

Sculpture factsheet

BOC Middlesbrough, North East England



Shortly after SSI successfully restarted steel making in Teesside Lewis Robinson, a local artist and Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at Teesside University, was commissioned to create a sculpture in memory of a local Trade Union official, Geoff Waterfield. Having worked tirelessly to support the restart of steelmaking, Geoff sadly died just a few months before the plant began operations.

This sculpture stands proudly outside SSI UK's Steel House headquarters today.

To mark the commencement of BOC's new 15-year contract with SSI UK, the BOC organising team felt it would be appropriate to commission their own work of art. SSI UK's John Baker introduced the team to Lewis

Robinson who then spent time understanding our processes and how they link to steelmaking. Lewis utilised a number of components and off-cuts, including remnants from our engineering programme, which he used to create this magnificent sculpture.

Art can mean different things to different people but to many of us in BOC, this sculpture symbolises BOC's production process - the air receiver, the separation of the air denoted by the pipework and ultimately our products feeding into the production of steel.

The sculpture's title is 'Union' which aptly reflects this growing relationship between BOC and SSI UK.