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EARTH|WORLD



Scott Ashley  
MAKES HIS  
CONCEPTUALISM PERSONAL

By Donald Miller

SOME OF THE QUIXOTIC SPIRIT OF RENÉ MAGRITTE, THE LATE BELGIAN SURREALIST, MAY BE FOUND IN CONCEPTUAL ARTIST SCOTT ASHLEY, WHOSE WORK IS EXHIBITED AT THE ALDO CASTILLO GALLERY IN THE MIROMAR DESIGN CENTER, LOCATED IN ESTERO, FLORIDA.

*The Apology, for instance, a sculpture depicting an improbably hinged knife, not only reflects Magritte's distortion of reality but also his sense of humor. Similarly, Ashley's image, Aldo Castillo says, also humorously stands for the times when a person might like to kill someone but wisely holds back for a multitude of reasons.*

*The work is somewhat characteristic of the visual play Ashley, a 40-year-old Chicagoan, likes to infuse into his art. "The knife is many things: a weapon, a domestic tool and can even be seen as a phallic symbol," he suggests. "I feel the knife is a visual representation of an aggressive act, sexual or otherwise. And that, after the incident, one would want to retract: an apology for transgressions on another person.*

Opposite page: Scott Ashley, The Apology, 2002, Knife and Hinge, 11 x 4 x 1 In.

