



Chimes explored spatial geometry in his cerebral and eye-catching work; he was also influenced by proto-Surrealist writings, especially those of playwright Alfred Jarry. American collectors acquired works from the exhibition that ranged in price from \$10,000

## PHILADELPHIA

### LOCKS GALLERY

THOMAS CHIMES: THE BODY IN SPIRALS

● The Philadelphia-based artist, who died in 2009, created a varied body of work encompassing drawings in ink and graphite and box constructions in metal, mixed media, and Plexiglas. They depict a range from purely abstract forms to portraits of figures including Marcel Duchamp. Then, there are the late, all-white paintings. Rather than focus on a specific period, the gallery, which represents the artist's estate, mounted a mini-retrospective of Chimes's creative output, drawing from all phases of his career. The exhibition included several works that had never been seen publicly before. The unifying formal element, one that the artist returned to again and again, was the mathematician Fibonacci's golden spiral.

to \$100,000 for the metal box constructions and from \$6,000 to \$50,000 for the paintings. Drawings were available for between \$3,000 and \$6,000. In addition, the gallery reported that institutions such as the Phillips Collection, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and MOCA Los Angeles added works by Chimes to their permanent collections in recent years. The show was part of the estate's efforts to aid in unpacking Chimes's diverse output, including such recent projects as the digitizing of the artist's library; a biography by Mari Shaw; and a survey of his white paintings that traveled from Galerie der Stadt Tuttlingen in Germany to the Benaki Museum in Athens in 2013.

*Green Box*, 1966–68.  
Mixed-media metal box construction, 14¼ x 11¼ in.

EXHIBITIONS IN BRIEF  
BY DOUG McCLEMONT