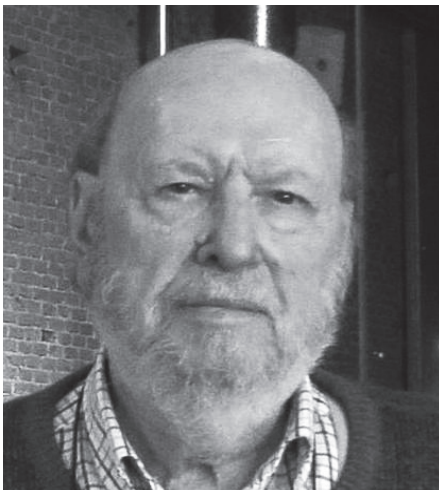


MAZINGER *by José Luis Sánchez*

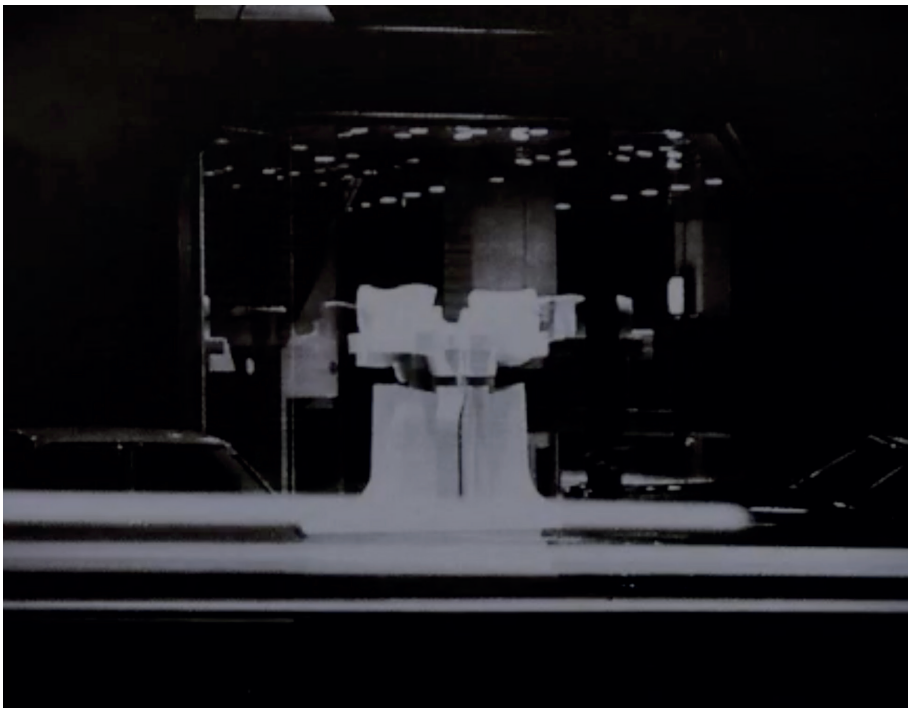
José Luis Sánchez Fernández (1926-2018) was a prominent Spanish sculptor, well known for his contribution to contemporary sculpture and his focus on abstraction. He was born in Almansa, Albacete, and moved to Madrid in 1936, where he developed much of his career. The sculptural work of José Luis Sánchez was always linked to construction.

Changes in fashion and urban speculation are the reasons why some of his pieces were removed or destroyed. In some cases, being embedded or set into cement walls, the recovery of the works was very costly.

In the case of Mazinger, it was easily extracted from its original location. In 1976, José Luis created the Mazinger sculpture in Carrara marble with dimensions of 225 x 116 x 135 cm.

At the request of architect Antonio Lamela, he created the model for the offices of the National Bank of Paris in Madrid. The model, at a scale of 1:75, was created with extraordinary refinement and taste.

José Luis then went on to create the work in his workshop in Italian marble, to be placed in the bank's lobby in 1978.





Years later, these offices were transferred to the International Bank of Commerce in Madrid, and at the beginning of the 21st century, the old offices were converted into a restaurant.

It was then that the sculpture was extracted and stored in the province of Alicante in the custody of Las Colinas.

In July 2012, Las Colinas contacted José Luis for the restoration of Mazinger, sending some photos of its current state.

The work had been stored for many years and was broken in several places due to its transfer from Madrid to Las Colinas.











José Luis then contacted a workshop in Almansa to take charge of the restoration.

On January 15, 2013, it was transferred to its current location, placed on a large concrete platform in the centre of the access avenue to Las Colinas, and the restoration work began on site.

This work was completed at the beginning of February 2013.



Since then, our MAZINGER has been exhibited grandly and majestically, welcoming all who visit and live in Las Colinas Golf & Country Club.





