

Title: Adams Memories

Artist: Naum Gabo

Date: 1946

Location: Russia

Two preoccupations, unique to Gabo, were his interest in representing negative space—"released from any closed volume" or mass—and time. He famously explored the former idea in his *Linear Construction* works -used nylon filament to create voids or interior spaces as "concrete" as the elements of solid mass. He sought to move past Cubism and Futurism, renouncing what he saw as the static, decorative use of color, line, volume and solid mass in favor of a new element he called "the kinetic rhythms". Gabo had lived through a revolution and two world wars; he was also Jewish and had fled Nazi Germany. Gabo's acute awareness of turmoil sought out solace in the peacefulness that was so fully realized in his "ideal" art forms. It was in his sculpture that he evaded all the chaos, violence, and despair he had survived. Gabo chose to look past all that was dark in his life, creating sculptures that though fragile are balanced so as to give us a sense of the constructions delicately holding turmoil at bay.

