

# Parramatta Sculpture Walk Activity Sheet

## *The Atomic Family*, by Gary Christian

**Materials:** Stainless & galvanised steel

**Dimensions:** H 2.2m x W 5-6m x D 3-4m

**Weight:** 100kg

### Artist Statement

The patterns, rhythms and tones of the natural world have always given force to the images I create but this sculpture speaks of the relationship between Australians and nature. *The Atomic Family* is an evocation of the devastation caused by humans to the natural world and to ourselves. It is about the continuing havoc rendered on the Australian land and its people by its people. It echoes many stories, local and global – Hiroshima, Maralinga, Chernobyl, and now Fukushima. The Atomic Family – one family and every family – stand as witnesses to, (and embody), desecrations past and present.



Sculpture No 5 in Parramatta Sculpture Walk Brochure

### Critical and historical study:

1. How does Christian's choice of materials suggest meaning?
2. Find one sentence above that is a personal evaluation or opinion.
3. In what way do you feel Christian's work interacts with the landscape?