



James Dinh

Resumé

12723 Park Street
Cerritos, CA 90703
562.841.2512
james@studiofolia.com
www.studiofolia.com

EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2002 | Master of Landscape Architecture
University of California, Berkeley |
| 1997 | Master of Public Health, with a concentration in epidemiology
University of California, Los Angeles |
| 1991 | Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences
University of California, Irvine |

WORK EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 2010 – present | Principal
Studiofolia, Cerritos, CA |
| 2006 – present | Design Consultant
Orange Street Studio, Landscape Architecture, Los Angeles, CA |
| 2019 – present | Design Consultant
SALT, Landscape Architecture, Los Angeles, CA |

PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2023 | Kahului Community Park mural, Maui, HI – currently in design development with Thinh Nguyen
Willie Henderson Sports Complex public art, San Diego, CA – currently in design development
50th Anniversary sculpture, Cedar Park, TX – currently in fabrication
Baltimore County COVID-19 Memorial, Baltimore, MD – currently in fabrication
Vista Canyon Multi-Modal Center public art, Santa Clarita, CA – completed
Woman's College tribute, Uni. of N. Carolina, Greensboro – completed with Michael Stutz
Commemorative public art, Frankfort, KY – completed
Sports Park mural, Tustin, CA – completed |
| 2022 | St. Thomas University student memorial, St. Paul, MN – completed
University of Nebraska public art, Lincoln, NE – completed
Westminster Crossing affordable housing art, Westminster, CA – completed with Thinh Nguyen |
| 2021 | Evergreen Cemetery Veterans Memorial, Gainesville, FL – completed
Montgomery County Law Enforcement Memorial, Dayton, OH – currently in design development |
| 2020 | Equity Fountain public art, Helena, MT – completed with Michael Stutz |
| 2019 | Higuera Adobe public art, Milpitas, CA – commissioned artist |
| 2018 | Art in Transit Program, bus shelter public art, San Antonio, TX – completed
National Native American Veterans Memorial, Smithsonian, Washington D.C. – finalist |
| 2017 | Of Two Lineages public art, Westminster, CA – completed |
| 2016 | David & Margaret Youth and Family Services Public Art, La Verne, CA – completed |



2015 LA County Sheriff's Memorial, LA County Arts Commission – commissioned artist

2014 Circles of a Ripple public art, Hacienda Heights Community Center– completed

EXHIBITIONS & WORKSHOPS

2018 *Viet Stories: Recollections & Regenerations*, Richard Nixon Library, Yorba Linda, CA
Exhibition designer

2017 *Impress* (exhibition of contemporary printmaking), Orange County Center for Contemporary Art
Participating artist

2016 Coastal Communities Cancer Center Temporary public art, Ventura, CA
Commissioned artist

2015 Earth Day Temporary Public Art Installation, City of Garden Grove, CA
Commissioned artist
Forty Hues Between Black & White, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art
Participating artist for community printmaking workshop
Re:Imagine Garden Grove, Garden Grove, CA
Participating artist for community art workshop
Vietnamese Focus: Generations of Stories, Old Santa Ana Courthouse, Santa Ana, CA
Exhibition director and designer

2014 Re:Imagine Garden Grove, Garden Grove, CA
Participating artist for community art workshop

2012 Noche de Altares, Santa Ana, CA
Participating artist for community art workshop

2010 Thanatopolis Exhibition, I-Park Foundation, East Haddam, CT
Land arts paper project

2010 *Juried All-Media Exhibition*, Palos Verdes Art Center, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Ceramic sculpture

2009 & 2010 *Student Art Exhibition*, Cerritos College Art Gallery, Cerritos, CA
Ceramic sculpture

AWARDS

2019 Orange County Arts Awards Honoree: Achievement Award for Arts Leader

2017 American for the Arts Convention Scholarship

2006 Post-Katrina New Orleans East Design Residency, New Orleans, LA

Image 1, 2, 3
Title ***T.I.E. (Transformation, Illumination, Effort)***
Year 2022
Location College of Education, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
Medium Painted steel
Dimensions 20' high x 14' diameter
Budget \$100,150
Client University of Nebraska

Located in front of the new College of Education, the sculpture encapsulates ideas that are often associated with learning and education, namely transformation, illumination, and effort. To create a three-dimensional artwork that embodies the process of change and growth, a flat plane is conceptually cut and folded. As light is a universal metaphor for the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge, both sunlight and night-time illumination are incorporated into the artwork. Depending on the time of day and how sunlight hits the sculpture, the resulting light and shadow patterns created by the circular perforations on the sculpture change throughout the day. The design also creates a welcoming gathering space that is inspiring and joyful.

Image 4, 5
Title ***Of Two Lineages***
Year 2017
Location City of Westminster, CA
Dimensions Sculpture 18' high x 3' wide, plaza 35' x 35'
Medium Steel, powder-coated aluminum panels, concrete, landscape
Budget \$200,000
Client Vietnamese American Cultural Alliance

Located in the heart of the largest Vietnamese community in the U.S., the artwork is a contemporary re-telling of a traditional Vietnamese origins legend. The artwork conveys the hopeful story of the building of a new community from the tragedies of war. At night the sculpture is illuminated from within like a lantern, symbolizing the resiliency and hopes of the community. Surrounding the central sculpture are benches that showcase 100 portraits of everyday Vietnamese Americans, a collaborative project with the Vietnamese American Oral History Project of the University of California, Irvine.

Image 6, 7
Title ***Equity Fountain***
Year 2020
Location Helena, MT
Medium Granite and stainless steel sculpture
Dimensions 7' high x 6' wide x 6' long
Budget \$80,000
Client Equity Fountain Committee

After ascending three steps, visitors enter a welcoming space surrounded by trees. Their eyes are captivated by a glimmering sphere that seemingly floats above the rippling water of a granite millstone fountain. Words in English and Native Chippewa language are "woven" into the sphere, to remind the community that we must be steadfast like a turning millstone in ensuring that society is guided by values that unite us as opposed to divide us. The Chippewa words represent the Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers, a value system present in many Native



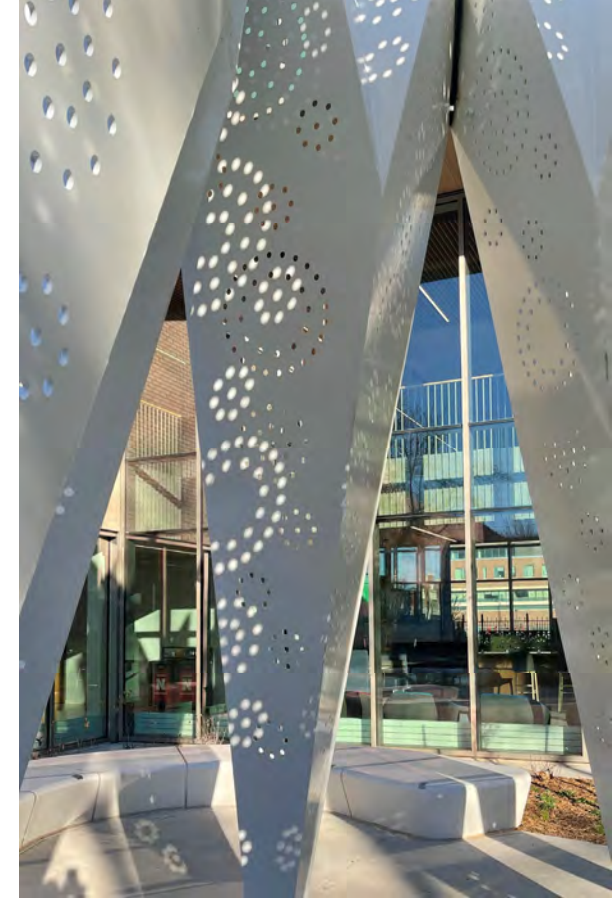
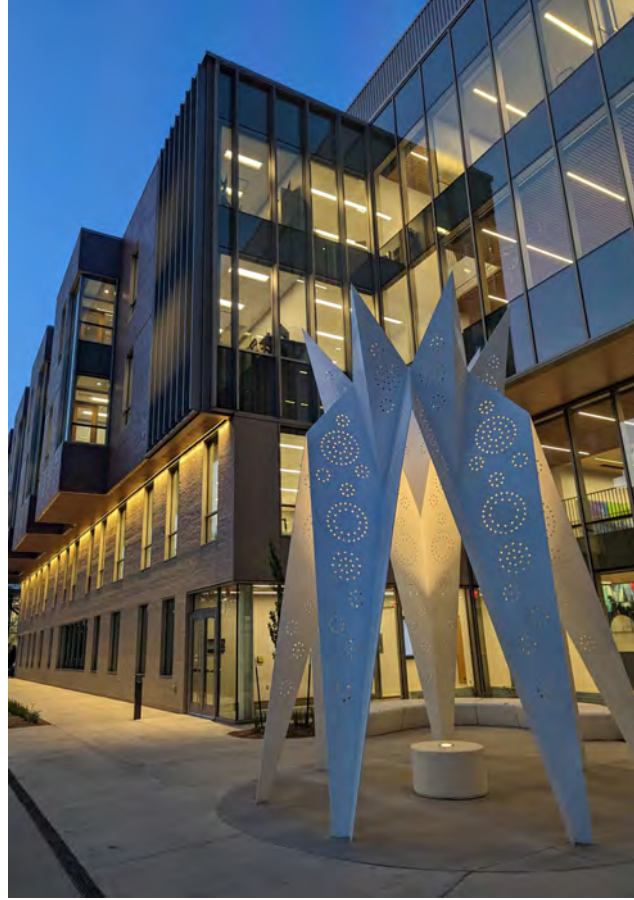
American cultures. The artwork replaced a fountain that had been installed by a chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1916. The project was a collaboration with sculptor Michael Stutz.

Image	8
Title	<i>Daisy Garland</i>
Collaborator	Michael Stutz
Year	2023
Location	University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Medium	Bronze, brick, powder-coated aluminum panels, landscape
Dimensions	7' high x 43' diameter
Budget	\$170,000
Client	University of North Carolina

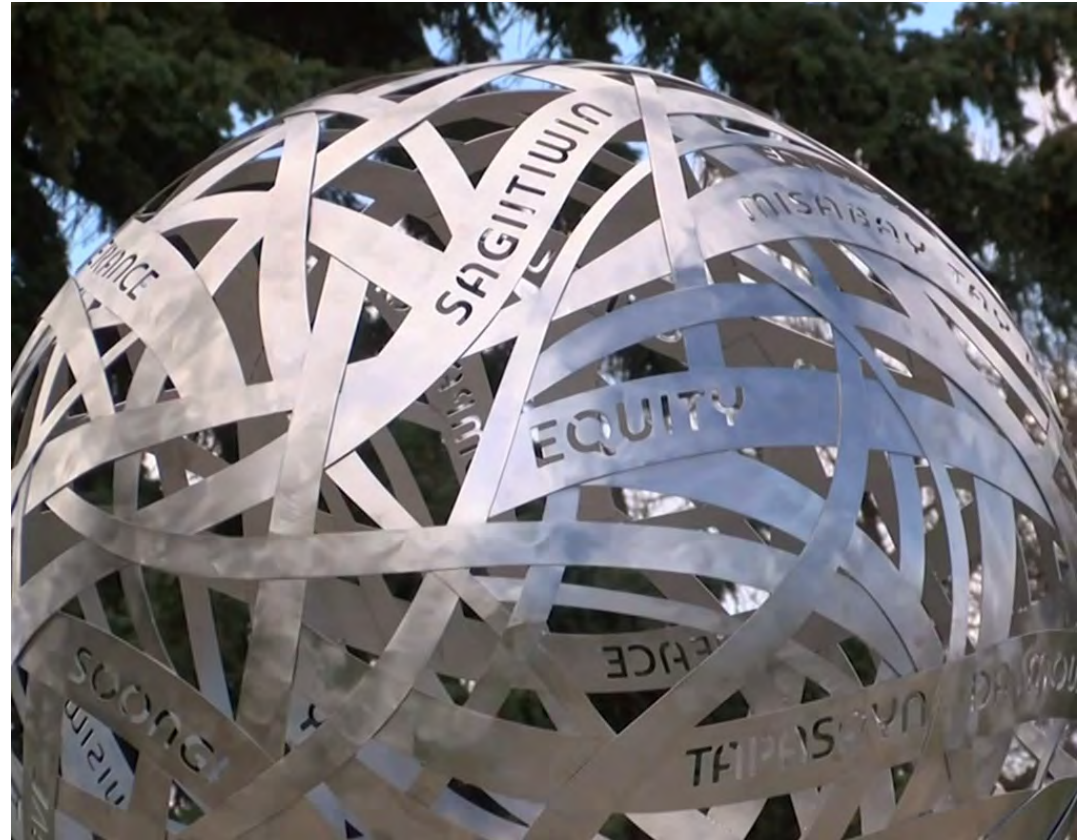
The artwork pays tribute to the years when the school was known as the Woman's College. The graduation tradition of the stitching together a garland made of real daisy flowers—the Daisy Chain—was one of the school's earliest customs. The project creates a community space that—like the Daisy Chain—connects the past to the present and future and people to place. The tribute has two main elements: the “garland walls” and a central sculpture. As three seating elements that create a circular space, the “garland walls” visually connect people to the legacy of the past through historic photographs and also to each other. Similar to how the College played a transformative role in changing the lives of women, the narrative of the “garland walls” is metaphorically transformed into a sculpture of a woman's face--Astera. The sculpture is the embodiment of the aspirations of all the women who passed through the educational halls of the Woman's College. “Woven” from strips of bronze, the sculpture references Greensboro's once-prominent textile industry and was fabricated by sculptor Michael Stutz.

Image	9, 10
Title	<i>Memorial to Deceased Students</i>
Year	2022
Location	University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN
Medium	Granite and cast glass
Dimensions	8' high x 5' diameter
Budget	\$60,000
Client	University of St. Thomas

Four stone panels intersect to form a cruciform, symbolizing the earth and the corporeal body. In contradistinction, glass discs inset into the stone panels evoke an ephemeral lightness with their translucency. Their circular form symbolizes the heart and the eternal soul. Both loss and renewal are made visible through with this void that captures light. The gradient of materials—from rough to smooth—creates a sense of revealing.

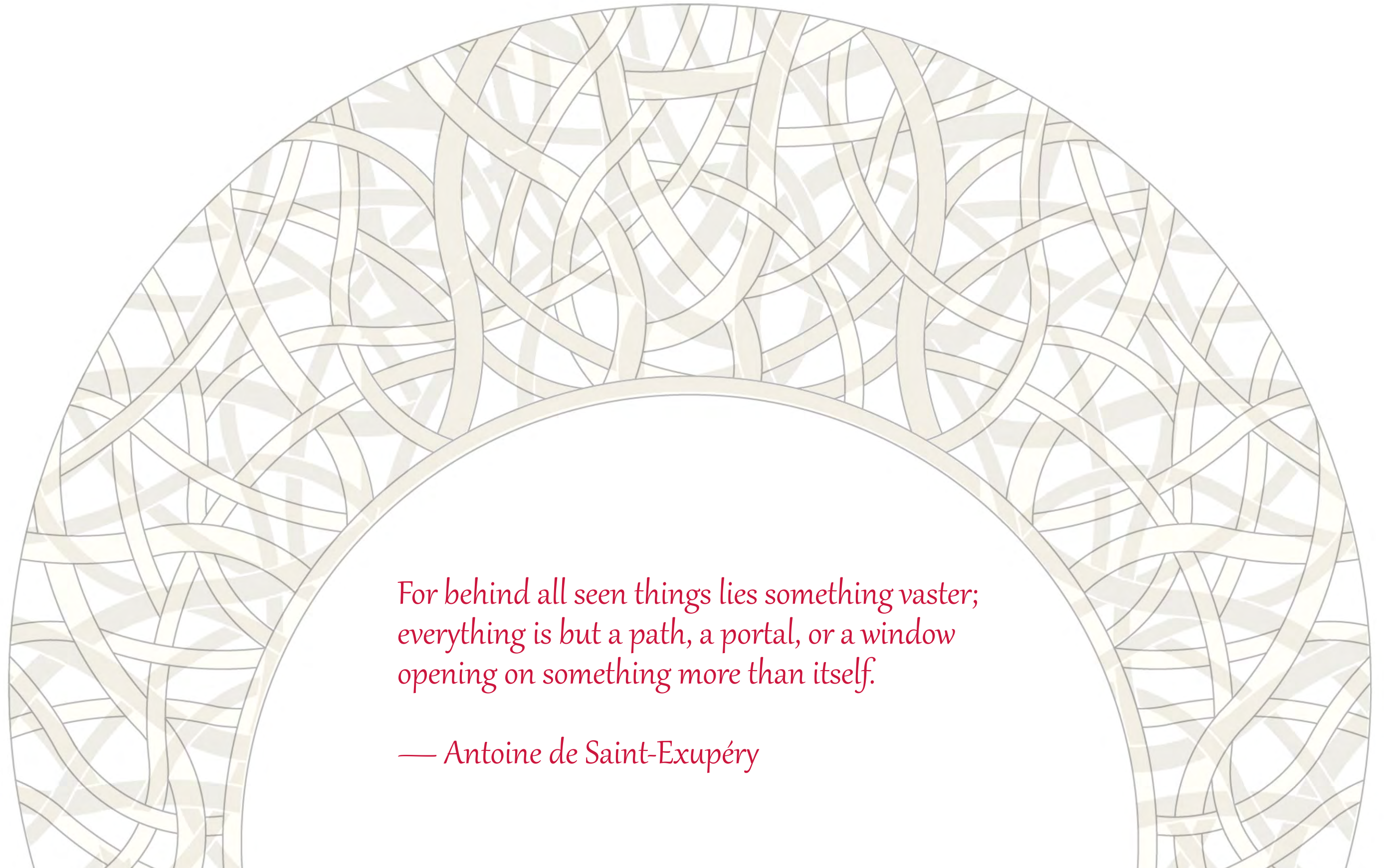












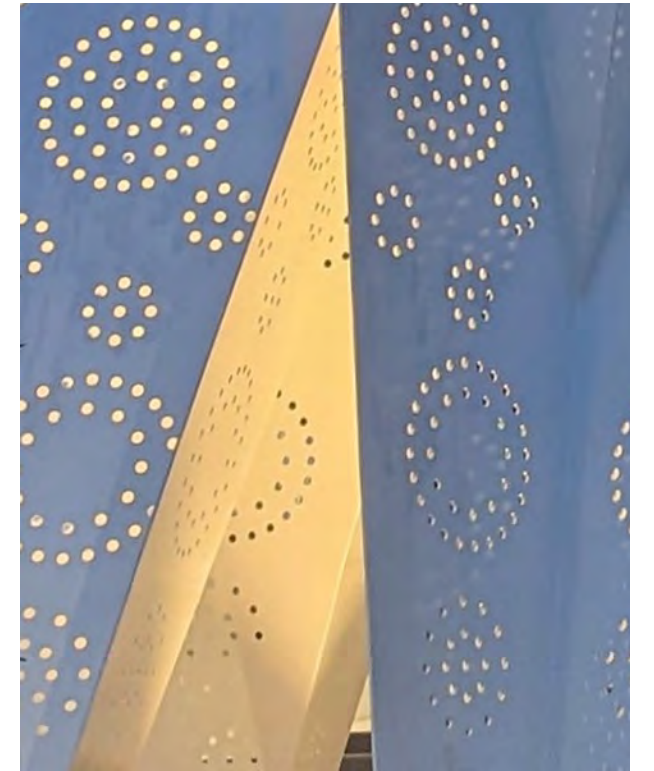
*For behind all seen things lies something vaster;
everything is but a path, a portal, or a window
opening on something more than itself.*

— Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

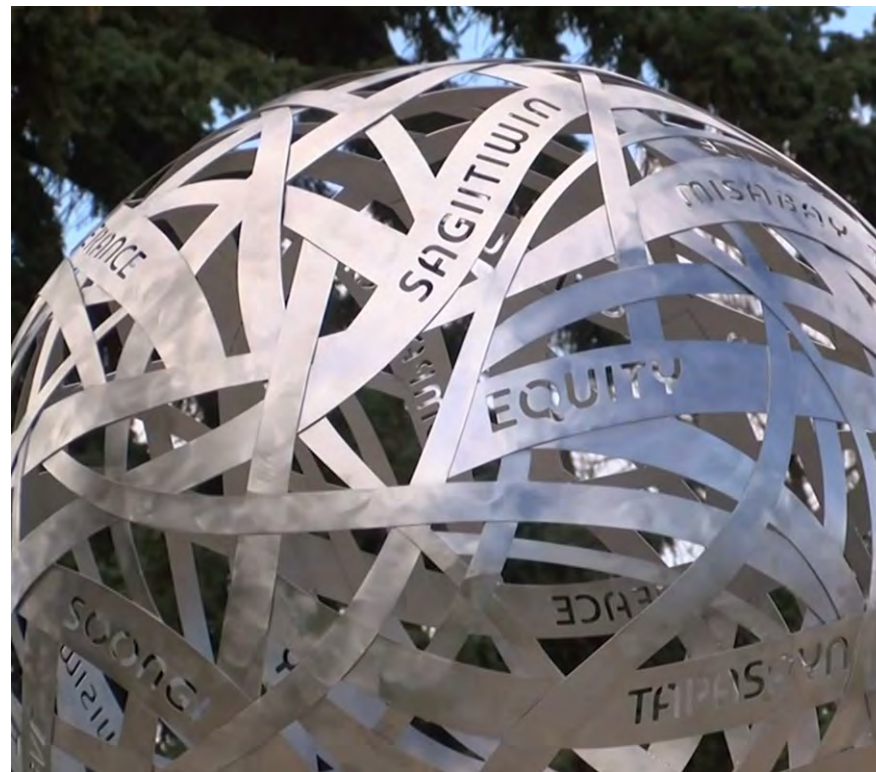
Introduction

Based in the Los Angeles area, James Dinh founded the design practice **Studiofolia** in 2010 with the simple mission of connecting people to memory and place through public art.

Because the context and requirements of each project are different, his design process is based on an approach rather than a replicable style. This focus on site-specificity is reflected in the diversity of built projects located in different communities across the country. James believes that the most enduring and grounded designs result when there is room for different voices to be heard.



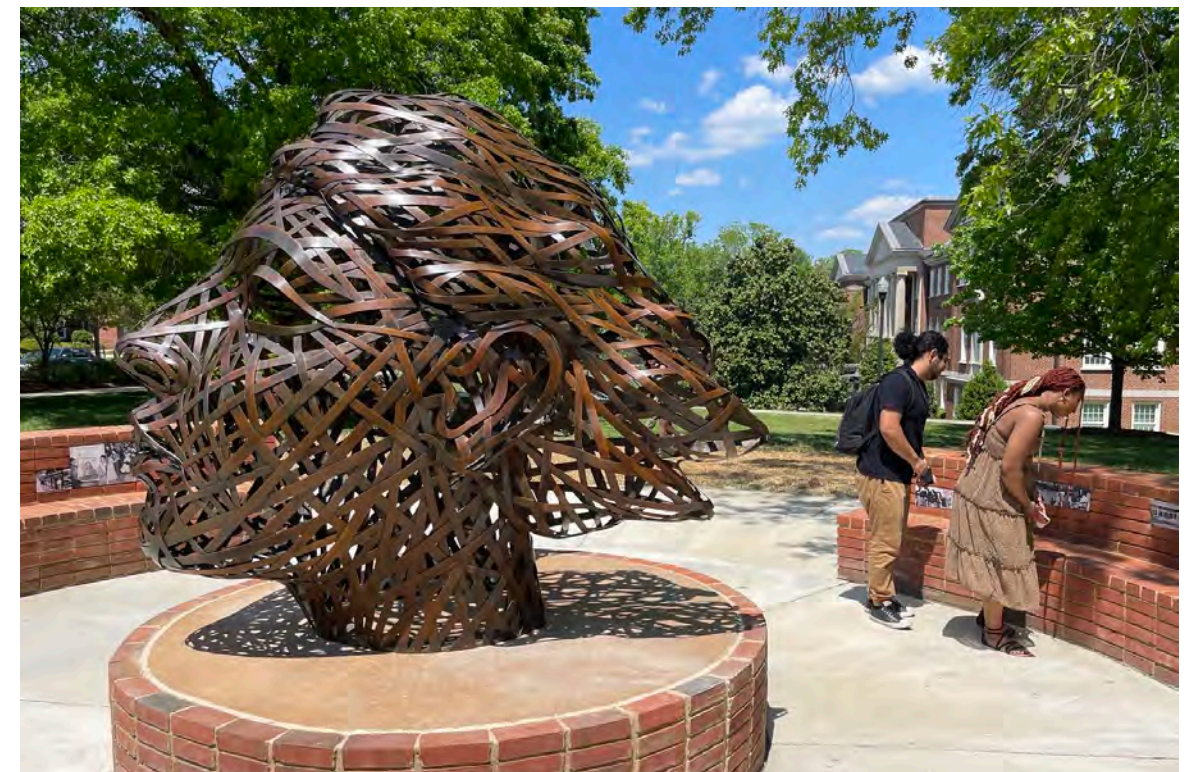
T.I.E. (Transformation Illumination Effort)
College of Education, Uni. of Nebraska, Lincoln



Equity Fountain
Helena, Montana



Of Two Lineages
Westminster, California



Daisy Garland
Uni. of North Carolina at Greensboro

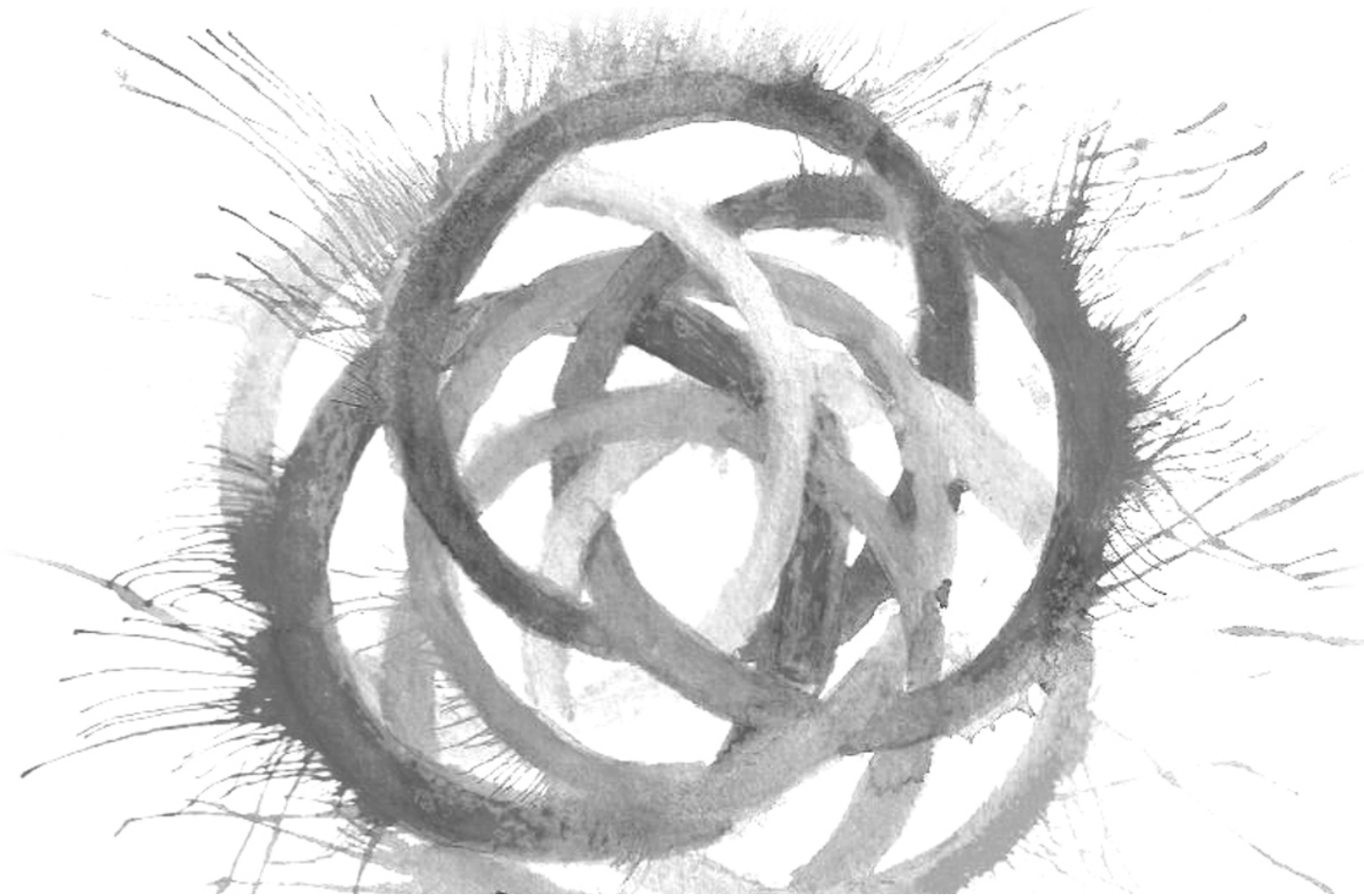
Inspiration

- The proposed artwork for Sunnyvale's Lakewood Library and Learning Center is inspired the idea that libraries are literal and metaphorical portals that open onto vast worlds of information, knowledge, and resources.
- They are democratic spaces that “open” one’s minds to the wonders of the world.



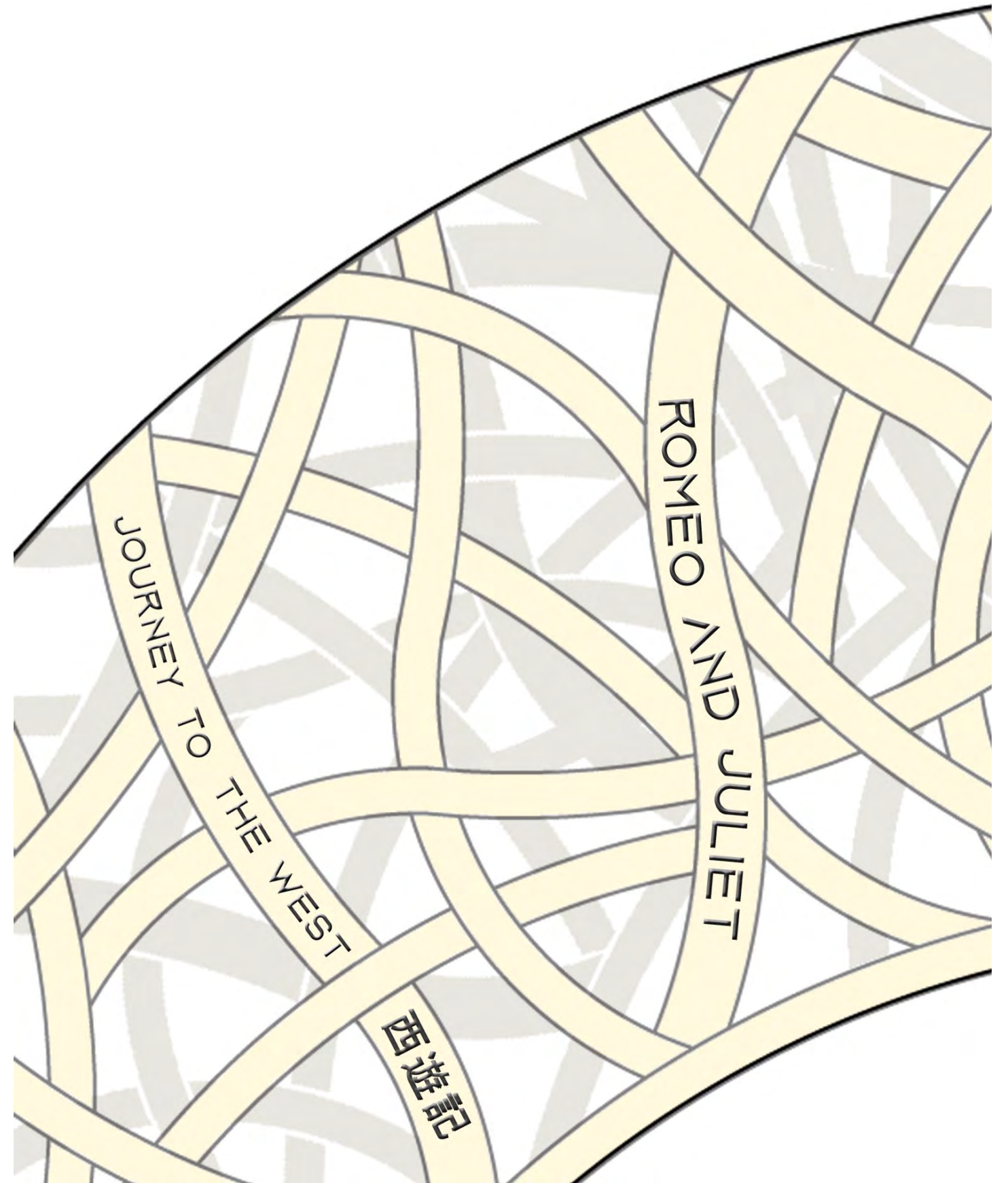
Design - the Portal

- Based on the idea that libraries are portals, the proposed sculpture takes the form of a sun- or moon-shaped gateway that visitors can walk through on their way to or from the library's entrance.
- The portal is “woven” from ribbons of steel, like a basket. This “weaving” serves as a metaphor for the interconnectedness of communities and humanity.
- The portal's size will be wide so that it is handicap accessible. The lower portion of the two “legs” of the sculpture will be solid to deter climbing.



Design - the Portal

- Some of the ribbons would have cutout texts, representing the titles of classic literary works from around the world. If possible, the titles would be written in their original language to capture the beautiful diversity of human languages in the world and in Sunnyvale.
- The artist will work with library staff to compile a list of the world's great literary classics. The list should be inclusive and have broad appeal for children and adults.
- The weaving together of texts further reinforces the idea of the interconnectedness and richness of the world's shared humanity and cultures.



Night View

- The sculpture will cast interesting shadow and light patterns over the course of the day.
- As the sculpture is hollow, it will be illuminated from within and glow like a lantern at night.



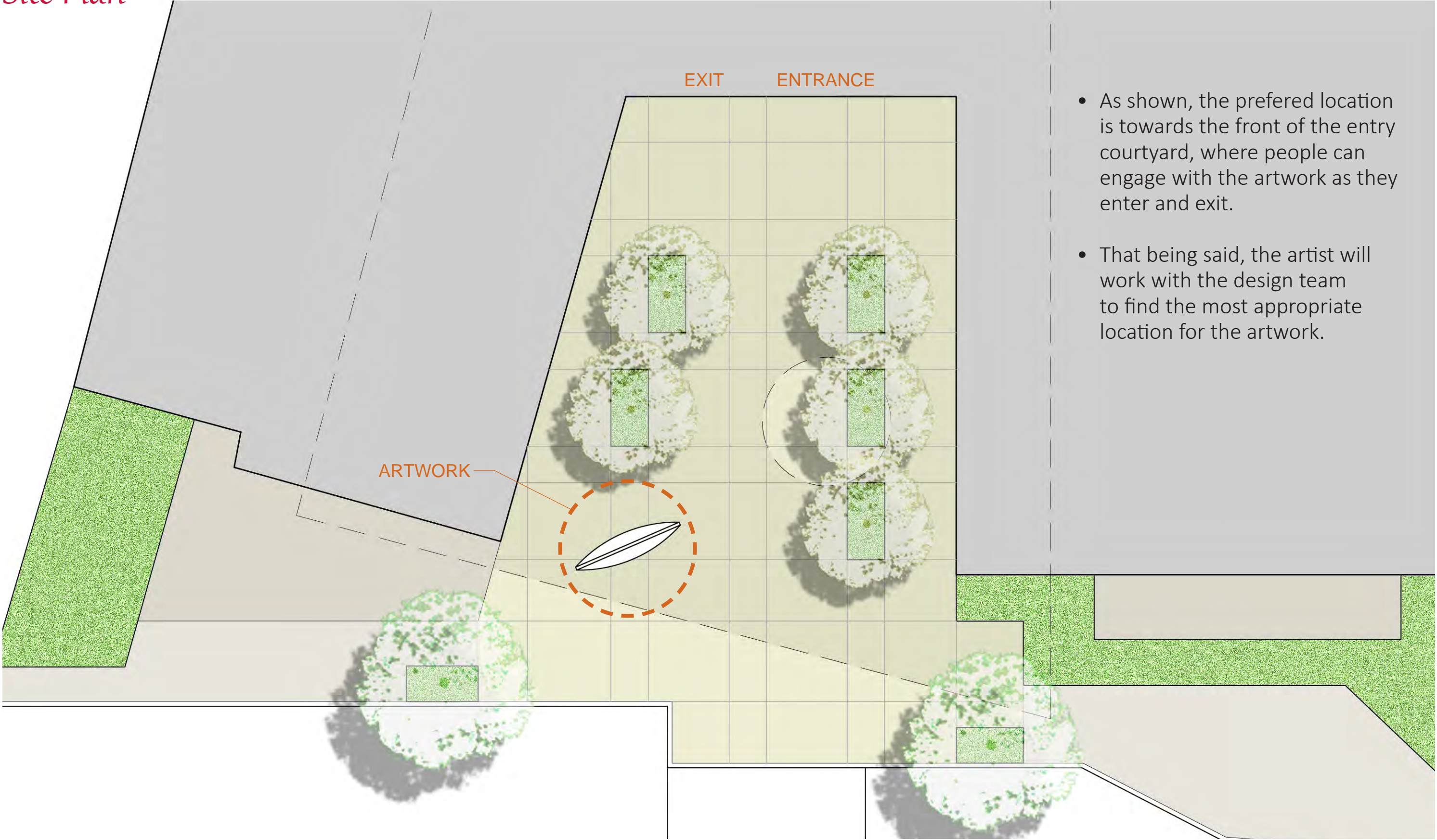
Elevation Views



FRONT/BACK ELEVATION

SIDE ELEVATION

Site Plan



- As shown, the preferred location is towards the front of the entry courtyard, where people can engage with the artwork as they enter and exit.
- That being said, the artist will work with the design team to find the most appropriate location for the artwork.

Materials

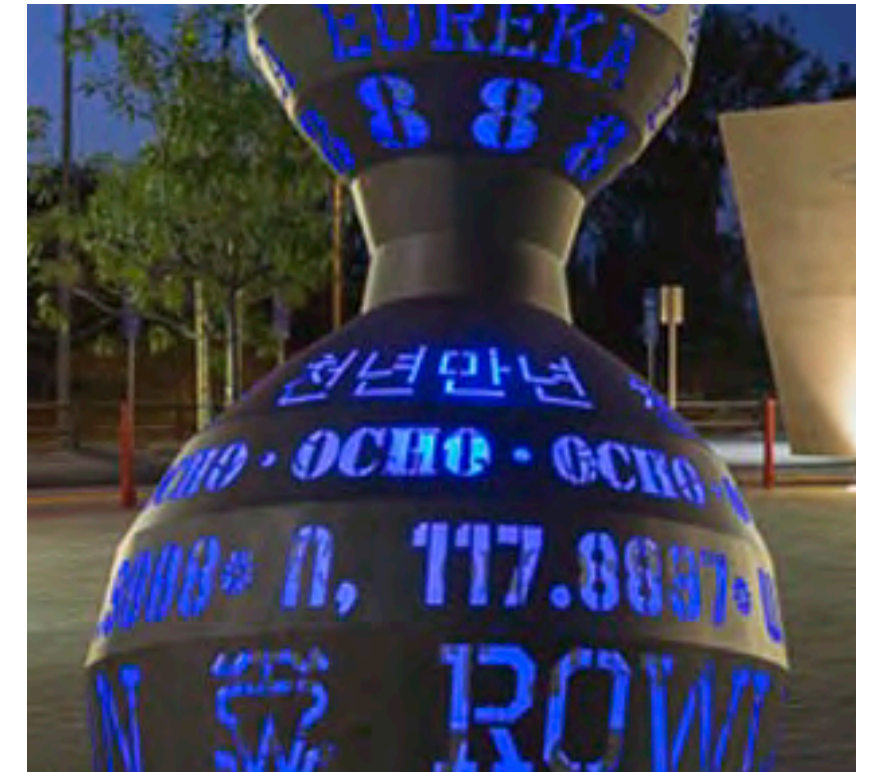
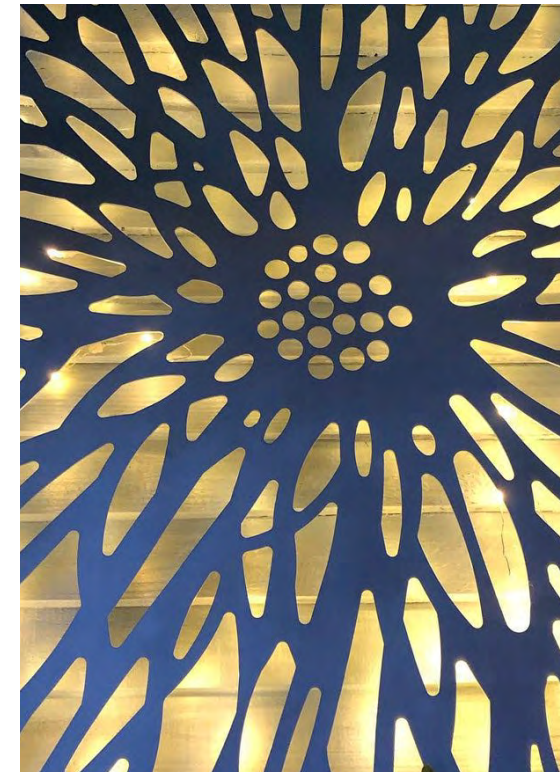
Sculpture

- 3/8" thick steel for base and framework
- 1/8" steel for "woven" parts
- A combination of water-jet cut pattern and welded "weaving"
- Powder-coat paint
- Color to be determined



Lighting

- LED strip light
- Attached to inside seam of circular frame



Installation

- Sculpture will be fabricated as a single unit to facilitate shipping & installation
- A small crane might be needed to lift the sculpture to the site
- Base plates attached to "legs" of sculpture to be bolted to concrete footing

For Behind All Seen Things Lies Something Vaster



LAKEWOOD LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER - EXTERIOR PUBLIC ART