



ZOKAITES SCULPTURE L.L.C.

BOBBY ZOKAITES

141 HU ESTA DR, TEMPE, AZ 85282

UNITED STATES

WWW.BOBBYZOKAITES.COM



To the Chandler Fire Memorial Art Review Committee:

My name is Bobby Zokaites and, as a local Arizona artist, I am pleased to submit to this project with a portfolio that showcases my ability to work in a wide variety of materials toward the creation of community-specific monuments, memorials, and other unique markers of place. My distinctive sculptural work creates dynamic relationships between community, nature, culture, and history.

Regularly working with different groups, across a large geography, has made me a natural collaborator who recognizes the value of community specificity. With civil servants in my own family, I know that each service department carries within it its own nuanced sense of community, honor, pride and reverence for that duty. My collaborative design process begins by identifying what is important to each community through dialog. From those conversations, I then design towards articulating poignant notes or recurring themes as substantial touchstones informing the larger form or function of the work.

"A Time Machine Called Tinaja" (2020) illustrates this process. Developed as a joint endeavor of the City of Phoenix's Water Services Department and Office of Arts and Culture, this reclamation project partnered Zokaites Sculpture with Dig Studio to turn a defunct well-site into a community greenspace with walking paths, sculpture, fencing, lighting, and landscaping. Our design team drew inspiration from historical aerial photographs, meetings with neighbors, and school workshops at nearby Trevor G. Browne High School. In the classroom, several students indicated a need for "neutral" space while others discussed ideas of nostalgia; eventually, someone mentioned a time machine. This project not only solved local lighting and safety issues, and saw enough new vegetation to significantly reduce the amount of radiant heat coming from the site, but it also transformed a single student's resonant and poignant reflection on the local experience into civic design that will exist beyond both our lifetimes.

This and other past projects have given me experience working with architects, engineers and contractors when addressing issues related to the work's aesthetics, safety, longevity and structure. The materials of "A Time Machine Called Tinaja" can withstand the extreme thermal cycles of the Sonoran Desert and urban heat island effects; its sightlines were kept open and clear for safety considerations; and the lot's new spatial arrangement encourages distancing from the neighboring archery range. I've also recently completed three new sculptures for a light rail expansion project in Tempe. Situated in the middle of traffic at three different streetcar stops, these sculptures were designed, engineered, fabricated and inspected with the highest degree of precaution, within strict size and clearance parameters, on a coordinated schedule that has deftly maneuvered shifts related to the pandemic.

Articulating the voice and vision of the Chandler Fire community in a sculptural aesthetic that is bold, reverential and enduring will provide an iconic visual statement of memorial and community connection. It is integral to my practice that my work connects residents to one another and their community in new ways, creating new and lasting experiences. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to apply.

Sincerely,



BOBBY ZOKAITES

BIO

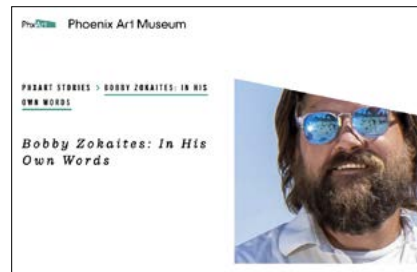
Bobby Zokaite is a U.S. based sculptor skilled in a variety of materials with a wealth of experience producing large scale works for private and public spaces. His industrious work ethic and urban design sense enable him to create distinctive works of art that foster new and dynamic relationships between community, site, history and the natural environment. Blurring the line between fine art, public sculpture, and collaborative practices, his work engages diverse audiences, humanizes public spaces, and often encourages participation with larger-than-life-sized artwork. Zokaite earned his BFA at New York College of Ceramics at Alfred University (2008) and his MFA in Sculpture at Arizona State University (2014). He recently completed two permanent municipal infrastructure projects in Arizona. It is integral to Zokaite's practice that his work connects residents to one another and their community in new ways, creating new and lasting experiences.

RECENT MEDIA FEATURES



[The Visual Jazz of Bobby Zokaite](#)

by Jeff Kronenfeld
Java Magazine May 2019



[Bobby Zokaite: In His Own Words](#)

Phoenix Art Museum Blog
April 2021



[Meet Bobby Zokaite | Sculptor](#)

Shoutout Arizona
April 2021

BOBBYZOKAITES

FINE ART + SCULPTURE + PUBLIC ART

ZOKAITES SCULPTURE L.L.C.

141 HU ESTA DR, TEMPE, AZ 85282, UNITED STATES - +1 (540)392-2541 - ZOKAITESSCULPTURE@GMAIL.COM

EDUCATION

- 2014 MFA Sculpture — Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- 2008 BFA Fine Art — New York State College of Ceramics, Alfred University, Alfred, NY

MEMBERSHIPS

- 2020 - Present International Sculpture Center
- 2018 - Present Royal Society of Sculptors

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015 - Present Owner — Zokaite's Sculpture, L.L.C., Tempe, AZ
- 2015 – 2017 Faculty Associate— Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- 2009 – 2011 Site Manager— Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN

PERMANENT PUBLIC ART

- 2022 *Sun Dials* — Country Club Way Equestrian Path, City of Tempe, Tempe, AZ - \$20,000 USD (design only)
- 2020 *A Time Machine Called Tinaja* — Community Greenspace Project, City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ - \$335,000 USD (Zokaite's Sculpture scope)
An Antonym for a Tchochke, Superbloom, and Sign Remix — Tempe Streetcar, Valley Metro, Tempe AZ - \$157,000 USD
- 2015 *The Oculus*, Phoenix Country Day School, Paradise Valley, AZ - \$50,000 USD

TEMPORARY PUBLIC SCULPTURE

- 2022 *Yucca Oraxlie*, Havana Street Biennial, Aurora, CO
- 2021 *Thwimp Thwomp*, City of Tempe Sesquicentennial Festival, Tempe Beach Park, Tempe City Arts, Tempe, AZ
Magrathea, Merriweather District Artist In Residence Exhibition, Columbia, MD
- 2020 *8' Weaving and Joshua Tree*, Roadside Attraction, ArtFarmPHX, Valleywide, AZ
- 2019 *Thwimp Thwomp*, Arts in the Parks Initiative of Tempe City Arts, Tempe, AZ
Yucca Oraxlie, Peoria Public Library for the IN FLUX multi-city initiative, Peoria, AZ
Majestic Hoodoo, Majestic Park for the CONTEMPORARY Initiative, Las Vegas, NV
- 2016 *Data Play* — collaboration with Vibrant Lives, Currents New Media Festival, New Mexico Arts Division, Santa Fe, NM
Data Play — collaboration with Vibrant Lives, Mesa Spark, Mesa Center for the Arts, Mesa Public Art Program, Mesa, AZ
Regeneration, The Orme School, Mayer, AZ
- 2015 *Shifting Sand Lands*, Scottsdale City Hall, Scottsdale Arts Festival, Scottsdale, AZ., Scottsdale Public Art Commission
- 2013 *Boone's Flugelhorn*, Gilbert, AZ., Commissioned by Gilbert Arts & Culture Board and Scottsdale Art Commission
- 2012 *The Machine the Sneetches Made*, Paragraph Gallery, Kansas City, MO, Commissioned by the University of Missouri-Kansas City, MO
InterUrban — collaboration with Chris Carl, Paul Howe, and Sutton Demlong, Urbana, IL, Commissioned by Urbana Land Arts, Urbana, IL
Something to Write Home About — Collaboration with Gregory Sale, Glendale Jazz & Blues Fest, Glendale, AZ
Emerge, Arizona State University Art Museum, Tempe, AZ
- 2010 *Thanksgiving*, Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MNs

BOBBYZOKAITES

141 Hu Esta Dr., Tempe, AZ, 85281 - (540) 392-2541 - zokaitessculpture@gmail.com - www.bobbyzokaite.com

SELECT EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Spring Solo Exhibition, Mesa Art Center, Mesa, AZ***
- 2021 Rocking S Art Ranch Opening Exhibition, Phoenix, AZ
Creative Gateways, Frederick Arts Council Art Center, Frederick, MD
Huephoria, Merriweather District/Howard Hughes Corp., Columbia, MD
Featured Artist: Bobby Zokaite, Stone Countertop Co., Tempe, AZ
Artlink Annual Juried Exhibition, Found:Re, Phoenix, AZ*
- 2020 Greater Together, Greater Phoenix Economic Council, Phoenix, AZ
Confluence, Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO**
- 2019 Mesa Prototyping Project Exhibition, Mesa Art Space Gallery, Mesa, AZ
Art d'Core Gala Exhibition, Warehouse 215 at Bentley Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
Artlink Juried Exhibition, Park Central, Phoenix, AZ*
- 2018 DRAW, Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe, AZ
Opening Exhibition, Where?House Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- 2016 Frankenstein, Hayden Library, Phoenix AZ
Vibrant Lives, Currents New Media Arts Festival, Santa Fe, NM
Franconia@Casket, 20th Small Sculpture Alumni Show, Minneapolis, MN
Mesa Spark, Mesa Center for the Arts, Mesa, AZ
Regeneration Art Show, The Orme School, Mayer, AZ
- 2015 Shifting Sand Lands, Scottsdale Arts Festival, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2014 Where Tom Sawyer Wears A Business Suit, Grant St. Studios, Phoenix, AZ***

NOTABLE COLLECTIONS

Joshua Tree Desert Highlands, CA
E.L. Wood Braiding Co., NY
City of Phoenix, AZ
Valley Metro, AZ
Tempe Arts, Tempe, AZ
New Mexico Public Works, NM
Phoenix Country Day School, AZ
iRobot Corporation, NJ
Salem Art Works, NY
Franconia Sculpture Park, MN
Outer Space, NY
Wickerson Studios, KS
Urbana Land Arts, IL
Private Collections

*Denotes exhibition catalog

**Denotes corresponding lecture

***Denotes solo exhibition

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- 2021 Merriweather District Artist in Residence (MDAIR), Columbia, MD
Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency (JTHAR), Joshua Tree, CA
- 2020 Visiting Foundry Artist, Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO.
- 2018 Mesa Prototyping Residency, Mesa Center for the Arts / Mesa C.A.R.E., AZ
Draw Residency and Exhibition, Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe, AZ
- 2015 Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, KS
- 2012 Urbana Land Arts, Urbana, IL
Franconia Sculpture Park, Hot Metal Residency, Shafer, MN
- 2008 Salem Art Works, Salem, NY
Butley Mills Studio, US/UK Cast Iron Symposium, Suffox, England, UK
George Coles Art Foundry, Dorset, England, UK

HONORS | AWARDS | GRANTS

Non-university

- 2021 Merriweather District AIR Residency, MD
Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency Fellowship, CA
Arizona Governor's Arts Awards Nominee, AZ
- 2018 CERF+ Get Ready Grant - CERF+
Arizona Governor's Arts Awards Nominee, AZ
- 2013 Awesome Without Borders Project Grant, Awesome Foundation
- 2007 Intern Artist Fellowship - Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN

Arizona State University

- 2013 Special Talent Award
Arizona Sculpture Fellowship
- 2012 Special Talent Award
- 2012 Discovery Scholarship

Alfred University

- 2008 Student Research and Travel Grant (to USUK Iron Symposium, UK)
Student Research and Travel Grant (to CAA, Los Angeles, CA)
- 2006 Argus Award (Undergraduate Research Grant)
- 2004-08 Presidential Scholarship

WORKSHOPS, LECTURES, AND BIBLIOGRAPHY AVAILABLE
UPON REQUEST. (Omitted for length.)

[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD ALL IMAGES AT 300 DPI](#)

1 - 2 | *A Time Machine Called Tinaja* | CITY OF PHOENIX (AZ) | Spring 2020 | \$335,000 USD
179' x 74' x 19' – Steel, Polyurethane, LEDs, Concrete, Native Plantings. Working with the City's Water Dept., Office of Arts & Culture and Dig Studio, we returned a defunct well site to its community as a set of sculptural arches, luminaries, perimeter fencing and a winding, landscaped-path using local students' expressed desires for their walk to school as the foundation for the concepts. Project Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pB9U-w6X72yU>



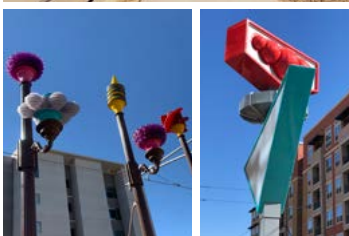
3 | *Tempe Streetcar* | VALLEY METRO (AZ) | Spring 2020 | \$157,000 USD

Expected to open in 2021, the Tempe Streetcar is a highly-anticipated lightrail expansion project in Tempe, AZ. I was selected to design, fabricate, and install sculptures at three stops along Apache Blvd.

Antonym for a Tchotchke (pictured) — 20' x 6' x 2', Steel and Automotive Paint. Abstracted air handlers on high perches overlook the streetcar stop at Dorsey Rd.. The contemporary presentation of seemingly arcane items remind viewers that Tempe is not only built around the industry of the college, but also thrives due to its other histories of manufacturing and industry.

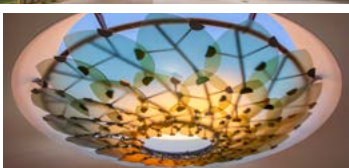
Superbloom — 16' x 2' x 2' ea., Steel, Automotive Paint, Polyurethane Panel, LED Lighting. This installation at Paseo Del Saber features 10 custom luminaries mounted to 5 antique lightposts. Nestled within university architecture similarly named for desert botanicals, this artwork is a colorful abstraction of the valley's famous wildflower superblooms.

Sign Remix — 20' x 9' x 5', Steel, Automotive Paint, NeonFlex Lighting. Apache Boulevard, with its rich history of iconic signage, has remained a bellwether landscape for the continuous flux between university and city architecture, campus and urban life. In honor of this tradition, I've designed Sign Remix, blending historical signage with contemporary materials.



4 - 5 | *The Oculus* | PHOENIX COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL (AZ) | Fall 2015 | \$50,000 USD

18' x 18' x 4' — Powder-coated Steel, Polyurethane Panels. A prime example of placemaking through a charette process, students decided on a spiral agave as the design concept for this permanent architecturally-integrated amenity. Then, working with architect Doug Brown, I designed and manufactured this object specifically for the Phoenix Country Day School.







City of Phoenix
Office of Arts and Culture
Art Program







