environment.

In the tradition of Minimalism, Beckman's sculptures offered associative readings of both the object and the space, creating a dialogue between the body and its environment.

Richard Beckman came to Tampa from New Mexico in 1991, where he taught and brought his dedication and efforts, specifically Margaret Miller, Alexa Favata, Colleen Beckman, Richard's widow, and so many other friends, to the USF and Tampa Bay arts communities. The works featured in the exhibition, RICHARD BECKMAN: Outside the Curve of Reason, are a selection of sculptures, drawings and related materials by Richard Beckman, curated by Sarah Howard, Curator of Public Art and Social Practice, USF Institute for Research in Art.

Sarah Howard is acknowledged and thanked for her research and dedication to Richard and his work. I am grateful to the generous boards and staffs of the lending institutions for their assistance in this exhibition.

The generosity of lenders to the exhibition is most appreciated, including exhibitions in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. He received his bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of Oregon and his master's degree in fine arts from the University of New Mexico.

The Truth About Beauty, by Ville Mehtonen, Andrea Tamborello and Ian Foe. Taylor Kisser contributed with other essays, incorporating their personal insight, reflections, and research materials offered by Sarah Howard to design and prepare the installation, and were assisted by Peter Foe, Vincent Kral and Eric Jonas. Lytch photographed the works for the publication. Tony Palms, Contemporary Art Museum's staff, under the able leadership of Peter Foe, Curator of Collections, worked with Steve Lafferty, Curator of Collections, at the University of New Mexico. Beckman was devoted to his teaching and to his practice and was able to show widely, including exhibitions in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. He received his bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of Oregon and his master's degree in fine arts from the University of New Mexico.

The exhibition locates the performative and even playful nature of Beckman's Post-Minimal sculptural practice. Although Beckman's early work was often characterized as following the tradition of Minimalism, his later work moved away from this style, incorporating an exploration of the human body and its relationship with the environment.

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There is a collection of objects at the place where Giant Stars Formed from Steel exhibit is in the permanent collection of the Polk Museum of Art. The exhibit was on loan from the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art.

The exhibition was on view from December 19, 1987, to January 31, 1988. The Polk Museum of Art Permanent Collection includes a variety of artworks, including paintings, sculptures, and photographs. The Museum also has a large collection of photography, which includes works by Richard Beckman.