While the Art Museum undergoes renovation, sculptor Zigi Ben-Haim's 'Journey with Me' exhibit graces the Quadrangle.

As fall approaches and Ball State is once again in session, those passing through the quadrangle will notice the metallic shimmer of the sculptures of renowned artist Zigi Ben-Haim adorning the area.

The travelling exhibition "Journey With Me" showcases eight of the artist's most recent works and will be on display until mid-September. The exhibit is hosted by the Ball State Museum of Art, currently partially closed due to renovations.

"This exhibit is something important to make a whole of the museum," said Museum Director Alan Joyaux. "The works on display allow people an opportunity to consider something else within their life."

Ben-Haim's sculpture combines contradictory elements, pairing eternal organic forms with contemporary concepts. Ben-Haim says his pieces explore life's interactive forces, the migration of people and anachronistic adaptation for survival.

"The essence of my work lies in balancing the tension between surviving and vanishing," Ben-Haim said. "To my work, this is the seed of inspiration—capable of bringing new life."

The individual pieces are made of such remote materials as steel mesh, concrete and aluminum. With these combined elements, the works feature contrasting tones, such as softness and toughness as well as natural and urban.

According to Joyaux, the contrast in Ben-Haim's work lies between the living and the man-made.

"The pieces are almost anthropomorphic," Joyaux said. "They pertain that place between something alive and dead, and then they exist in between. Though many are animal and human forms, they remind one of something non-biological."

The Ben-Haim sculptures currently on display date from 1989 to Works near the the Administration and Burkhardt buildings include Tail" as well as the futuristic "Air Pressure" and "Walking Tall."

"The Touch" and "The Fall" can be found located by North Nearby, "Without Neighbors," "Spice Hole" and "Roaring Ball" can be beside Ball Gymnasium and the Cooper Science buildings.

The combination of cold, minimalist forms with warm human emotion sets each work apart from other sculptors' work. According to Joyaux, experimental nature of Ben-Haim's work lends itself well to individual presentation and allows for a unique experience.

"The added information and added input presented by the scu allow viewers one more part of wholeness as a person," Joyaux said. A native of Iraq, Ben-Haim lives and works in New York City. He has made appearances in individual and group exhibitions throughout the United States, as well as Europe and Israel. Ben-Haim has received grants from the Pollock Krasner Foundation and N Endowment for the Arts. He has a master of fine arts degree from Francisco State University.

The Ball State Museum of Art is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Friday and from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free.

For further information, call 285-5242.