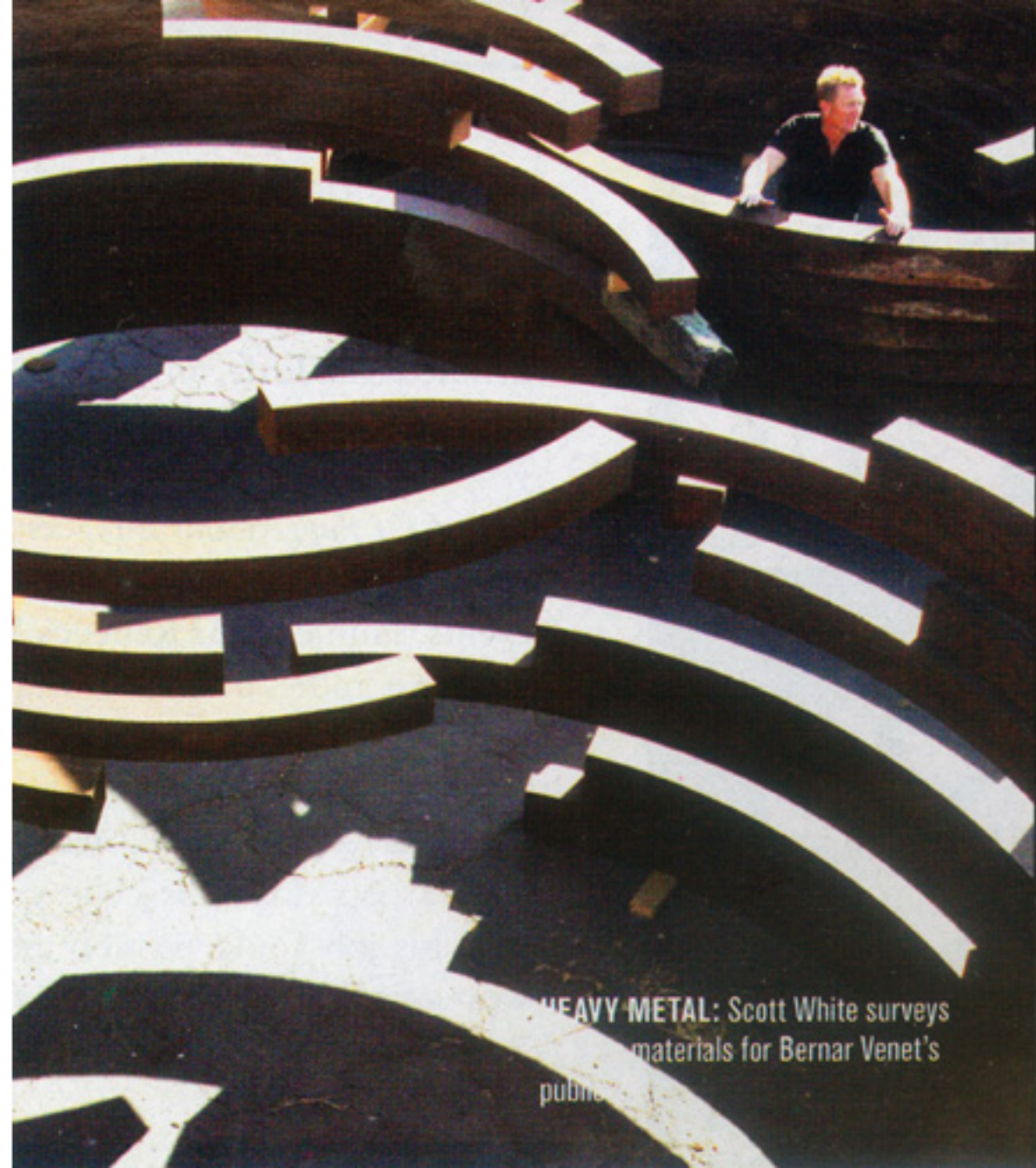


THE PUBLIC SERVANT

San Diego's public art projects have quite a reputation to live down to. That 25-foot statue of the WWII sailor necking a nurse? Looks like you should putt through it. The forest of urban trees lining the Harbor? Crafty kitsch in need of clear-cutting. Fiberglass art-cows? They were pretty cool in Zurich—10 years ago. Help, however, has arrived. Kettner Boulevard's art czar, **Scott White**, has given San Diegans a yearlong break from the cutesy clutter with an exhibition of French artist Bernar Venet. Through October 2009, a dozen large-scale Venet sculptures will be displayed along the waterfront district and other locations like the airport, Liberty Station and Omni Hotel. "Bernar's work is a great departure from the dolphin and triton sculptures this city has embraced in the past," says White. We couldn't agree more. —AS



HEAVY METAL: Scott White surveys materials for Bernar Venet's public