

**Shirley Tse's** solo exhibition of new work "Sink Like a Submarine" projects wry humor and seemingly endless inventiveness with materials. Drawing (loosely) together concepts from the history of calculating machines (originally looms), military history and game theory, Tse weds those to physical elements that go beyond the conceptual framework. A jade heart trapped in a forest of green plastic struts combines found submarine parts, their cast replicas, and other strange plastic and metal components. It folds backwards and forwards in the viewers' imaginative re-construction of its purpose: from being a trap or part of some arcane machine, it can also be seen as a shelter. With her characteristic indeterminacy, Tse's research pushes forward as she explores her connection to plastic: what is this ubiquitous substance and how has it influenced our thinking in terms of what is natural, what is artificial, what we consider permanent and what we see as disposable. It all adds up to visually compelling and wonderfully wacky sculptures ([Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica](#)).



Shirley Tse, "Sink Like a Submarine," 2006, found submarine parts, resin, brass, jade, 83 x 30 x 22".