HEAD SCULPTURE FRANZ HAGENAUER WERKSTATTE HAGENAUER CA. 1975

Head sculpture "Robot Head", Franz Hagenauer, Werkstatte Hagenauer Vienna, late 1970s, brass nickel-plated, marked

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Sculptural design of the human head occupied Franz Hagenauer from the very beginning of his artistic career. Initially, he reduced his heads to purely stereometric forms. In the late creative period however, he expanded his formal vocabulary to include planar forms. This impressive robot head dates from the later period, the late 1970s.

Archaic and bare of expression like an ancient mask or tribal art sculptures, Franz Hagenauer creates an object with a distinctly futuristic character. Human features such as eyes, nose and mouth clearly reveal a man's head. Nevertheless, with its angular forms and artificial perfection, there is nothing human about it. What’s more, the metallic surface even reinforces its technoid aura.

With this striking object, Franz Hagenauer perhaps wanted to set a monument to the enormous technological progress of the 1960s and 1970s. However, the sculpture with its humanoid design emanates an ambivalent fascination and with its mirroring surface is a space-occupying eye-catcher at the same time.

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