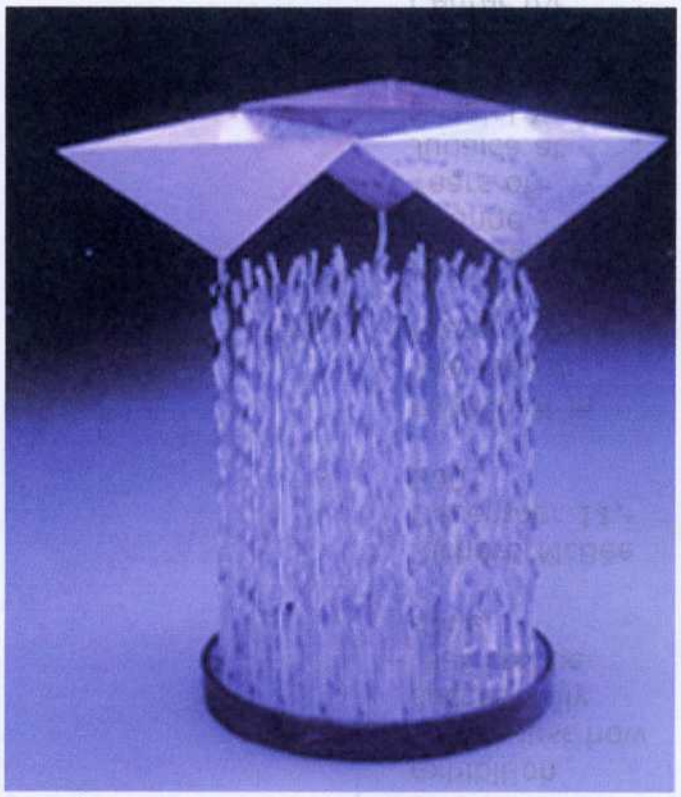
1996. It is composed of a multitude of silver spikes seeming to dance on a silver base atop the Torah. Above that is a triad of inverted silver, copper and brass pyramids that float over this forest of wavy spikes. These three shinny but empty vessels are enigmatic, suggestively open to the heavens that might capture the Divine flow. Perhaps they are vessels to capture the words of Torah, Ketuvim and Nevim. This work transforms a Torah crown into a receptor of heavenly transmissions.

Crown of the Law "Jerusalem-city of gold copper and light (1996) Silver, copper, brass by Arie Ofir, Yeshiva University Museum



Further on in the exhibition, this artist focuses on a much more mundane mitzvah with his design of a hand washing cup. Considering the banality of the use of the object it is amazing what Ofir does with it. He has designed a vessel, silver on the outside and copper inside, with the handles inside the container. Now, by grasping through the circular hole in the center of this tubular flask, you suddenly realize you are surrounded by that the substance that can purify you; we simply need to activate it and pour it out on our hands to begin the ritual process. His creative design forces us to rethink the simplest of mitzvahs,