How to Build a Wire Sculpture

Artwork from Sculpture Instructor, Cody Kroll
2009 Creative Workshop

Photos by Lindsey Klein

How to...the Process Show, is a product of the Creative Workshop of the Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester.
Step 1

Start with a sketch, doodle with a marker. These are quick sketches, mostly abstract shapes that will translate into a 3-D form.
Step 2

Take aluminum wire and bend it to the shape of sketch.

Perfection is not necessary!
Lines will slowly change from original sketch.

To build up form, cut additional pieces of wire and attach them to areas that need dimension and reinforcement.
Step 3

Cut plaster gauze into 1-1 ½ inch strips and dip one at a time in the water.
Gently squeeze remaining water back into bowl and apply damp strips to the wire sculpture.
Multiple layers may be needed to get a thick coat.
Step 4

Stain your sculpture with a dark coating of tea.

I used earthy tones such as different browns, greens, and yellows.