



FIRE STATION NO. 2 MEMORIAL PROPOSAL

Gabriel Vinas, MFA



01. INTRODUCTION

I'D LIKE TO BEGIN this proposal by first thanking you, dear reader, for taking the time to review it; and in the likely event that you are a member of the fire department and/or the city of Chandler, I humbly thank you for your honorable civil service and for the opportunity to show my appreciation for what you do in an artistic way. I am aware that at times civilians can take the services you provide every day for granted. For this reason I wanted to propose a memorial where the heroism of our cherished first responders is beyond question, with a statue that emphasizes the strength, bravery, nobility, and grace that this profession requires.

Note: the sculpture featured in this proposal is still in its early stages and will undergo 100+ more hours of refinement until it's utterly pristine.





Portrait subject to change



02. A NOBLE PROFESSION

DURING MY RESEARCH on the origins of the practice of firefighting, many sources point to ancient Rome and some traces of organized firefighting in ancient Egypt. Both of which have cultures with a pantheon of gods, goddesses, and heroes embedded in their cultural traditions. As such, instead of sculpting a modern firefighter, making the statue quite literal and stuck in our time, I wanted to create an embodiment of the profession that references the history of deities that were the gods of a particular subject. Like Poseidon was the god of the seas and storms to the Greeks, I wanted to create an embodied symbol of the noble profession of firefighting that is timeless.



03. BRAVING THE UNKNOWN

THE IDEA BEHIND the classical style I use is to capture equal parts strength and grace within the sculpture. Instead of modeling the flames as fire, I chose to employ a feature I sculpt in my own work often: cloth. This hand-sculpted cloth adds a level of drama and light manipulation where it references the flow of the fire, without the sculpture looking like the figure is burning. Instead, it appears like the figure is running through or out of the binds of the unknown to save the child. As we all know, the brave men and women of this profession go into buildings shrouded in smoke and mystery not knowing what the outcome may be. In my personal work, cloth is used as a formal element to explore things unseen, unknown, and perhaps unknowable. The hero is portrayed in a vulnerable state with his skin bare to highlight the physicality of the profession and how exposed our service men and women are when they are called on to perform acts of heroism. They often wear all sorts of protective gear, of course, but they know more than I that they can still feel vulnerable; and yet, they do their heroic acts anyway. Which is why I wanted to depict the moment where the hero rips through this shroud of the unknown with his halligan in one hand, ripping through the physical adversity tying him back, with a firm, poised, and nurturing arm around the innocence of new life that would have otherwise been lost if he didn't choose to brave into the unknown.



04. EVERYDAY HEROES

THIS BRINGS ME TO THE PERSONAL REASONS WHY I'm honored to bring this statue to life for your new firehouse. I was born in Cuba in 1991. As the history buffs reading this will know, the Soviet Union fell in 1991, giving way to "the special period" as they call it in Cuba. A tongue-in-cheek title for what was one of the worse periods of economic hardship for this small country. Food was scarce, especially to my family who were already lower class. Metaphorically speaking, the island was on fire and everyone wanted to leave but couldn't. On top of all that, my father left my mother and I to fend for ourselves. Luckily someone came to our aide, a strong but gentle man came into our lives when I was just over a year old. This man fathered me like I was his own and put out many fires in my mother's life. He was granted an opportunity to leave the burning building that was Cuba, taking his chance to prepare himself to come back for us. He immigrated to the United States, worked countless jobs, gathered his tools, and returned into the "burning building" to pull us out. He did so even though he didn't have to.

He could have left my mother and I in poverty back on that island, but he couldn't look away. He had to act. If I may address the first responders now directly – this is how I imagine you all must feel. You can't look away; you have to act. You feel a duty to make a difference in a stranger's life that is in need just like the person I call my father today did for us all those years ago. Without knowing who I was going to become, he saved an innocent child from a bad situation out of a sense of moral duty just like you all rush into dangerous scenarios regardless of what race, religion, or gender the people inside the burning buildings are. It would be my sincerest privilege to sculpt and forge a statue that you see every morning which serves as a reminder that what you do is of the highest honor. It will be a memorial that honors and remembers those who have served, like Captain Mark Boulanger, and inspires those who will continue to serve their community with dignity and bravery for years to come.



05. THE TEAM

You're in good hands with Bollinger Atelier in Tempe, AZ



GABRIEL VINAS, *Artist*



TOM BOLLINGER
*Foundry Owner +
Operator*



CHRISTIAN BELL
Production Manager



JACOB STERNBERG
*General Manager +
Digital Production Manager*



BRADLEY CORSO
Metal + Pouring Specialist



DANIEL VINCENT MARIOTTI
*Digital + Communications
Specialist*



KIM NIKOLAEV
Special Projects Manager



NICOLE DAVY
Mold Maker



RONALD EDMOND LYONS II
Wax Specialist

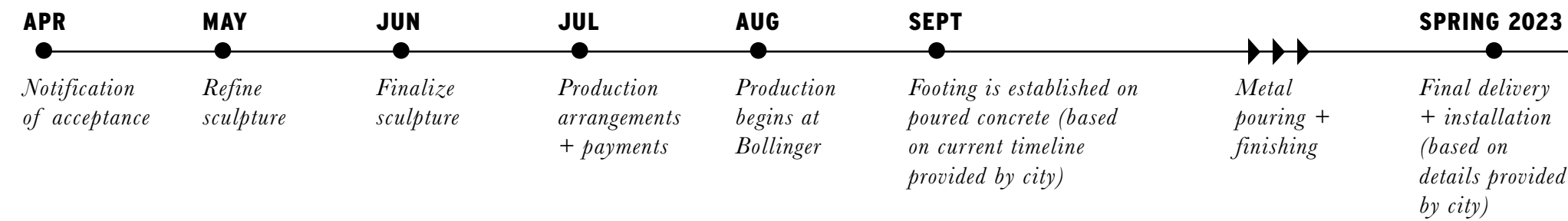


VANESSA WINDES-HOPE
Wax Specialist



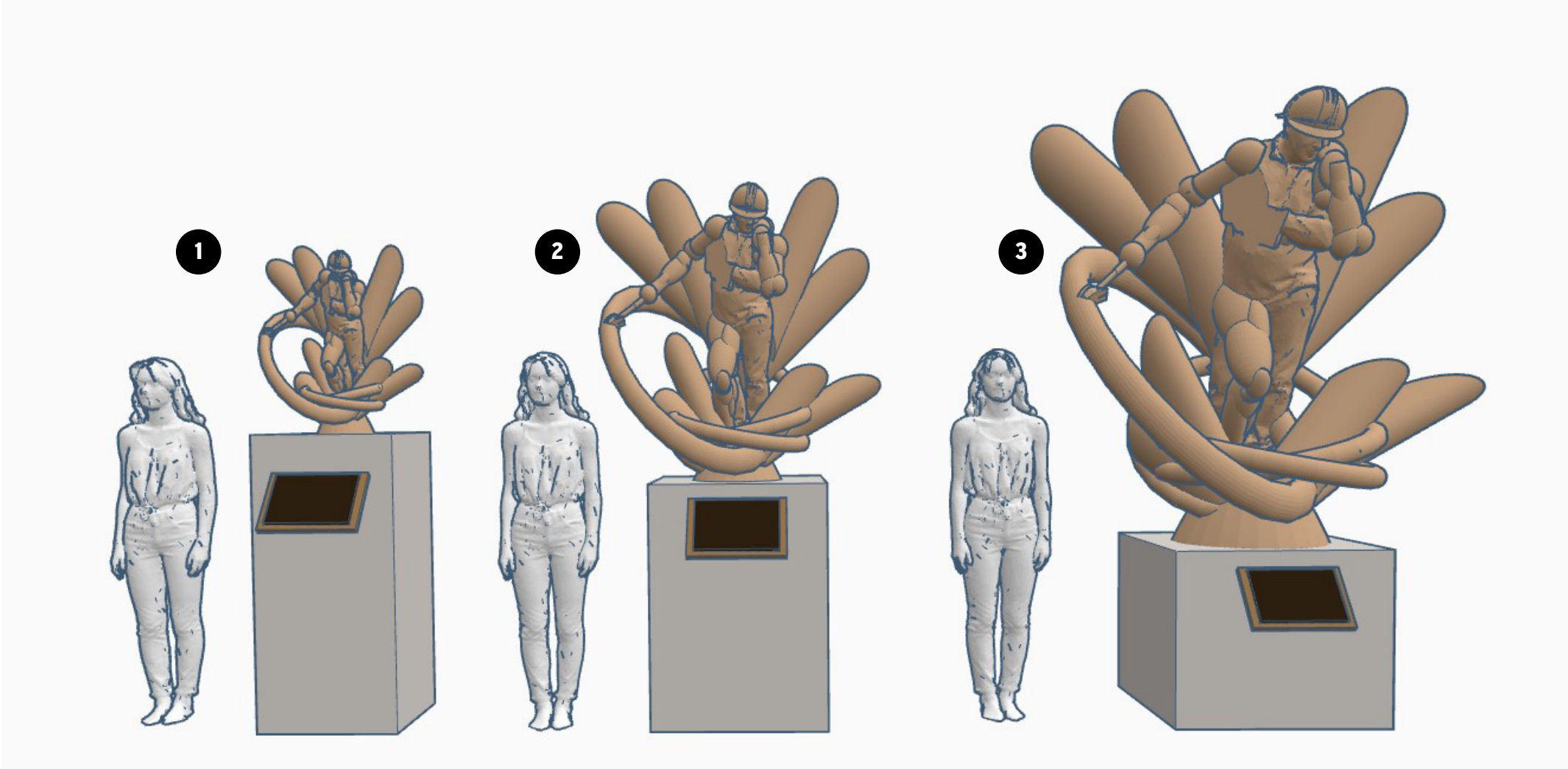
MATT WEBER
Patina Specialist

06.
SPACE
+ TIME



**Size shown is option 2, refer to following page*

07. SIZES & PRICING



1

MAQUETTE SCALE: 26" H X 18.75" W X 17.34" D*

Molds: silicone rubber layup, w/ Hydrocal	\$4,800
Cast: incl. mounts and patina	\$7,550
Bronze ingot: 90 lb. est. wt. x \$6/lb	\$540
TOTAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE	\$12,890
ARTIST FEE	\$12,000
DELIVERY FEE incl. crane/truck rental	\$2,000

This option only shown to illustrate how costly scaling to full-size would be from its current state. At this scale the piece would lose its sense of presence and would require supporting features that would need to be designed, as such, this option is not recommended.

TOTAL ESTIMATE **\$26,890**

2

MEDIUM SCALE: 52" H X 37.5" W X 36" D*

Molds on Maquette: silicone rubber layup, w/Hydrocal	\$4,800
Enlargement: CNC mill to final foam	\$8,120
Molds on Enlargement: spray urethane, w/Hydrocal	\$9,500
Cast: incl. internal armature, mounts, and patina	\$35,300
Bronze ingot: 400 lb. est. wt. x \$6/lb	\$2,400
Stainless steel: internal armature & mounts	\$1,000
TOTAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE	\$53,920
ARTIST FEE	\$12,000
DELIVERY FEE incl. crane/truck rental	\$2,000

This option provides the largest possible presence in front of the Firehouse while still keeping the cost within the budget constraints.

TOTAL ESTIMATE **\$67,920**

3

HEROIC SCALE: 78" H X 73" W X 72" D*

Molds on Maquette: silicone rubber layup, w/Hydrocal	\$4,800
Enlargement: CNC mill to final foam	\$18,120
Molds on Enlargement: spray urethane, w/Hydrocal	\$20,000
Cast: incl. internal armature, mounts, and patina	\$70,400
Bronze ingot: 1000 lb. est. wt. x \$6/lb	\$6,000
Stainless steel: internal armature & mounts	\$1,000
TOTAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE	\$122,320
ARTIST FEE	\$5,000
DELIVERY FEE incl. crane/truck rental	\$2,000

This option is to illustrate what it would take for this statue to be produced in human scale to achieve a more heroic presence. As such, I am prepared and happy to take a substantial pay-cut to my personal fee if this option is chosen, although it would still take a substantial increase to the budget.

TOTAL ESTIMATE **\$129,320**

A close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The flag is draped, creating folds and shadows. The stars are visible on the left side, and the stripes run diagonally across the frame.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

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