



# The Elegant Solution

Joe Lipka





The propellers were set near the stair tower next to the dry docked ferry. When I found these industrial artworks in the shipyard, they were securely bolted to shipping pallets and partially covered with heavy plastic sheeting waiting to be installed on a ferry.

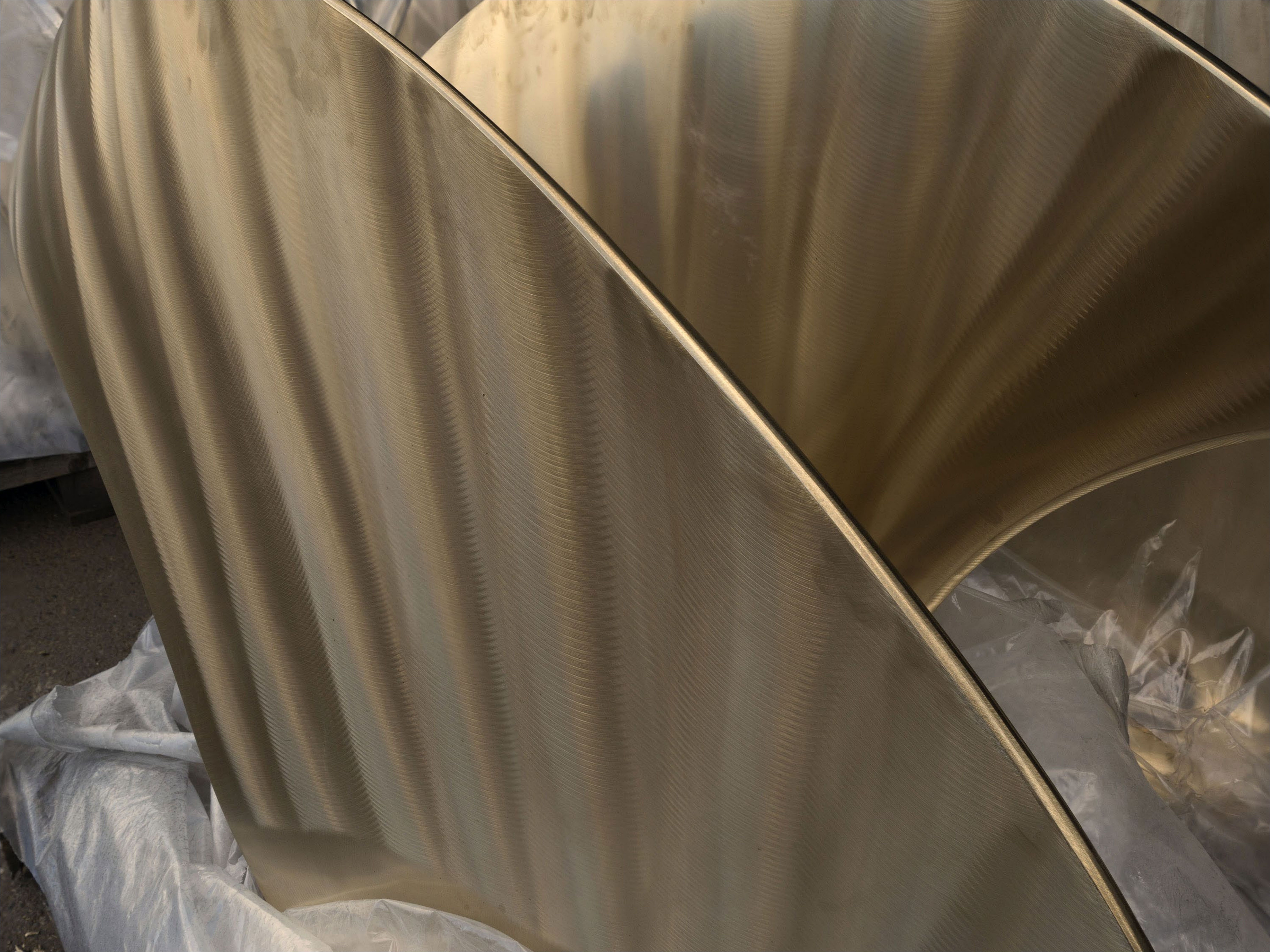
I barely understood the design process but I was fascinated how the complexity of the design equations were transformed from two dimensional equations and drawings to a beautiful three dimensional artifact. Engineers found an elegant solution to their problem and these propellers were proof of their success.



The realization of engineering and art was found in the propellers. After engineers solved a complicated design issue, the blade was shaped to fit the solution. The shaping of the propeller was a trial and error process incorporating a significant amount of hand work in fabricating the final shape of each blade.



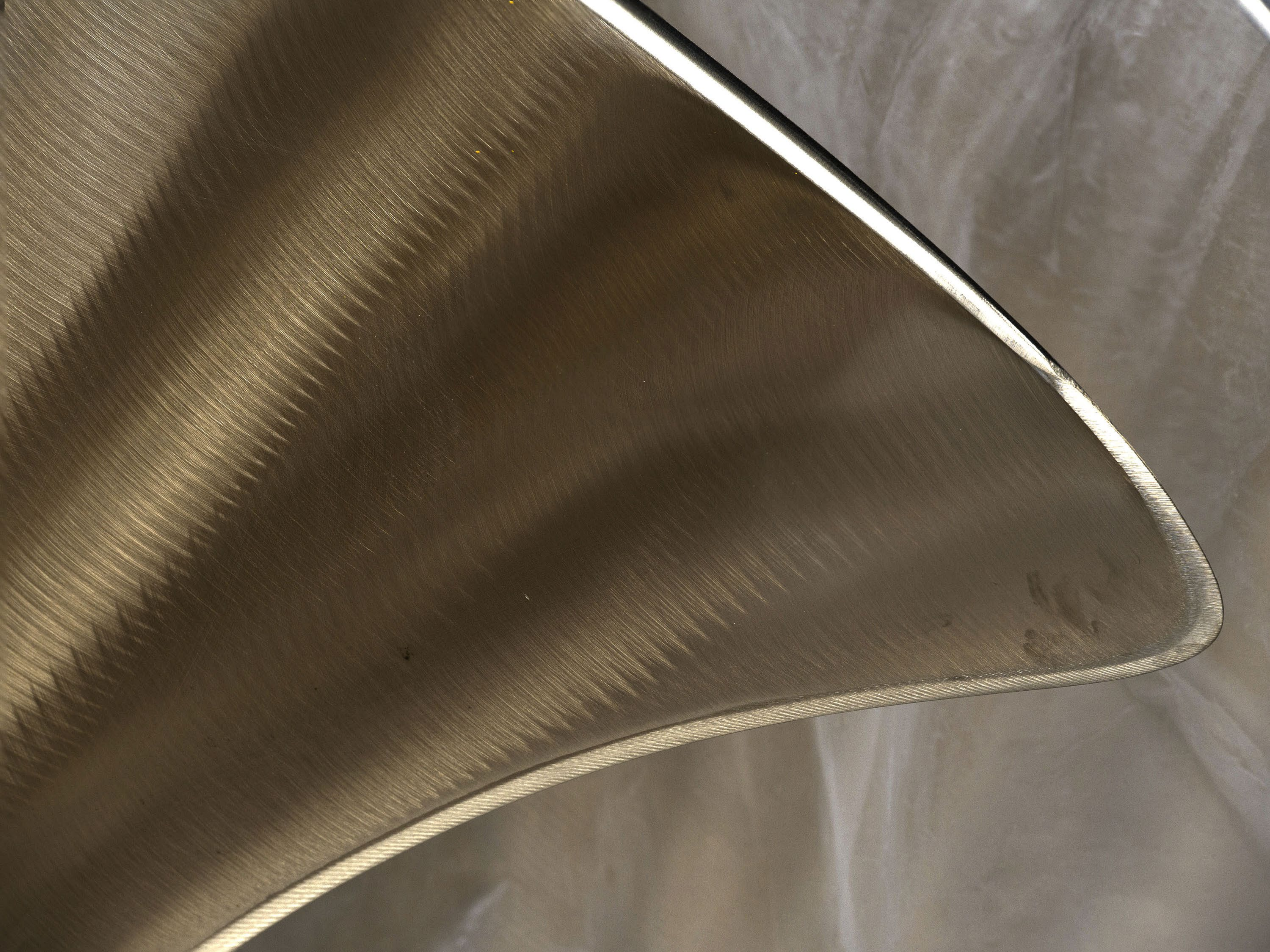












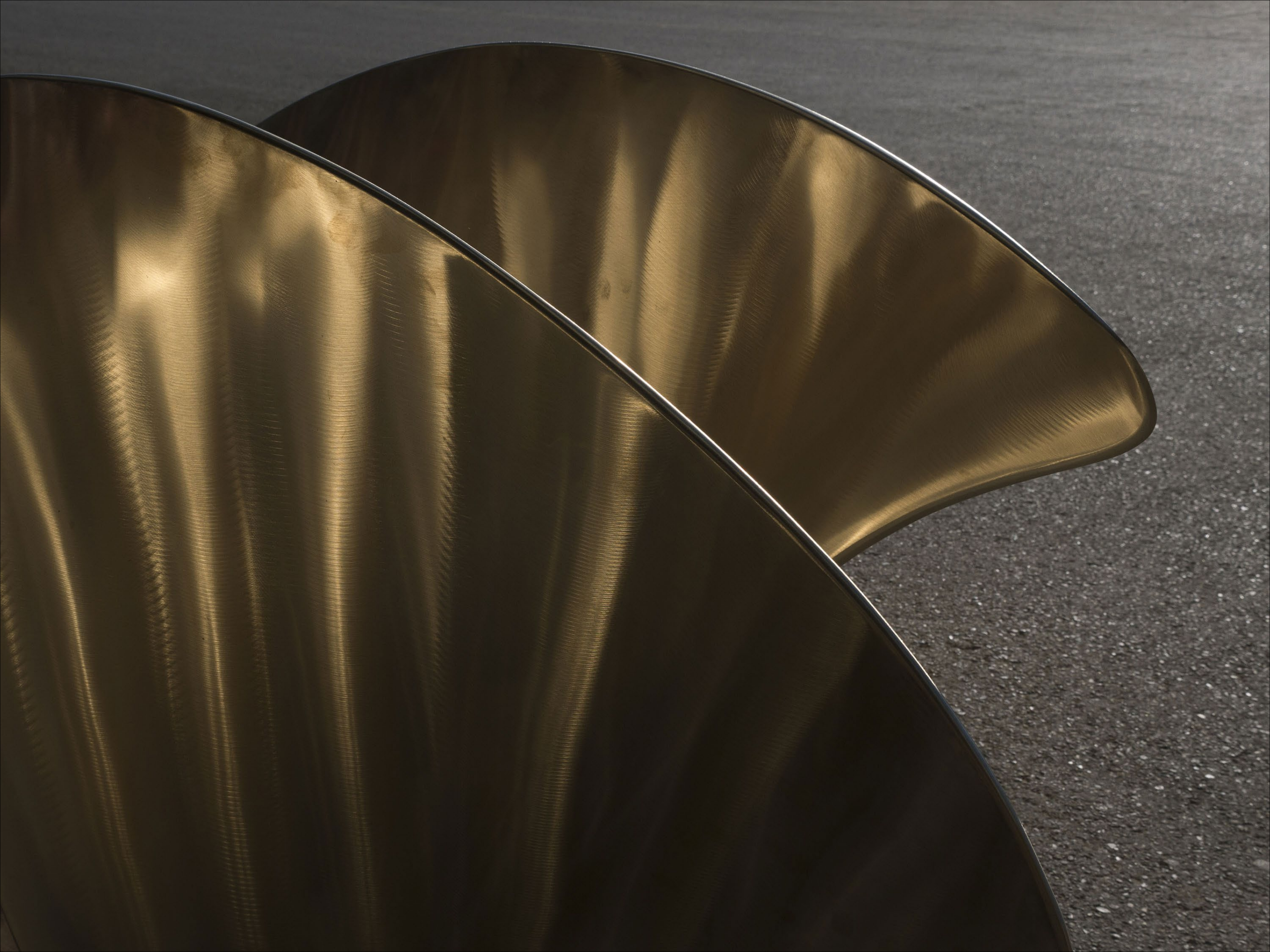




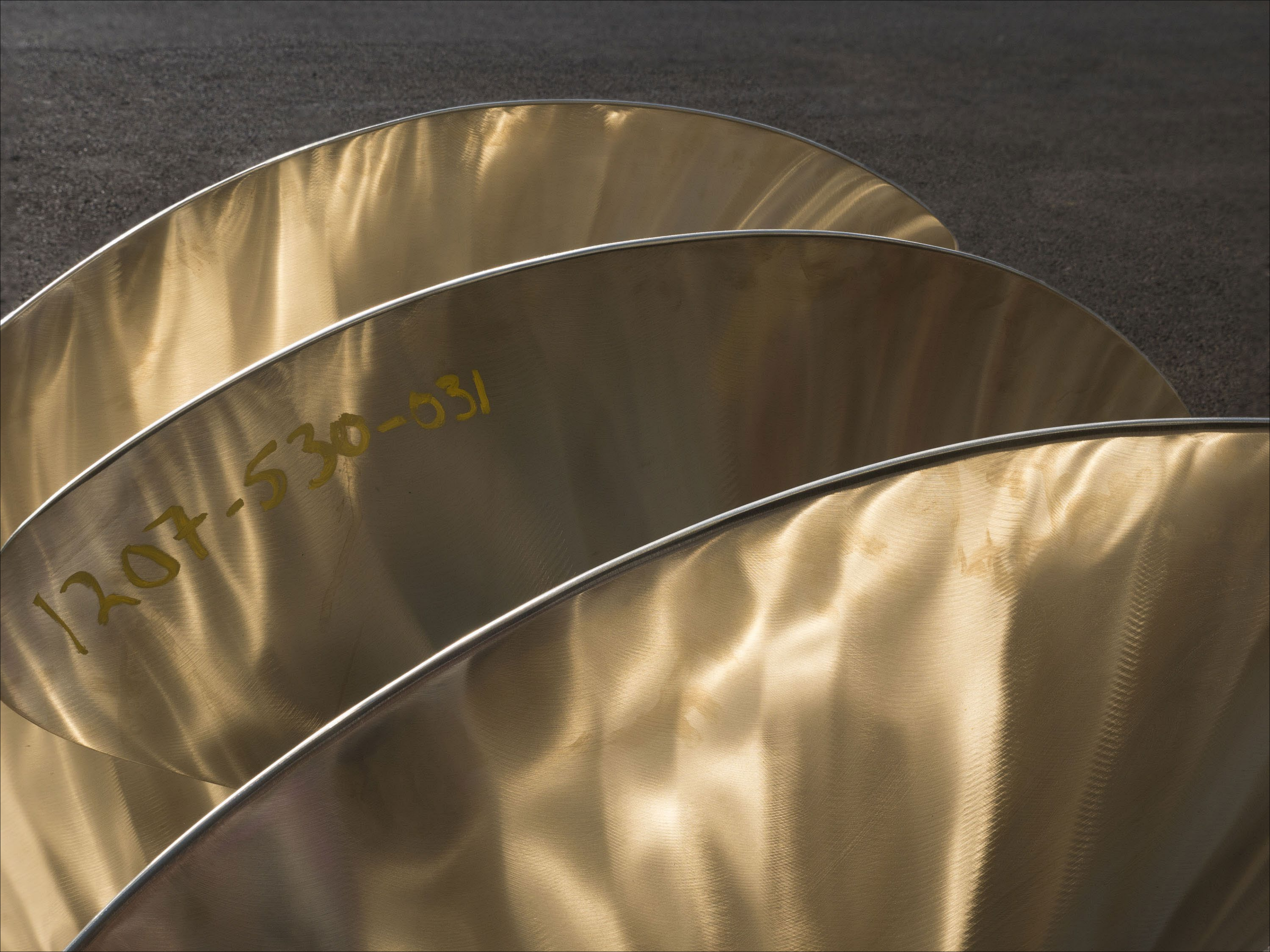
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Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last thirty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and have been printed in both *LensWork* and *Black & White Photography* (UK) Magazines.

His website [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com) has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, is a collection of his photographs and thoughts on the creative process.

## COLOPHON

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*Joe Lipka*

*The images in this portfolio  
were made in September, 2017  
in the Dakota Creek Shipyard,  
Anacortes, Washington*

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Web site: [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com)  
Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

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