

## SCULPTRESSES TURN TO WELDER'S TORCH

Women Use Flame and Hammer in Work With Steel—40 of Their Products on View

Sparks fly when women artists work together of an afternoon at the Sculpture Center at the top of the building at 167 East Sixty-ninth Street. But the studio is fire-proof, and welder's goggles take care of other hazards as torch-bearing sculptors pursue what is to them the most fascinating developments in their affair with art.

A visitor might have to revise romantic notions of an artist's appearance at work. For the sculptors might be, except for the jobs at hand and the surroundings, industrial workers, safely begoggled and sanely outfitted in dungarees, heavy duty shirts and caps or bandannas.

Steel, to the welding sculptor, is nothing short of magic, responding to the touch of flame, to the blow of the hammer. Down below in the center's gallery, in an all-women's show that opened last Sunday, are forty works recently fused and beaten together.

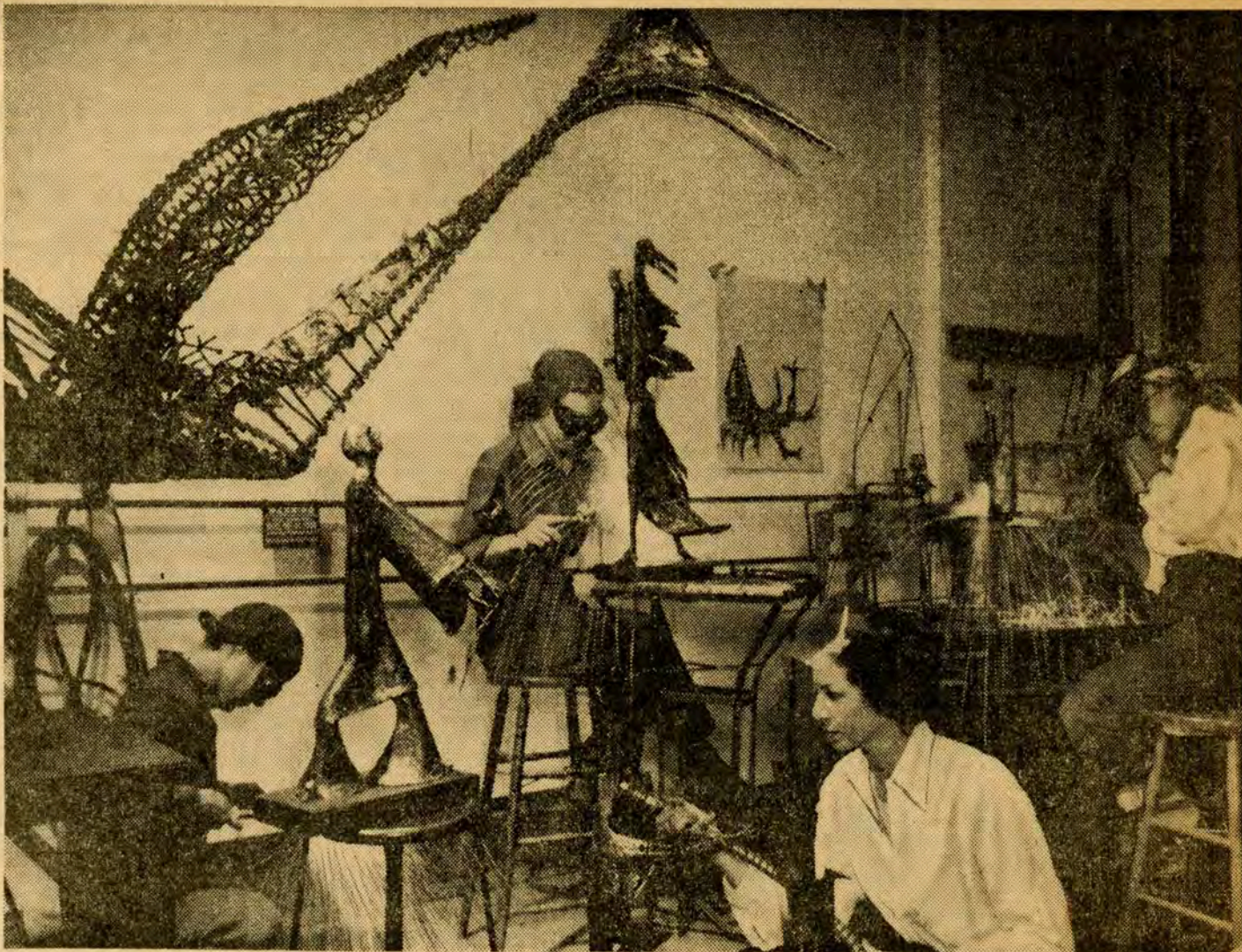
The post-war-born sculpture development has engendered much interest in that section of the art-loving public with modern tastes. Dorothea Denslow, director of the center, said yesterday. Sales are looking up.

"Observer," a work by Barbara Lekberg, one of the pioneers in the steel movement, was in the last Whitney Museum exhibition of sculptures.

Miss Lekberg, like the other sculptors, works in a variety of media; each has something to offer, she feels. But steel, all are agreed, is the most flexible material discovered for sculptural purposes to date.

Among several newcomers in the group were Luise Kaish, a delicate-looking girl, who turns out massive-appearing abstract pieces, and Dorothy Robbins, an attractive brunette, who does figural works.

The Sculpture Center is the thriving offspring of the old Clay Club which used to be on Eighth Street. It is now celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary. The sculpture show will run through Nov. 20.



**WITH SPARK AND FLAME:** A new field of sculptural expression is emerging from the use of the welding torch by talented women artists, and some of their creations are on exhibit at the Sculpture Center, 167 East Sixty-ninth Street.

Framed under Katherine Nash's "Water Bird," four sculptors work on presentations. From left to right, Dorothy Robbins with "Baptiste"; Barbara Lekberg with "Singer of Songs"; Lin Emery with "Family Group"; Luise Kaish with "Desert Spectre."

The New York Times