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# Long Nights, Big City Lights

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LONG NIGHTS, BIG CITY LIGHTS

A Thesis

Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies and Research

in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree

Master of Fine Arts

James McNabb

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

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*Long Nights, Big City Lights* is an exhibition of wood sculptures that represent a woodworker's journey from the suburbs to the city. The works are inspired by personal experiences of growing up in a suburban town outside of New York city, and illustrate an outsider's perspective of the urban landscape. Made entirely of scrap wood, each piece is my interpretation of making something out of nothing in search of fortune, fame and freedom. The sculptures are composed of abstracted architectural forms that are intricately cut using only a band saw. No pre-made patterns or designs are used, resulting in a collection of architectural forms that are each distinctly different from the next, representing an idea that cities are the land of endless possibilities. The works are arranged in the gallery to provide a visual journey that becomes more detailed and developed as viewers engage with the objects.