

#### WOWHAUS: ENE OSTERAAS-CONSTABLE & SCOTT CONSTABLE

885 Jonive Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472 (510) 390-1724 • studiowowhaus@yahoo.com • www.thewowhaus.com

We are inspired by your vision for this special commission and offer the unique skills and experience to ensure its success. We are deeply moved by your community's goal of creating a beautiful green space that honors the veterans who sacrificed to secure everyone's pursuit of hope and happiness. We are eager to work with you, creating integrated artwork to create a space that fosters physical and mental health, nurturing insight, contemplation and well-being. Together, we can realize your vital mission of nurturing connections "between land and people, self and others, young and old, seekers and wanderers, and history to the present day."

Your RFQ for this commission resonated with us; our own approach to creating art in the public realm is highly site-responsive, finding inspiration in the cultural, historical and ecological factors that shape a sense of place. We especially welcome opportunities to transform public greenspaces via art; we appreciate your thoughtful, holistic approach to creating a space that honors veterans and welcomes all. Our work is rooted in community engagement as well, so the chance to collaborate with the community, to work together to create a space in nature that honors veterans, is especially compelling. We are eager to realize the full potential of this commission, nurturing community and connection within this beautiful, verdant landscape.

Working together as the artist duo of WOWHUS, (Scott Constable and Ene Osteraas-Constable), we have created public art nationwide for over two decades. Scott's father was a doctor in the US Army; we know he would have been eager to share his insights in crafting a vision for this unique Veteran's Memorial. He appreciated the work we do as artists; we shared a commitment to fostering community well-being – he through medicine, us through our public art. He was dedicated to ensuring the health and well-being of soldiers and helped his family understand and appreciate the sacrifices our soldiers make every day. For us, this commission is personal and especially meaningful.

ABOUT WOWHAUS: The award-winning artist duo of WOWHAUS creates pioneering artwork that enriches and activates public spaces nationwide, engaging diverse audiences. We excel at the collaborative public art process and offer demonstrated success in elevating public spaces via artwork that is both aesthetically and conceptually compelling. Our art is held in the public art collections of cities including San entities, integrating art into built environments and greenspaces including large public parks, botanical gardens, greenways and more. As you can see from our portfolio and website, we have expertise in a wide range of media that would be ideal for this project. We bring to bear experience working in a wide range of exterior grade materials including stainless steel, stone, concrete, bronze, GFRC, architectural glass, and LED lighting; we collaborate with engineers and fabricators to achieve innovative applications that withstand heavy public interaction and the elements.

Our design development process is site-responsive and rooted in community engagement; dialogue with community and key stakeholders informs our design. We have worked with communities who have suffered loss due to natural disaster and war and understand the unique power of art to heal. Thanks to our expertise in this realm, were selected for the "Connecting Communities" Artist Residency at McColl Center for Art+ Innovation, two NEA "Our Town" grants projects and an NEA "Artplace" Environmental Artist in Residence grant commission. We thank you for your consideration and hope to work with you to realize the full potential of this important commission.

Sincerely,

Ene Osteraas-Constable and Scott Constable WOWHAUS

#### **WOWHAUS ANNOTATED IMAGE LIST**

## 1. & 2. GOLDEN SPIRAL, 2018, (\$196,000)

Medium: FRP (Fiber Reinforced Polymer), Steel & Concrete

Site: The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ Commissioned by the College of New Jersey

Dimensions: 28' w x 7.5' h chalkboard; seating is 18" h

This 28' w landmark functional sculpture inspired by the Fibonacci sequence is a community hub and focal point on campus, fostering a sense of community. People gather to sit together within the dramatic space that also functions as an outdoor classroom space with a chalkboard. The sculpture serves as an icon for the College, embodying the search for knowledge and insight via interdisciplinary inquiry and higher education. The sculpture is dramatically lit at night with energy-efficient LED lighting.

#### 3. MAKKEWEKS, 2019, \$200,000

Commissioned by: Oakland Public Art Program

Location: Lake Merritt Park, Snow Park Promenade, Oakland, CA

Media: Cast bronze, photo etched granite

Dimensions: 7' x 17' x 11'

Community engagement informed the design of this landmark artwork integrated into a raingarden in a public park. Inspired by an Ohlone myth about a seamonster that inhabited a nearby saltwater estuary, this artwork offers insight into local ecological & cultural history. "Makkeweks" hovers among reeds in a rain garden that reclaims rainwater, evoking a seamonster in a large public plaza at Lake Merritt Park, inviting engagement and interaction. The creature is a fantastical amalgam of creatures that actually inhabit the restored estuary, including leopard shark and bat rays.

# 4. & 5. TSURU, 2014 (\$150,000)

Location: Ralph Carr Judicial Center, Denver, CO

Dimensions: Sculpture is 13' wide x 9' h; sculptural granite benches are 36' l x 18" h.

Commissioned by: Colorado Creative Industries

Media: Cast bronze, granite (original was carved in wood at full-scale)

Dimensions: Sculpture is 13' wide x 9' h; sculptural granite benches are 36' l x 18" h.

A central bronze sculpture of the Whooping Crane that flies through this region anchors an integrated courtyard design featuring native grasses and sculptural granite benches and paving pattern that frame the bronze sculpture. The crane is an ancient symbol of wisdom; it is also an endangered species protected by law.

# 6. & 7. FLUKE, 2011 (\$135,000)

Media: Cast bronze, glass, recylced glass aggregate, pigmented concrete

Client: Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency

Location: Monterey Marine Sanctuary Exploration Center, Santa Cruz

Dimensions: 14' w x 3' x 3.6' bronze in a 30' w plaza

A landmark 13' wide cast bronze whale tail or "fluke" sculpture anchors a dynamic oceanic public plaza design that serves as a gateway to the museum; the sculpture has become an icon of the museum and its environmental conservation mission. Wowhaus designed the entire entryway, including paving, bronze sculpture and granite seating (not shown).

## 8. & 9. WISHING WANDS, (One of Three) San Jose, CA 2009 (\$50,000)

Media: Stainless steel, crystal, concrete Site Berryessa Creek Park, San Jose Commissioned by: San Jose Public Art

Dimensions: Three sculptures, each13' tall; seed head 30" across

Community engagement was integral to this project: Children made wishes on each of the crystals incorporated into the sculpture.

Evoking the childhood tradition of making wishes by blowing on dandelion seed heads, a series of three sculptures are sited near a playground in a public park. Each seed head features thirty eight 2 1/2"" Austrian Crystals that catch the light, refracting sunlight in prismatic rainbows on passerby below. Children delight in playing amidst the rainbows.





#1 and #2: GOLDEN SPIRAL

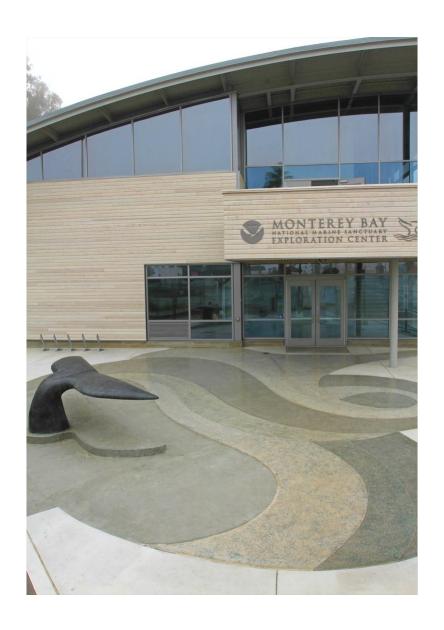


#3: MAKKEWEKS



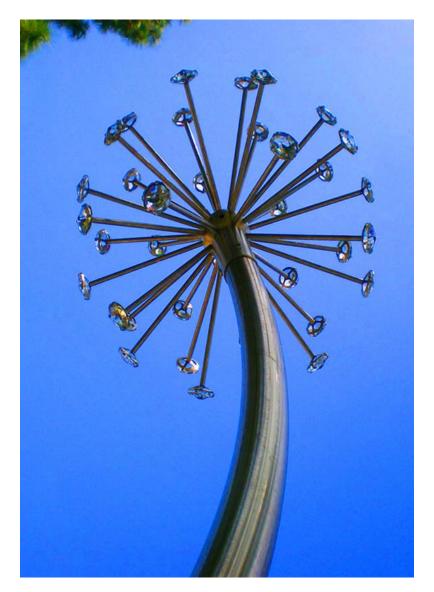


#4 and #5. TSURL





#6 and #7: FLUKE





#8 and #9: WISHING WANDS

## ARTWORK IN THE PUBLIC REALM: PUBLIC ENGAGMENT EXAMPLES

Wowhaus has over 20 years of experience creating art in the public realm; creative community engagement is integral to our art practice and most of our commissions involve community engagement. Below are summaries of three select commissions that have featured public engagement. (Note: Total budget figure provided includes all applicable costs including design, artist fee, community engagement, project management, artist travel and lodging, engineering, permit fees fabrication, installation, contingency and insurance.)

## 1) REVERIE Donelson Public Library Greenspace, Nashville, Tennessee, (MetroArts) 2024 (\$250,000)

A series of 5 large-scale functional marble sculptures will activate a 1-acre public greenspace, inviting engagement and creating seating

WOWHAUS led a series of public engagement sessions, seeking input from people of all ages and backgrounds abut artwork to be integrated into the public greenspace fronting the new library. We learned about the history of the neighborhood and the vital role the green space will play in a community with few parks; our artwork helps establish a green "community commons" via a series striking marble sculptures integrated within the site, creating seating and fostering convivial engagement. Handcrafted from beautiful native Tennessee Marble, the artwork will stand the test of time, evoking the natural and cultural resources of the region.

**Project Manager Contact:** 

Jesse Ross, Public Art Project Coordinator MetroArts, PO Box 196300 Nashville, TN 37219-6300 615.862.6737, jesse.ross@nashville.gov

MetroArts assisted WOWHAUS in coordinating community engagement initiatives and interfacing with the architect, landscape architect, City agencies, construction management firm, contractors and subcontractors.

# 2) DREAMY East Lake Park, Chattanooga, TN (Chattanooga Public Art Program) 2023 (\$150,000)

Vibrant 7' h fiberglass sculptures activate a public park, creating seating and fostering convivial interaction

Working in this culturally diverse community, WOWHAUS led community engagement sessions, working with a translator to outreach Spanish speakers. This public park is a rare and vital greenspace in the community; our dialogue offered insight into the role our artwork could play in the park, serving as an icon for this culturally diverse community and creating a convivial hub via an engaging interactive design.

**Project Manager Contact:** 

Carmen Davis, Senior Director of Arts, Culture and Creative Economy Department of Parks & Outdoors 200 River Street
Chattanooga, TN 37405
cdavis@chattanooga.gov
423-633-8870 (cell)

Chattanooga Public Art Program worked with WOWHAUS in coordinating community engagement initiatives and interfacing with the Parks Department, architect, and landscape architect

## 3) MAKKEWEKS Lake Merritt Park, Oakland, CA (Oakland Public Art Program) 2019 (\$200,000)

17' long Landmark cast bronze sculpture complemented by photo-etched granite "portals" integrated into hardscape anchors a raingarden and large plaza in a public park

WOWHAUS led community engagement initiatives on site in this large public park, adjacent to the proposed site of the artwork. Seeking input from diverse stakeholders and backgrounds, we gained insight into the community's hopes and desires for the artwork and green space as well as their perspective on the urban estuary which was the focus of our design. We discovered that the public wanted to learn more about both the local cultural and natural history of the lake and park. Their input helped us understand how people use the park and how we could enrich and enliven their experience via our artowrk, offering unique insight into the ecosystem at the heart of Lake Merritt Park. Our design for a landmark 17' long sculpture evokes an Ohlone myth about a seamonster that inhabited the lake and features photoetched "portals" revealing the fantastical life forms that actually live in the lake.

Project Manager Contact:

Kristen Zaremba, Public Art Manager City of Oakland Cultural Arts & Marketing, Public Art 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315 Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 238-2155 kzaremba@oaklandnet.com

Kristen worked closely with WOWHAUS throughout this process, assisting us with coordinating community engagement, design review and approval, collaboration with landscape architects and City Agencies during a major renewal of this large public park.

#### CHRONOLIGICAL LIST OF SELECT WOWHAUS PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS

- **REVERIE** Donelson Public Library, Nashville, Tennessee, (MetroArts) 2024 (\$200,000)

  A series of 5 large-scale functional marble sculptures will activate a 1-acre public greenspace, inviting engagement and creating seating
- **SKY HORN** University of California San Francisco Medical Center, San Francisco, CA 2024 (\$150,000) Creating a landmark 12' h x 8' w nteractive bronze sculpture featuring 36 kinetic tubular bells and crystals that cast rainbows on passerby
- MAGNUS Burlington Great Streets, Burlington, (Burlington Arts) VT 2024
  Trio of functional granite sculptures will evoke the natural and cultural history of the City
- AQUADREAM Rengstorff Aquatic Center, Mountain View, CA (Mountain View Public Art Program) 2023 Interactive functional sculptures create seating and foster convivial engagement. Collaborating with Mountain View of Parks & Recreation Dept.
- **DREAMY** East Lake Park, Chattanooga, TN (Chattanooga Public Art Program) 2023 (\$150,000) Vibrant, fantastical 7' h fiberglass sculptures activate a public park, offering seating and fostering playful interaction
- BRANT Lafayette, CA (Lennar Corporation) 2023 Collaborating with City agencies, Lennar Architectural Team and contractor on landmark stainless steel sculpture, internally LED lit
- INSPIRE San Ramon Public Library, San Ramon, CA (San Ramon Public Art Program) 2023 Engaged community members and library staff in developing landmark dichroic glass sculpture heralding the library entryway

- FOREST FRIENDS Green Bay Botanical Garden Children's Garden, Green Bay, WI 2022 5 interactive large bronze sculptures integrated into the Children's Garden. Collaborated with Smith Group Landscape Architects
- THRIVE Hayward, CA (Artsource) CA 2022 Collaborated with developers, architects, city agencies and art consultant on 2-story architecturally-integrated mosaic mural
- MATHER COMMONS Mather School Plaza, Boston, MA (Browne Fund) 2022 Collaborated with BSC Landscape Architects and Parterre Garden; community engagement in conception and execution
- **DELRIDGE KNOW-HOW** Delridge, WA (Seattle Office of Arts & Culture) 2021 Collaborated with Seattle Department of Transportation Landscape Architects; community engagement integral to design
- **QUERCUS** 24th & Harrison, Oakland, CA (Holland Partner Group) 2021 Collaborated with Holland Partner Group Design Team
- ORCA Kitsap Middle School, Kitsap School District, Kitsap, WA (Washington Art in Public Places Program) 2021 Collaborated with School District administration, faculty and students
- A GOOD SIGN North Tryon Greenroad, Charlotte, NC (Arts & Sciences Council) 2021 Collaborated with Charlotte Department of Transportation and NCDOT Landscape Architects; community engagement in conception and execution
- WYNADOTTE Wynadotte Park, Mountain View, CA (Mountain View Public Art Program) 2020 Collaborated with City of Mountain View Parks Department Landscape Architects on series of bronze sculptures
- WELLSPRING Coffey Park, Santa Rosa, CA (Santa Rosa Public Art Program) 2020 Collaborated with Carlile Macy Landscape Architects & Santa Rosa Parks Dept. community engagement integral to commission.
- **ASCENT** Pierce College Fort Steilacoom, WA (Washington Art in Public Places Program), 2019 Engaged Pierce College faculty, staff and students; worked with Pierce College Facilities Department
- MAKKEWEKS Oakland Public Art Program, Lake Merritt Park, Oakland, CA (Oakland Public Art Program) 2019 (\$200,000) Collaborated with PlaceWorks and City of Oakland Parks Department Landscape Architects
- **GOLDENSPIRAL** STEM Center, The College of New Jersey, Ewing Township, NJ (New Jersey Arts Commission) 2018 Engaged College of New Jersey faculty and students; collaborated with College Facilities Department & John M. Thomas Landscape Architects
- UNITY PLAZA OMI HISTORY STAIRSCAPE San Francisco, CA (San Francisco Arts Commission) 2016 Collaborated with San Francisco Municipal Transit Authority Landscape Architects
- **STORYVANES** Walnut Creek, CA (Terramar Developers & Walnut Creek Public Art Program) 2016 Worked with Bruce Jett Landscape Architects
- GARDEN GUARDIANS Noe Valley Town Square, San Francisco, CA (San Francisco Arts Commission) 2016 Collaborated with CMG Landscape Architects & San Francisco Parks Department

- **SCUPPERNONG COMMONS** Artplace Environmental Artists in Residence (McColl Center for Art + Innovation), Charlotte, N.C. 2015 Collaborated with LandDesign Landscape Architects
- **SPINNRADL** Cincinnati, OH (Artworks Cincinnati) 2014 Community engagement in conception and execution. Worked with Cincinnati Department of Public Works
- **SPECTRASCAPE** W. Berkeley Library, Berkeley CA (Berkeley Public Art Program) 2014 Collaborated with Harley Ellis Devereaux Architects and library staff; community engagement informed design
- OASIS Dublin, CA (AvalonBay Developers), 2013 Collaborated with AvalonBay Landscape Architects
- **TSURU** R. Carr Judicial Center, Denver, CO (Colorado Creative Industries) 2012 Collaborated with Fentress Architects & Civitas Landscape Architects
- FLUKE Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary & Exploration Center, Santa Cruz CA (Santa Cruz Public Art Program) 2012 Collaborated with Thomas Hacker Architect & Landscape Architect; engagement with Museum scientists and staff
- **SPARK** Chbot College, Hayward CA (Chabot College Public Art Program 2012 Community engagement with Chabot College faculty, staff and students; worked with Facilities Department
- ABUNDANCE Ortega Library, San Francisco CA (San Francisco Arts Commission) 2011 Collaborated with City of San Francisco Library Architects & Landscape Architects
- WATERSHED ART MARKERS Oakland CA, (Oakland Public Art Program) 2010
  Collaborated with Oakland Department of Creeks, Watershed & Stormwater Department and Oakland Public Works
  Department
- **SUNNYSIDE MENAGERIE** Sunnyside Conservatory Park, SF, CA (San Francisco Arts Commission) 2009 Collaborated with San Francisco Parks Department; community engagement informed design
- OAKLAND FUSION Jack London Square, Oakland CA (Ellis Partners, LLC) 2009
- WISHING WANDS Berryessa Creek Park, San Jose, CA (San Jose Public Art Program) 2009 Collaborated with San Jose Parks Department and Department of Public Works; community engagement informed design

# **PUBLIC ART MASTER PLANNING**

• RAIL TRAIL PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN, Artplace Grant, Charlotte Center City Partners, Charlotte, N.C. 2015 Created a Public Art Master Plan for a four-mile public greenway that transects the City Center

**BRIGHTWALK,** McColl Center for Visual Art + Innovation, Charlotte, N.C. 2015 Consulted on public art planning for environmentally-oriented artworks at Brightwalk, a 98 acre mixed-use development.

• VILLAGE AT MARKET CREEK ART+DESIGN PLAN, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, San Diego, CA 2012 Contributed to a comprehensive public art plan for a 60+ acre community identifying sites & guiding principles for public art.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SELECT ARTIST RESIDENCIES**

- McCOLL CENTER FOR ART & INNOVATION, Artplace Environmental Artists in Residence, Charlotte, N.C. 2015
- HEADLANDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS, Marin County, CA 2013
- MICHAEL J. KOHLER ARTS CENTER, "Connecting Communities" Artists in Residence, Sheboygen, WI, 2010
- MILDRED'S LANE, Beach Lake, PA 2001 & 2009
- "CRAFT & DESIGN: HAND, MIND & THE CREATIVE PROCESS", Haystack w/ Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Maine, 2004

#### **SELECT PUBLICATIONS**

2021 "Derivsh", Land Art Generator Institute

2021 "Art that Commemorates", CODA Magazine

2021 "Coffey Park Reopens at Long Last, To Rave Reviews", Press Democrat

2019 "Lake Merritt and Snow Park Project", Piedmont Exedra

#### **SELECT AWARDS/GRANTS**

CODAWORX Merit Award for Public Art: Education 2021

A1 Artist Travel Grant - Rome & Switzerland (S.C.) 2013

Wornick Distinguished Visiting Professor of Woodworking, California College of Arts and Crafts (S.C) 2010

Center for Cultural Innovation Investing In Artists Grant Recipient (S.C) 2008

City of Oakland Individual Artist's Grant (E.O.C) 2006

Creative Work Fund (E.O.C.) 2000

#### **SELECT EXHIBITIONS**

2019 The Art of Resilience, World Bank Group Exhibition

2016 Free (for) Free, Mildred's Lane Complex(ity), Narrowsburg, N.Y.

2016 Craft Atelier II, Storefront Lab, San Francisco, CA

2014 Reimagining Progress: Production, Consumption and Alternative Economies, David Brower Center, Berkeley, CA

2014 If A Tree Falls, University of California at Davis Design Museum, Davis, CA

2013 This Will Never Work, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA

2012 Big, Big Backyard: Contemporary Community-Engaged Art, College of the Canyons, Los Angeles

2012 Banff, Banff New Media Symposium, Banff Centre, Canada

2011 John Michael Kohler Arts Center, "Connecting Communities" Residency, Sheboygan, WI

2009 Terroir: A Sense of Place, MCF, Petaluma, CA

2008 MIX, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA

2006 Hybrid Fields, Sonoma County Museum, Santa Rosa, CA

2006 Social Construction, Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2005 Four Projects, Richard L. Nelson Gallery, University of California at Davis, Davis, CA

#### **EDUCATION**

E.O.C.: BFA, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 1987

S.C.: BFA - Sculpture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago 1982-85

Foundations/Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design 1981-82

## **ESTIMATED COSTS, SCHEDULE & VALUE-ADDED**

WOWHAUS excels at the collaborative public art process and offers demonstrated success in elevating public spaces via artwork that is both aesthetically and conceptually compelling. For over 25 years we have created public art commissions nationwide, installing both on time and within budget. We will maximize the impact of your art budget, leveraging our extensive experience with a wide range of highly durable materials that are ideal for your project. Key to our success: creativity, flexibility, clear communications, ability to work diverse stakeholders, excellent project management skills, and a budgeting process that is grounded in extensive pragmatic experience.

Utilizing a highly site-responsive, collaborative approach to the design process, we will work with you to identify a range of opportunities for cost savings via creative site integration and innovative design solutions. We have an extensive network of skilled fabricators working in an array of media, many of whom are based in California. We have worked with them for many years and they give us highly competitive pricing, knowing we will return to them for future commissions. We also work with them to minimize costs via strategic design planning. Another cost-saving tactic rooted in knowledge of construction and engineering: we typically dovetail our art installation with other site work being done by the General Contractor in order to realize savings, capitalizing on resources already on site such as concurrent concrete pours, electrical work, etc. Finally, since we are based in California, less funds are spent on travel and more of the budget can be dedicated to the artwork itself.

Our design process is highly site-specific. For this reason, it would be premature to offer detailed pricing. We would allocate appropriate funding that would include: Design, Engineering, Artist Fee, Permit (If necessary), Project Management, Travel and Lodging, Community Engagement, Materials, Fabrication, Documentation and Contingency. To achieve a project of this scale, we would recommend allocating the full amount of your available funds at this time; this amount could decrease, depending upon the design.

Proposed Preliminary schedule (Variable per input from client):

- ➤ Winter, 2023/Spring 2024: Community Engagement. Work with your team and stakeholders to develop preliminary design.
- > Spring/Summer 2024: Design reviews and revisions as needed; engineering and final design approval
- Summer/Fall, 2024- Spring, 2025: Fabrication
- > Spring/Summer, 2025: Installation in advance of opening