



ZOKAITES SCULPTURE L.L.C.

BOBBY ZOKAITES

141 HU ESTA DR, TEMPE, AZ 85282

UNITED STATES

WWW.BOBBYZOKAITES.COM



To the Chandler Fire Department Public Art Review Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present a design for the Chandler Fire Department. With civil servants in my own family, I know that each department carries within it its own nuanced sense of community, honor, pride and camaraderie, and as such, the insights provided by Chief Hargis proved invaluable across all design decisions.

For Station No. 2, I have designed a 20' tall, interactive steel sculpture titled, *The Fire's Siren: Awooga*. In thinking about building a sculpture representative of the fire service, I started with a brainstorming on what objects could carry meaning as central motifs: the ladder, fire hydrants, Dalmatians, the Maltese cross, images of firefighters running into burning buildings, among others. I read about the development of the Maltese insignia across the centuries, visited the *Museum of Flame* in Tempe, and perused the year-end statements celebrating the accomplishments of the Department. This research began to pose further questions: *how do you build an unclimbable ladder? did we even see a dog at the site visit?*



I began conceptualizing the form around this idea of the ladder. Ladders, as a design motif reference all sorts of things: challenge and achievement; daring and dexterity; it speaks to labor and teamwork. However, as a public art piece, the ladder should be functionally *unclimbable*. And so, pragmatically, each 'rung' is articulated on the four primary sides of the sculpture by a debossed rectangle, 3" high, 11" wide and 2" deep, with a mitered edge of significant slope. Titling this low-relief backwards creates an overhung surface with no real gripping points. These depressions are sized appropriately to host the public-facing plaques of memoriam that honor the fallen.



Abstracting the ladder in this way, began to influence the overall form; it became a loose visual reference to an apartment building, or a fire hydrant. But what should be at the top of this unclimbable ladder? On our site tour, the Chief and others spoke proudly of the range of services provided to the local community and the many tiers and tactics of outreach into the neighborhoods. It seemed natural that this artwork could not only be an identifier or place and an honorific, but also an opportunity for further engagement and interaction with the community. Having built a hand-crank siren before, and with the obvious and pertinent associations here, this became the chosen avenue for adding greater dimensionality to the sculpture by way of new tactility, interactivity, and sound! This addition also became the design nod to the Maltese Cross.

Articulating the voice and vision of Chandler Fire Station No. 2 in a sculptural aesthetic that is bold, colorful, engaging and enduring will provide an iconic visual statement of honor, memoriam, and community connection. Thank you for your time, consideration, and the opportunity to design this work.

Sincerely,

BOBBY ZOKAITES

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PUBLIC ART + FINE ART + SCULPTURE

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PROPOSAL

BOBBY ZOKAITES

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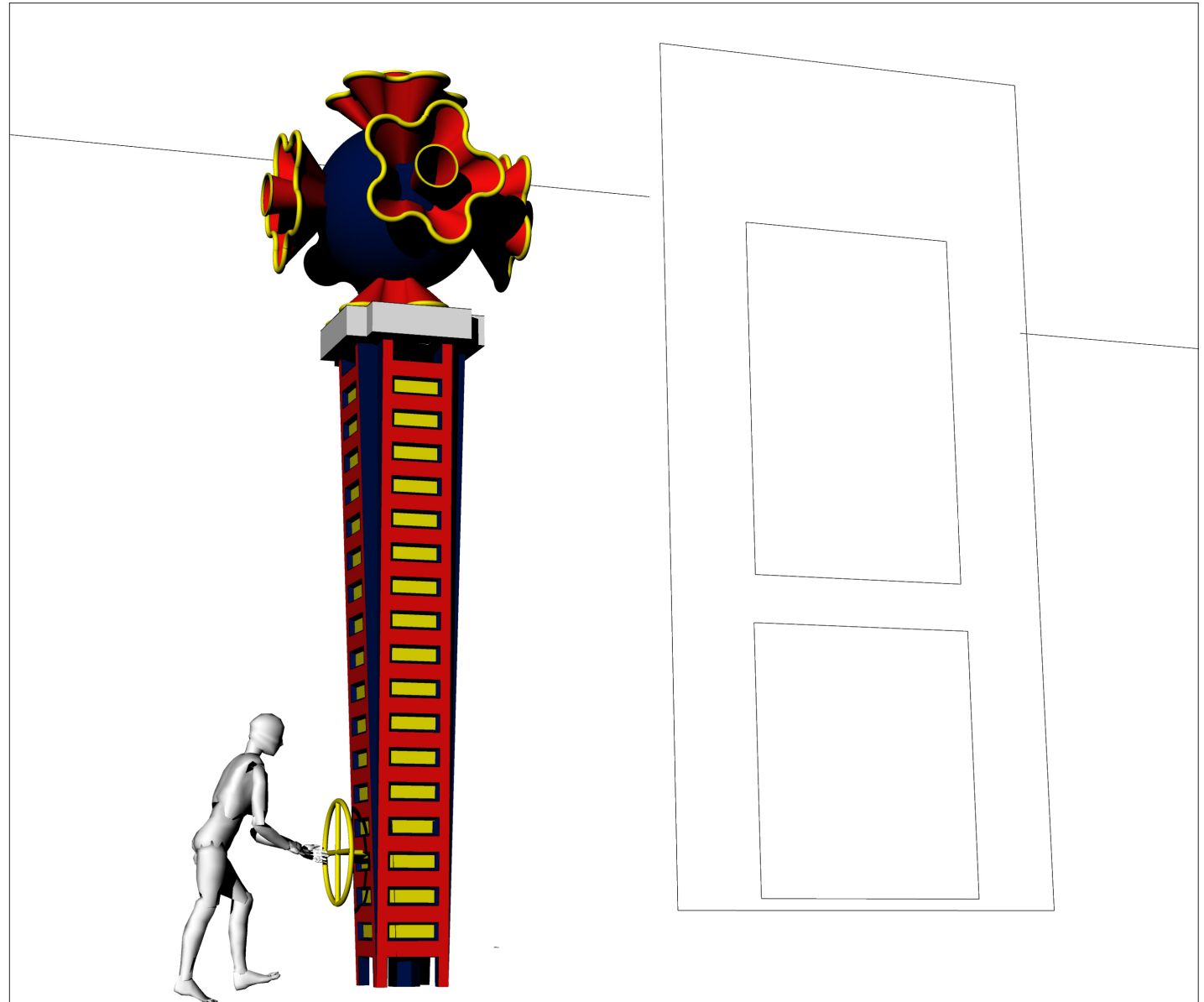
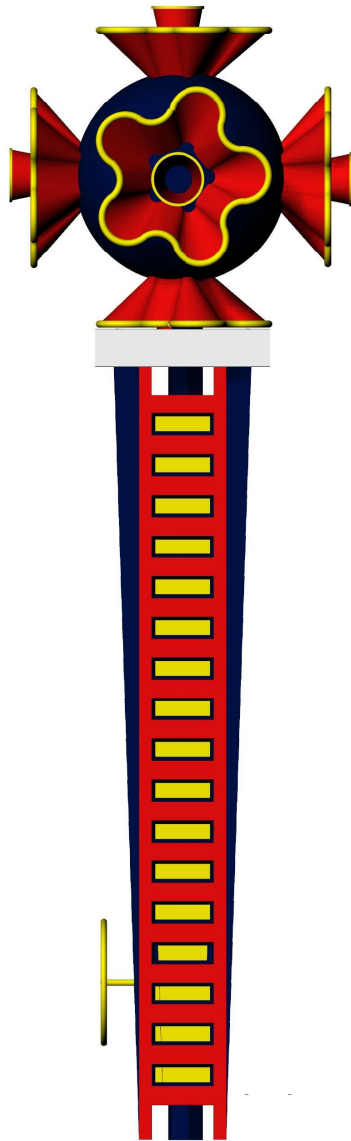
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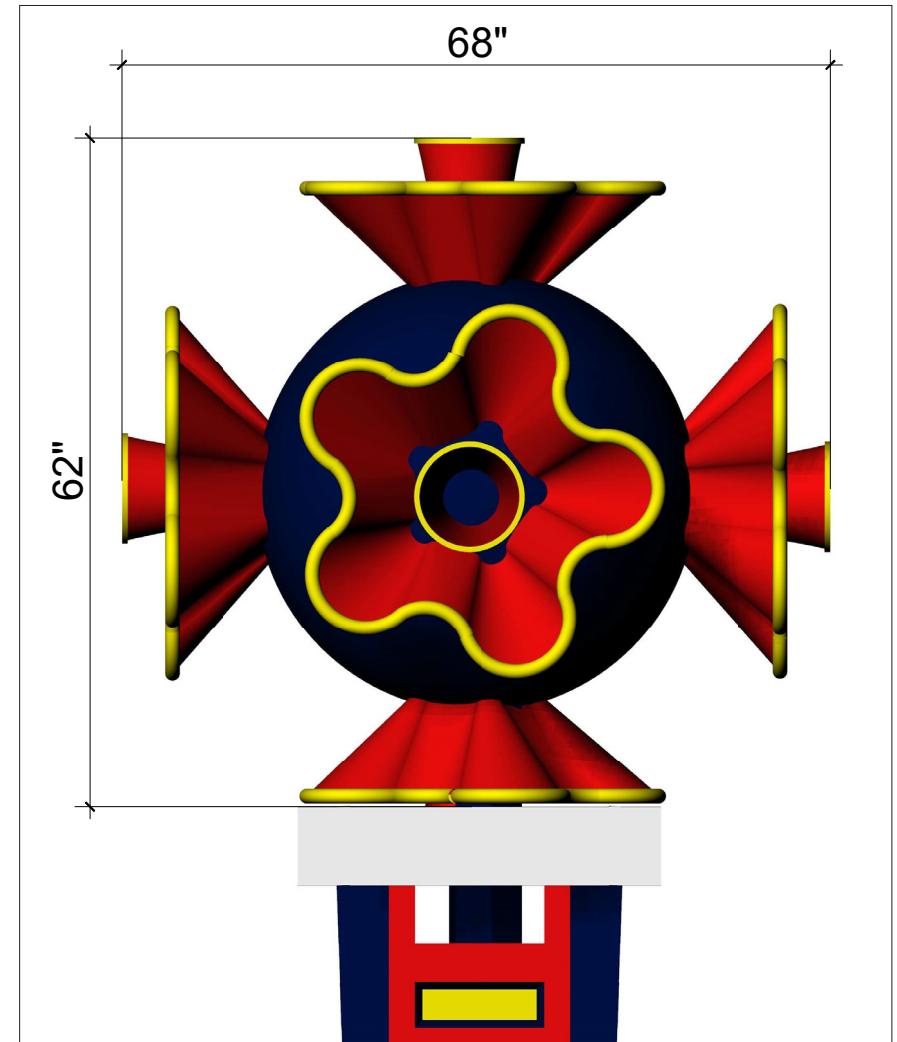
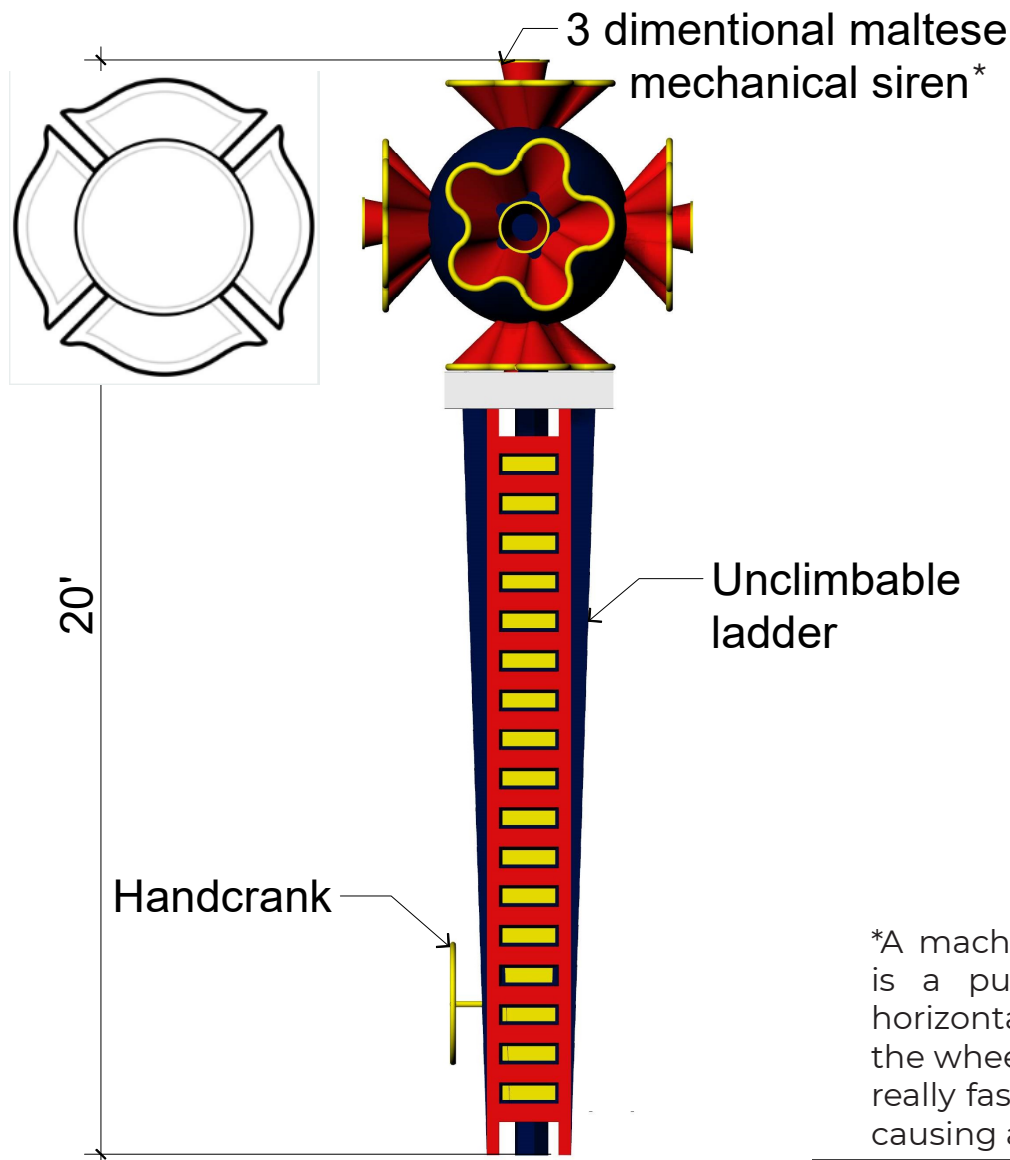
“THE FIRE’S SIREN: AWOOGA”



CONCEPT SKETCH



CONCEPT SKETCH



*A machinal siren is a wind turbine inside a slotted casing. This is a pump-like mechanism; picture a waterwheel mounted horizontally and instead of using water to drive the wheel, the wheel drives the water; air in this instance. Spinning this wheel really fast will force air columns across the open slots in its casing, causing a recognizable siren sound.

BUDGET

MATERIALS

Steel	\$10,880
Hardware	\$1,360
Misc.	\$1,360
Subtotal	\$13,600

LABOR

Engineering	\$5,000
Laser-Cutting	\$6,800
Assembly / Metal Fab / Welding	\$13,700
Powdercoat	\$5,100
Transportation	\$1,700
Installation	\$1,700
Subtotal	\$34,000

ADMINISTRATIVE

Insurance	\$1,360
Documentation	\$2,040
Tax	\$6,800
Subtotal	\$10,200

ARTIST COMPENSATION

Artist Fee	
Engagement, Design, Project Management	\$10,200

Total	\$68,000
PROJECTED PROJECT BUDGET	\$68,000

TIMELINE

CONTRACTING	April/May
ENGINEERING	June
<i>- foundation can be cast -</i>	
FABRICATION	July-Oct
Order Materials	14 days
Laser-Cutting	10 days
Welding / Fabrication	8 weeks
Powdercoating	10 days
3-Part Poly Paint	10 days
Final Assembly	3 days
INSTALLATION	Oct/Nov

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PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED MATERIALS



City of Phoenix
Office of Arts and Culture
Phoenix Art Museum









[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>



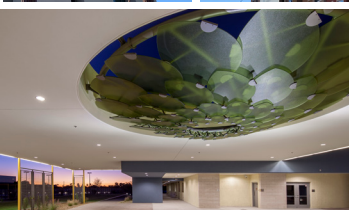
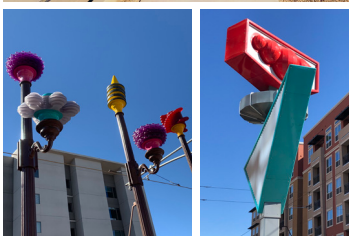
3 | *Tempe Streetcar* | VALLEY METRO (AZ) | Spring 2020 | \$157,000 USD

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.

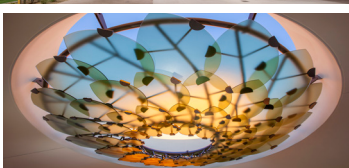
Superbloom — 16' x 2' x 2' ea., Steel, Automotive Paint, Polyurethane Panel, LED Lighting. This installation at Paseo Del Saber features 10 custom luminaries mounted to 5 antique lightposts. Nestled within university architecture similarly named for desert botanicals, this artwork is a colorful abstraction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



BIO

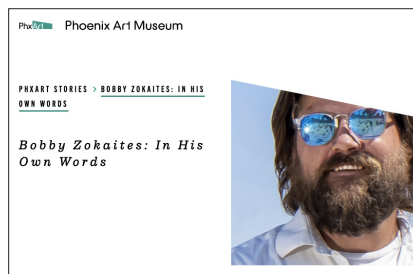
Bobby Zokaite is a U.S. based sculptor skilled in a variety of materials with a wealth of experience producing large scale works for private and public spaces. His industrious work ethic and urban design sense enable him to create distinctive works of art that foster new and dynamic relationships between 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

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FINE ART + SCULPTURE + PUBLIC ART

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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 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 Sculpture scope)
An Antonym for a Tchothcke, 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

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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, Suffix, 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.)

