Duca’s Metal Sculpture
On Display in New York

Alfred M. Duca, Boston artist and research associate in the Department of Metallurgy of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is having a one-man show in New York City. The exhibition of his 21 pieces of metal sculpture opened on Tuesday, March 31, in Mrs. Edith Halpert’s Downtown Gallery and will run for a month.

Included in the collection are five new works: “Schweitzer,” “The Survivors,” “Trickhorse,” “Family Group,” and “Stone.” All have been cast by the ceramic-shell process, a new casting method being explored for sculptural application by Mr. Duca as a part of his research.

Personifying the merger of artist-craftsman with scientist-technician, Mr. Duca has been carrying on experiments in metal casting in cooperation with regional industrial foundries. His purpose has been “to evaluate the practicability of industrial purposes has been “to evaluate the practicability of industrial techniques and facilities for artists working in metals.”

Mr. Duca’s recent stainless steel sculpture “The Survivors” is of one of the largest ceramic-shell castings ever attempted; characteristic of the new process is its precision and flawlessness in detail. In fact, so precise is the process that it will reproduce a thumbnail from wax. The process is remarkably economical as well.

Alfred Duca’s sculpture points up his command of a variety of molten bonding materials, such as stainless steel, ductile iron, copper, iron, and aluminum. The artist talks of his work in terms of “principle integrity—to reproduce faithfully the artist’s effort in a permanent material, regardless of style.”

Anyone interested in metal sculpture and who will be in the New York area in the next few weeks, why not stop at Halpernt’s Downtown Gallery and take a look at an artistic product of MIT’s research departments?? — Kraig W. Kramers '64

The best tobacco makes the best smoke!