

Palm Springs Public Arts Commission

Beautiful Shade:

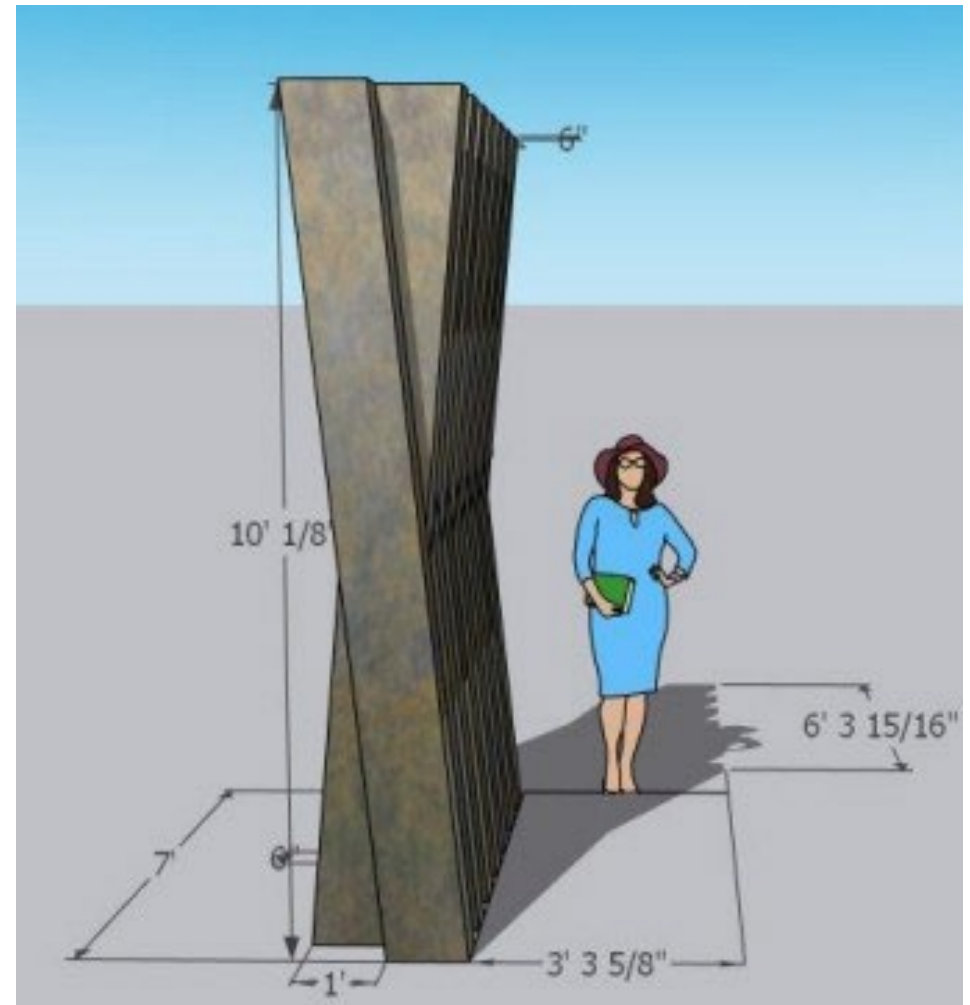
January 2025

#25

Mid Mod #14
Stephen Shachtman

Mid-century aesthetics with
a constructivist approach

3/4" x 9" weathered steel
10-1/8' T x 7' W x 3' 4" D



City of Palm Springs
The Beautiful Shade Art Project
Proposal by
Stephen Shachtman

Dear Selection Committee,

I am excited to submit my proposal for the Beautiful Shade Art Project in Palm Springs, California. This opportunity resonates deeply with me on both a personal and artistic level.

I was born and raised in Colorado, but my ties to California, and specifically Palm Springs, run deep. Both my parents hail from California, and I spent countless Thanksgivings in Palm Springs visiting my grandparents, cousins, and family in Rancho Mirage. My aunt and uncle still live in the same home I visited as a child. Growing up in the 1980s, Palm Springs left an indelible mark on me, shaping my identity and artistic vision.

One of my most cherished memories is visiting The Living Desert, where I fell in love with the unique flora and fauna of the desert. To this day, my family continues to camp in desert environments, particularly Death Valley, a passion sparked by my early experiences in Palm Springs. Similarly, the mid-century modern architecture of Palm Springs subtly influenced me, even if I didn't recognize it at the time. The clean lines and minimalism that define the mid-century aesthetic are central to my work today.

Proposal Concept: Mid Mod #14

The design for *Mid Mod #14* is heavily inspired by mid-century aesthetics, translated through my personal artistic lens. This monolithic, modern sculpture exemplifies simplicity, repetition, and bold verticality. Constructed entirely from rectangular steel, the form is minimal yet striking, with dimensions roughly at 10 feet tall, 7 feet wide, and 2 feet deep.

Ideal oriented parallel to the east-west axis, the sculpture creates shade at any time of day, in any season, fulfilling both artistic and functional goals. The steel will be treated with an initial patina to establish a weathered appearance that connects with the desert environment. While rusted steel is my preferred finish for this proposal, the piece can be painted if desired.

Design Considerations

This sculpture was designed with longevity, functionality, and reproducibility in mind:

- **Durability:** The hot, dry climate of Palm Springs ensures minimal maintenance needs for the sculpture's weathered steel finish.
- **Safety:** The materials are safe for human interaction, making the piece approachable and family-friendly.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** The simple design and use of standard materials make this project budget-friendly and easy to reproduce.
- **Cultural Connection:** The design captures Palm Springs' iconic mid-century modern vibe while reflecting my constructivist approach to form, space, and of course creating some value of shade.

Engagement and Accessibility

As a public artist, I value creating works that resonate with the community and are accessible to all. Placing art in shared spaces enriches the environment and fosters connections among those who experience it. Whether installed in a park, plaza, or other public area, *Mid Mod #14* will serve as a gathering point, a source of inspiration, and once again shade!

Artistic Philosophy and Recent Work

My work is rooted in honoring the historical and environmental context of each site. My design process is collaborative and focused on meeting the project's objectives to ensure that the final artwork enhances the public's experience, invites engagement, and serves as a lasting connection between people and place. My current focus emphasizes bold, monumental forms that act as gateways, creating moments of arrival and connection.

My own creations, they share a core aesthetic: strength, rawness, and a commitment to material honesty. Certain themes recur throughout my work:

- Blunt, geometric forms and a monolithic, blocky appearance
- Weathered surfaces that echo rusted or eroded landscapes
- A preference for modular elements and materials such as steel, stone, bronze, and glass.
- An emphasis on spatial presence and awareness

In my artistic practice, I've come to understand that my fascination lies in testing boundaries—particularly in exploring tolerance. Whether I'm pushing the material's limits, examining the tolerance of form and its relationship to surrounding lines, or confronting my own tolerance in pursuing perceived perfection (or accepting its absence), my work has become a study in resilience and flexibility. Ultimately, in both my art and society, I see a constant play of variables defined by tolerance.

Currently, I am leading two significant public art projects:

- *Forest Stand*, a gateway installation for the City of Fort Collins.
- The largest public art initiative to date for the City of Wheat Ridge.

Both projects reflect my commitment to designing impactful works that foster community and inclusivity.

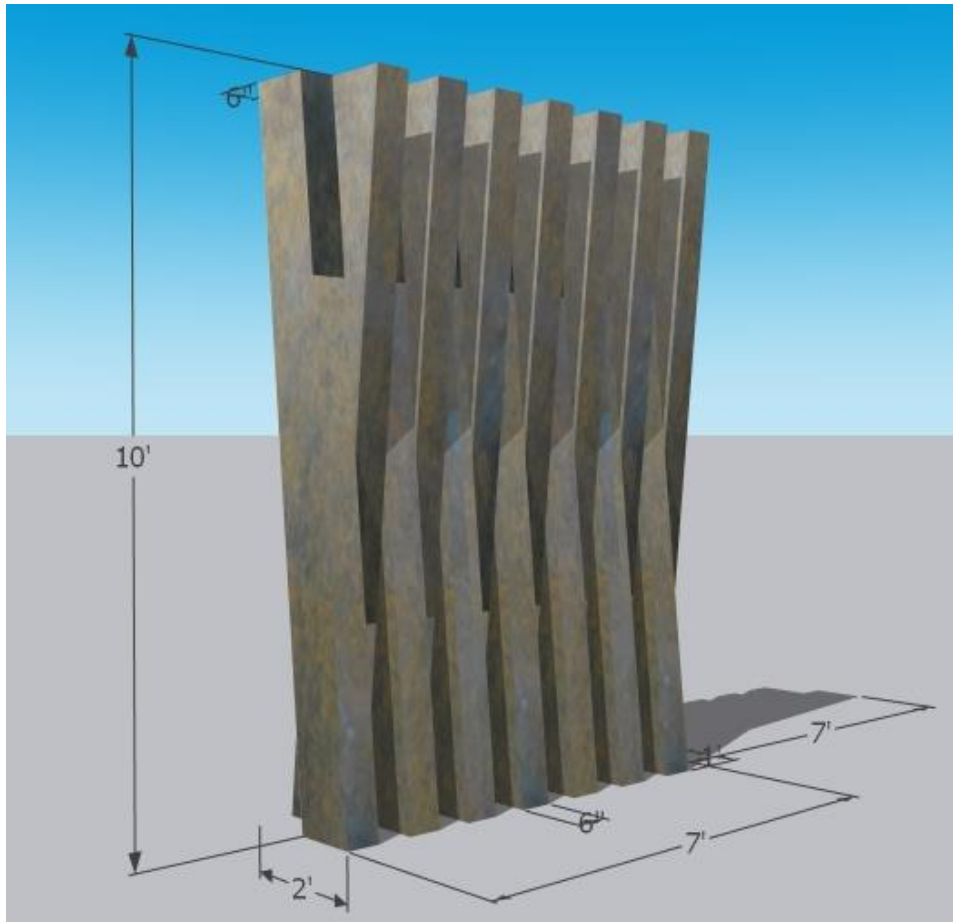
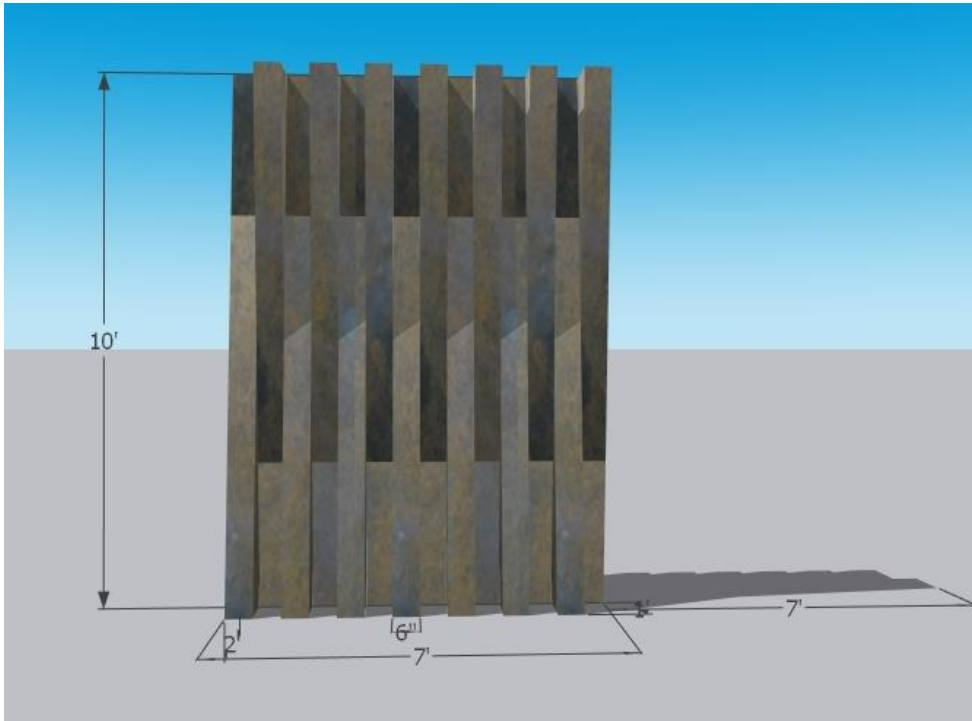
A Personal Connection to Palm Springs

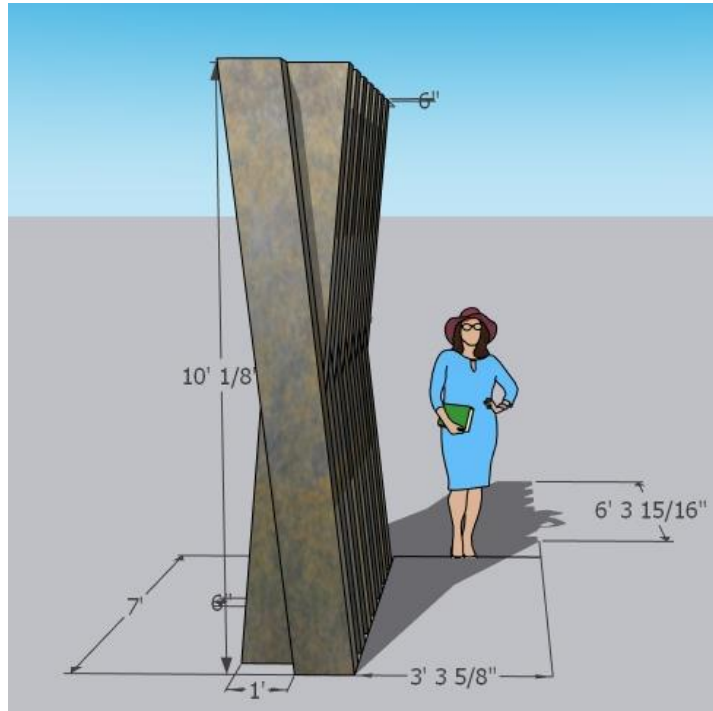
Returning to Palm Springs for this project would be a meaningful homecoming. It would allow me to share with my family the place that shaped my artistic vision and left such an impression on me as a child.

Thank you for considering my proposal. I would be delighted to provide additional details, photos, or models if needed. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

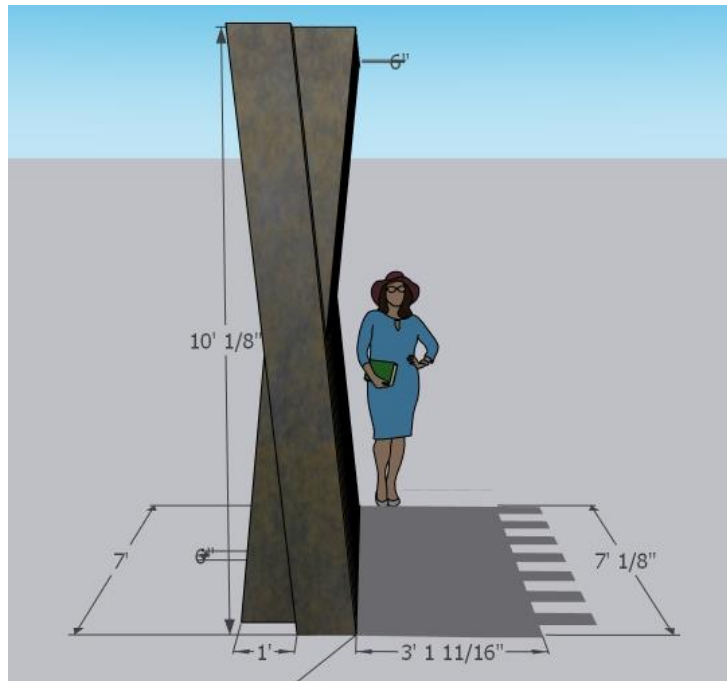
Sincerely,
Stephen Shachtman

MID MOD #14

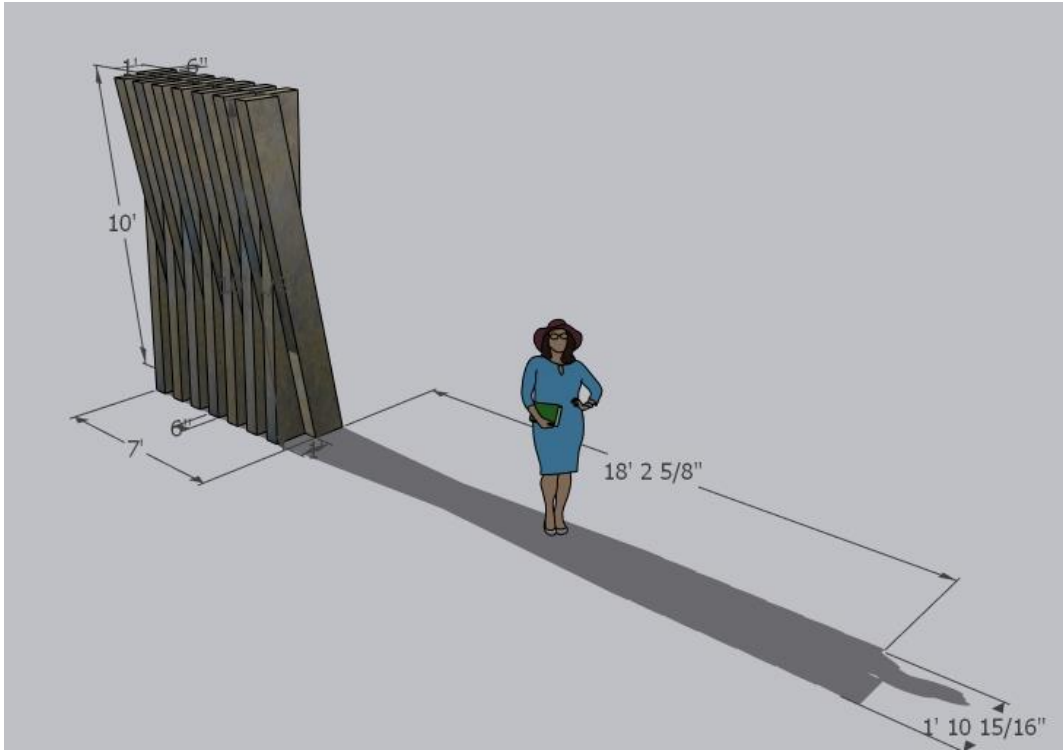




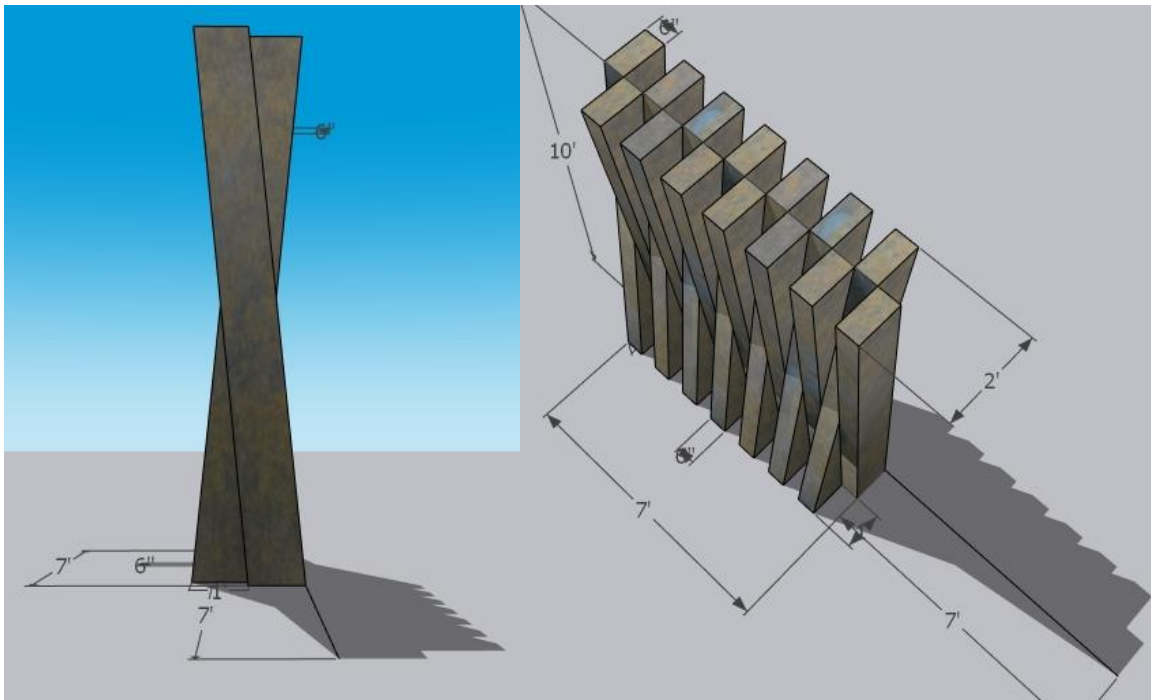
Mid July 9am



Mid July at noon.

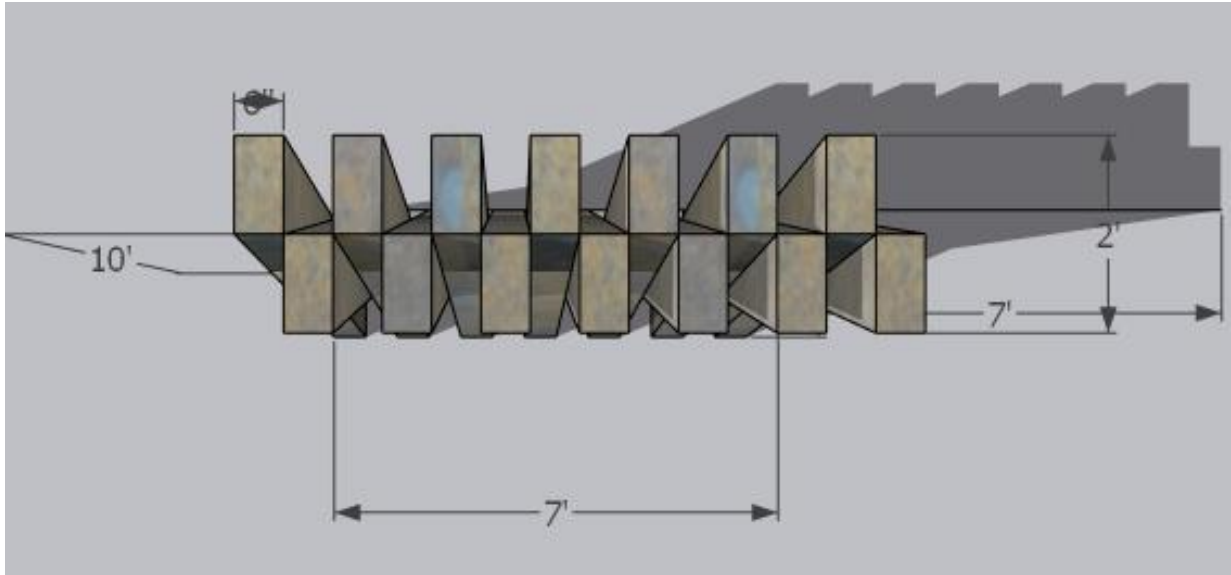


Mid July at 6pm



Side plan view

Angle top view



Top plan view.

Example Park placement.



Example placement at Victoria park with an north- south orientation.



Example early AM placement Panorama Park with an east- west orientation.



Example placement mid-morning Panorama Park with an east- west orientation.



Example placement mid-morning Ruth Hardy Park with an east-west orientation.

Additional information:

Ultimately engineer will create and sign off method of attachment. I would recommend that stainless steel $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 9" all-thread is embed at time of pouring foundation. Leveling nuts and washer on bottom with washer and nuts on top of base plate to secure sculpture. High strength grout to be poured between leveling nuts and under baseplate. Cost for this method is Est \$500.

Maintenance:

Seasonal rinsing with H₂O would be recommended to remove dust and any buildup to keep sculpture looking as best as possible.

Warranty: Artist agrees to warranty clauses for defects in workmanship.

Material Prices may also be changed without notice due to unforeseen cost increases of products or raw materials.

Stephen Shachtman
1413 Cape Cod Cir
Fort Collins, Co 80525
585-313-1437
sshachtman@gmail.com
ShachtmanStudios.com

Education

M.F.A	2006	Jewelry/Metals School for American Craft, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
B.F.A	2002	Jewelry/Metals Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Professional Experience past 10 years

2022- Current	Cor4 Studios- Artist collaboration by: Stephen Shachtman, Ana Maria Botero, Jodi Cooper, & Collin Parson Colorado
2002- Current	Shachtman Studios: Artist, Public Art, Jewelry, Lighting, Furniture design, Custom utilitarian creations, Contractor Fort Collins, Colorado
2014-2016	Metro State University of Denver. Adjunct Professor Foundation in Jewelry design/ metalsmithing Denver, Colorado
2014-2015	Arapahoe Community College, Adjunct Professor Foundations in Jewelry Design/ Metalsmithng, Littleton, Colorado

Recent Contracted Commissions and Public Art

2024	Lunar Hampden Englewood, Co \$20,000
	Lunar Gate #3 Albuquerque, New Mexico, Department of Cultural Affairs \$20,000
	I25/Prospect Interchange project Forest Stand, Fort Collins, CO \$65,000
	Dialogue 2.0 University of New Mexico Hospital Tower Albuquerque, New Mexico, Department of Cultural Affairs \$45,500
2022	Cosecha Cor4 Studios Wadsworth improvements 35 th to I70 project City of Wheat Ridge \$475,000

	<p>Rhino Novel RINO by Crescent Communities Nine Dot Art 1300 40th St, Denver, CO 80205 Denver, Colorado \$50,000</p>
	<p>Dialogue 3.0 Dunbar Community Garden and Library Little Rock, Arkansas \$75,000</p>
2021	<p>Dialogue 1.0 San Antonio, Tx \$30,000</p>
2019	<p>Fossil Creek Project Artist/designer/fabricator Public art City of Fort Collins, Co \$55,000.</p>
2018	<p>Monolith Series of 3 New Mexico Highlands University New Mexico, Department of Cultural Affairs \$39,500</p>
2017	<p>The Arkansas A Little Rock, Arkansas Community center Artist/designer/fabricator \$85,000.</p>
2016	<p>Wilson Project "Wilson Watchmen" Artist/designer/fabricator Public art City of Loveland, Co \$30,000.</p>
2015	<p>Ute pl Sculptural Corten wall Contractor/Fabricator/Designer Connect One, Aspen, Co Budget \$117,000.00</p>
2014	<p>Granite Plaza "Plaza project" Contractor/fabricator/designer BLU Design group Budget: \$150,000.00</p>
2012	<p>Quincy Project "Bridge" sculpture Contractor/Designer/Fabricator, Artist S. Sheridan Blvd Public Art City of Denver, Co Budget: \$ 37,000.00</p>
2010	<p>University of Wyoming War Memorial Stadium Sub-Contractor/ Quality control Steel fabrication/Glass installation/Granite installation</p>

Laramie, Wyoming
Budget: \$ 250,000.00

Exhibition Record (past 4years)

- 2021 “Carbon Squared”
Space Gallery, Denver, Co
- 2020 “Us and Them”
Space Gallery, Denver, Co
- 2019 “ Colorado Abstract+ 10 a history and a survey
Us and Them Corten Sculpture
Arvada Center, Arvada, Co

Additional Awards

- 2016 The Westword “Best Abstract show” Beyond the Plane
- 2015 The Westword “Best Group Show” Natural Surroundings
- 2013 The Westword “Best of Denver” “Best New Public Art Piece” “Bridge”
- 2006 Niche Student Award Finalist: Mixed Media, “Cabo Chipirón”

Publications

- 2016 The Westword “Best Abstract show” (G) Beyond the Plane
- 2015 The Westword “Best Group Show” Natural Surroundings
- 2015 Luxe Source magazine Spring 2015
- 2013 Westword “Best of Denver” “ Best New Public Art Piece” “Bridge”
- 2009 Colorado Abstract, “painting and sculpture” Pg. 264- 267

Private Collections

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Craig Ponzio | Evergreen, Co |
| Mr. Jack & Chris Harris | Loveland, Co |
| The Lake House | Denver, Co |
| Dr. Dean & Mary Kemperis | Little Rock, AR |
| Mr . Brett & Mandy Butterstein | Ensenada, Ca |
| Mr Alen Kagen | Dallas, Tx |
| Dr. Jeffery & Barbara Wasserstrom | San Diego, Ca |
| Mrs Joan Wallick | Columbus, OH |
| Dr. Ken & Paisley Pattine | Fort Collins,Co |
| Dr. Rich & Susan Harrison | Fort Collins, Co |
| First Data | Denver,Co |
| Dr. Jim & Susan Taylor | Parker, Co |

Professional References:

Kendall Peterson
There Squared LLC
Creative Project Management
ThereSquaredDenver.com
kendall.peterson@theresquareddenver.com
303.902.1600

Rudi Cerri
Arts and Venues,
Public Art Program Coordinator
City and County of Denver

720-865-5562
Rudi.Cerri@denvergov.org

Suzanne Janssen
Public Art Manager
City of Loveland
503 N. Lincoln Avenue
Loveland, CO 80537
970-962-2495
Suzanne.Janssen@CityofLoveland.org

Libby Colbert
Project Manager
Art in Public Places, City of Fort Collins
970.217.2881
lcolbert@fcgov.com

Past Projects

Stephen Shachtman Image Annotation

Image 1: Lunar 3 at the Race Track. Cor ten steel/copper. 36"x 10" x36", 2008, \$20,000. Photographed Death Valley, CA. On permanent display in Fort Collins, Co.



Image 2: Bridge. Cor ten steel/glass/granite. 15' x 4' X 12'. 2012, \$37,000 City of Denver Public art, Sheridan and Hampden. This commissioned piece sits just west of the Fort Logan cemetery as a gateway piece to south west Denver. Voted in the Westword as Best New Public art 2013. Bridge is made from Corten steel, Black Granite and stacked glass. The Corten represents the living, the granite represents the deceased, and the glass the spirit connecting both worlds



Image 3: Monolith Series of 3. Corten steel, mild steel 12' x 2' x 6" and 10' x 2' x 6" 2018 \$39,000. Purchased by New Mexico Public art. Located at New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas NM .



Image 4: "The Wilson Watchmen" Corten steel/Acrylic. 12' x 4' x 6". City of Loveland Public Art. The four watchmen one on each corner of the Wilson bridge not only symbolize the river running through the city but the Loveland's' city logo is implemented into the design as the center zig zag element that creates the sense of two faces talking. 2016. \$30,000.



Image 5: "Arkansas A" Cor ten steel/bronze/flagstone. 16' tall 12' wide. Commissioned for the City of Little Rock, Arkansas. The piece was installed at the Southwest Community center in Little Rock and is to be a gateway piece to the community. The Arkansas A was inspired by Little Rock. The center sphere of little rocks (sandstone) hold in place the three legs that make up the A that represents Arkansas as a whole. 2017. \$85,000.



Image 6: Fossil Creek Project "Sphere" Flagstone. 8' diameter. Fort Collins Public Art, Co. The sphere is made up of roughly 856 brick like pieces of flagstone in which when staked creates an 8' diameter sphere just east of the Fossil Creek recreation bike trail and just west of the railroad in close proximity to the new tunnel going under the railroad. Sphere pays tribute to the old brick factor. 2019, \$55,000.



Image 7: Squared Pair 2020 \$48,000. 8' tall 4' wide 4' deep. From my current Us and Them series, this sculptural series is a dialogue between sculptural pairs of similar form as an abstraction of human beings made of the same materials, yet individualistic. The rust finish is an evolving process when placed outside due to weathering.



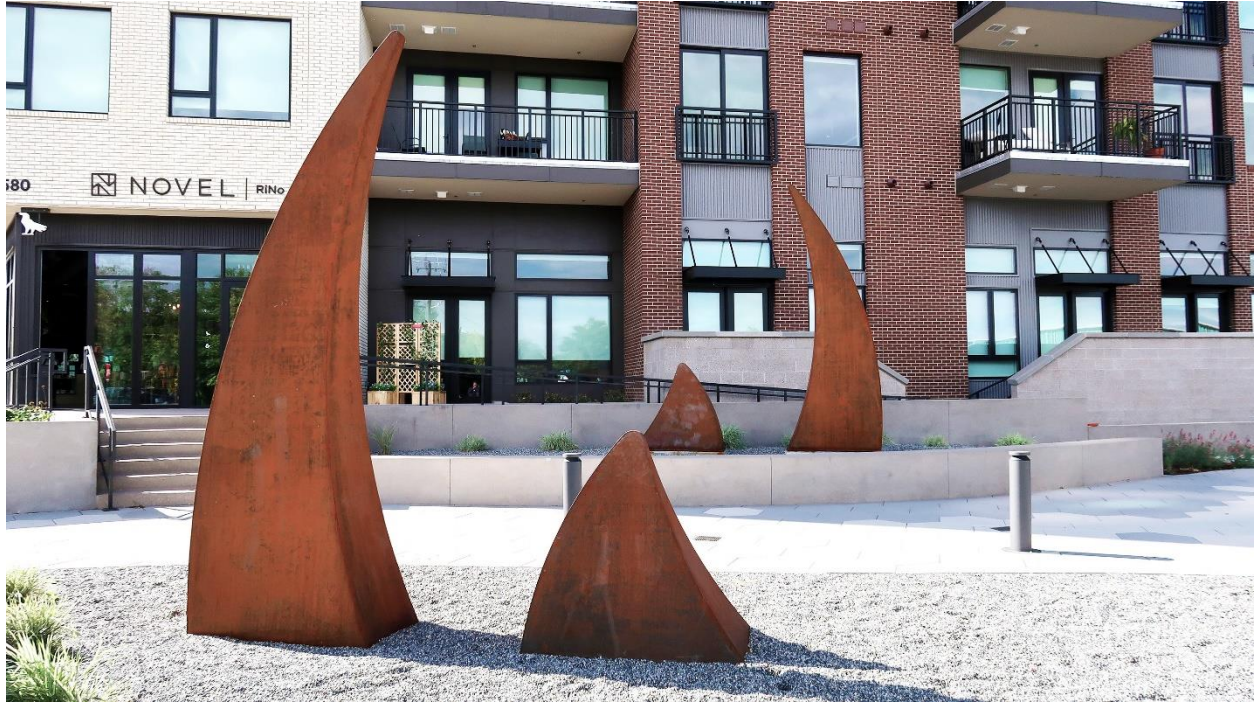
Image 8: "Dialogue" Dunbar Community Garden and Sue Cowans Williams Library. Little Rock Arkansas. Created from; Bronze, stainless steel, Corten, and Flagstone. Dialogue was created for the Dunbar community and is one of the oldest black communities in Arkansas. This sculptural pair speaks to dialogue between sculptural pairs of similar form as an abstraction of human beings made of the same forms, yet individualistic. I also created the gateway sign to the garden and library. \$75,000. 2023



Image 9: "Rising Sun Monolith" This sculpture is a strong representation of my currently monolithic gateway pcs. Created from Corten steel, this monolith is over 20' tall. Currently can be found at the Museum of Outdoor Art (MOA) in Greenwood Village, Colorado. \$125,000. 2023



Image 10: "Rino Horns" I worked with Nine Dot Art and the developer of Crescent Communities increasing a gateway piece for their development in the RiNo District of Denver, Co. I had a deep connection to this project as my first studio in Denver was located just down the street from this project. Rino Horns is created from Corten steel and acts as a place finder for the Rino community and my personal process of rising up as a public artist in this community. \$50,000. 2023



ATTACHMENT B: QUOTE/PRICING SCHEDULE

1. Quote your best price, including freight, for each item. All blanks in the Quote/Pricing Schedule **MUST** be completed. In case of a discrepancy between the Unit Price and the Total, the Unit Price shall be considered correct. Contractor will be required to meet the City's Insurance Requirements prior to executing the work.
2. In submitting this quote, the vendor certifies that the prices in this quote have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with any other vendor or competitor, for the purpose of restricting competition with regard to prices.
3. If shipping is required shipping shall be quoted FOB Destination, Freight Included.
4. **DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE: 40% of contract amount will be disbursed upon contract execution, 40% of contract amount will be disbursed after all required permits have been issued and the artwork is fifty percent complete (to be verified with photographs), 20% of contract amount will be disbursed upon completion, installation, and acceptance by City).**

DESCRIPTION	ITEM	QTY	UNIT PRICE	PRICE TOTAL
Materials	12" x 6" x 3/16" Steel Tubing 7' x 3' x 1/2" base plate	7 sticks 1 plate	\$3,250 \$1,500	\$4,750
Fabrication	Unloading/processing, consumables,welding		\$11,300	\$11,300
Exterior Finishes	Patina and application	5 gallons	\$450	\$450
Transportation	Loading,delivery		\$3,500	\$3,500
Installation	Crane/equipment rental	one day	\$2,500	\$2,500
Structural Engineer	Stamped drawings with baseplate and foundation		\$4,000	\$4,000
Insurance			\$2,500	\$2,500
Artist Fee			\$21,000	\$20,000
CONTINGENCY	Materials/transportation /permits/installation			\$1,000
Total				\$50,000