

Phil Spitler
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BIOGRAPHY

Phil Spitler is a creative technology and lighting artist who is based in San Francisco. He has gained a reputation for his ability to create innovative and unique light-based art, as well as augmented reality and other creative technology installations.

Originally from the UK, Phil has always been fascinated by the interplay between art and technology, and has spent much of his career exploring this intersection. He has a keen eye for using light and color to create immersive environments, often incorporating cutting-edge technology to create truly transformative installations.

Phil's work has been exhibited in galleries and festivals around the US and he is always keeping with the current bleeding edge of creative technology.

EXHIBITION RECORD

PUBLIC ART

2026 TRACY WAY, Sausalito, CA
2024 CITY OF INDIO, Indio CA *
2024 LAKESIDE LANDING, San Francisco, CA *
2021 ARTS LOS ALTOS, Permanent Collection,, Los Altos, CA *
2012 REACHING FOR THE TOP, ZERO1 Biennial, Touchstone Climbing Studio, San Jose, CA *

EXHIBITIONS

2025 GARDEN OF D'LIGHTS, Walnut Creek, CA *
2025 THE ART OF SAN FRANCISCO, San Francisco, CA *
2025 AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL, Oakland, CA *
2025 KARL, San Francisco, CA *
2024 AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL, Oakland, CA *
2024 RESONANCE IN LIGHT, Heron Arts, San Francisco, CA *
2023 NAPA LIGHTED ARTS FESTIVAL, Napa, CA *
2022 OAKLAND FESTIVAL OF IMMERSIVE ARTS, Oakland, CA *
2019 WATER MUSIC, DZINE Gallery, San Francisco, CA *
2018 stARTup Art Fair, San Francisco, CA *
2017 FUNDRAISING EVENT, Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA *
2017 MANUAL DIGITAL, Space 151, San Francisco, CA *
2017 LUMINARY ART.TECH.MUSIC, The Midway, San Francisco, CA *
2017 NIGHTLIFE LIVE, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA *
2017 AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL, The Gardens at Lake Merritt, Oakland, CA *
2016 AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL, The Gardens at Lake Merritt, Oakland, CA *
2016 FRIENDS AND FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL, Saratoga Springs, CA *
2015 NIGHT LIVE, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA *
2015 TECHNOLOGICAL MEDIATIONS, 1337 Gallery, Art Works Downtown, San Rafael, CA *
2012 CIRCUIT DANCERS, Friends and Family Music Festival, Saratoga Springs, CA *

LEAD LIGHTING ARTIST

2026 STERN GROVE ENTRYWAY, San Francisco, CA
2026 ELECTRIC DAISY CARNIVAL, DAISY LANE, Las Vegas. NV
2026 BLESSING HANCOCK, ORCHID, Charlston, WV
2025 MARCO COCHARAN, R-EVOLUTION, San Francisco, CA
2025 HOME GROWN, Black Rock City, NV
2024-2025 HELIOS ART CAR, Black Rock City, NV
2024-2025 THE TICKET BOOTH ART CAR, Black Rock City, NV
2022 SYLVIA ADRIENNE LISSE, INTRANATURE, Black Rock City, NV
2021 LIZ HICKOK, INFLORESCENCE, Los Altos, CA
2004-2025 GARAGE MAHAL ART CAR, Black Rock City, NV

GRANTS

2024 MORE THAN 2 BLOCKS OF ART, San Francisco, CA *
2024 VACANT TO VIBRANT, San Francisco, CA *
2016 TEMPLE OF DIRECTION, Burning Man Festival, Black Rock City, NV *
2016 FRIENDS AND FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL, Saratoga Springs, CA *
2012 ART HERE, ZERO1 Biennial, San Jose, CA *
2012 FRIENDS AND FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL, Saratoga Springs, CA *

PRIVATE COMMISSIONS

2023 FOUR ONE NINE, San Francisco, CA *
2022 J RESORT HOTEL AND CASINO, Reno, NV *
2023 JONATHON CARVER MOORE, San Francisco, CA *
2020 OVERLOOK AT ST GABRIELS, Boston, MA
2019 SOBRATO FAMILY, Private Commission, Hillsborough, CA *
2018 WONDERSPACES MUSEUM *

ART FAIRS

2024 SAN FRANCISCO ART FAIR, San Francisco, CA *
2024 INTERSECT ART & DESIGN, Palm Springs, CA *
2024 FOG FOCUS, San Francisco, CA *
2023 UNTITLED, Miami, FL *
2017 MAKER FAIRE, San Mateo, CA *

**As part of Luminous Waveforms*

Victoria Mara Heilweil

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MFA PHOTOGRAPHY California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, CA, 1995

PUBLIC ART

2024

CITY OF INDIO, (with Luminous Waveforms), Indio, CA
LAKESIDE LANDING, (with Luminous Waveforms), San Francisco, CA

2022

SMALL GESTURES, Community Project, Palo Alto, CA

2021

ARTS LOS ALTOS, (with Luminous Waveforms), Los Altos, CA

2012

REACHING FOR THE TOP, (with Luminous Waveforms), ZERO1 Biennial, Touchstone Climbing Studio, San Jose, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024

INFINITE, Jonathan Carver Moore Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2021

SO MUCH WAS LOST, The Inner Room, Gearbox Gallery, Oakland, CA
CONFLUENCE, collaborative exhibition with Jenny Phillips and Michele King, An.ä.log SF Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2018

INFINITE, Founders Gallery, Art Works Downtown, San Rafael, CA

2017

COMMUNITY SOURCE(D), in collaboration with Mobile Arts Platform: Peter Foucault and Chris Treggiari, Pro Arts, Oakland, CA

2016

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND, Rayko Photo Gallery, San Francisco, CA
MY MUSEUM, in collaboration with Chris Treggiari, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA

2015

REMNANT, Founders Gallery, Art Works Downtown, San Rafael, CA

2013

47 YEARS, University Art Gallery California State University, Chico, CA Curator: Jason Tannen
NON REPRESENTATIONAL, two-person exhibition, wall space gallery, Santa Barbara, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026

MAPPING TIME, Mercury 20 Gallery, Oakland, CA Juried by Minoosh Zomorodinia

2025

THE ART OF SAN FRANCISCO, San Francisco, CA
DIPTYCHS, Oakland Photo Workshop Gallery, Oakland, CA
BACK TO SQUARE ONE, curated by Irene Carvajal and Pantea Karimi, WORKS, San Jose, CA
KARL, with Luminous Waveforms, Levi's Plaza, San Francisco, CA

2024

FROM DISCO DAYS TO THE TECH CRAZE: 50 YEARS OF ARTSPAN, Jewitt Gallery, Main Library, San Francisco, CA

CUT PASTE CREATE: THE ART OF COLLAGE, Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
RESONANCE IN LIGHT, in collaboration with Phil Spitler, Heron Arts, San Francisco, CA

2023

VACANT TO VIBRANT, with Luminous Waveforms, San Francisco, CA
DE YOUNG OPEN, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA
NAPA LIGHTED ARTS FESTIVAL, with Luminous Waveforms, Napa, CA

2022

RESILIENCE: A VISUAL PROCLAMATION, Upstart Modern, Sausalito, CA
OAKLAND FESTIVAL OF IMMERSIVE ARTS, with Luminous Waveforms, produced by Immersive Arts Alliance, Oakland, CA
WOMEN RISING, The Drawing Room and Curated State, San Francisco, CA

2021

2021 INTERNATIONAL JURIED EXHIBITION, online exhibition, Center for Photographic Art, Carmel, CA
Jurors: Debra Klomp Ching and Darren Ching, Klompching Gallery
NOMAD, off-site project, Torrance Art Museum, Hawthorne, CA
THE BIG PICTURE, outdoor exhibition, Denver, CO Curator: Mark Sink
LOCAL LOVE SPRING ART FESTIVAL, Terra Gallery, San Francisco, CA
FRACTION MAGAZINE 13TH ANNIVERSARY, online exhibition/publication, Fraction Magazine Issue 145
REVEAL, online exhibition, THIS Gallery
2020 VISION: SEEING OURSELVES THROUGH CHALLENGING TIMES, online exhibition, Cabrillo Gallery, Cabrillo College, CA Juror: Eleanor Harwood, Eleanor Harwood Gallery
REIMAGINING HOPE, outdoor projection, presented by Night Lights Denver and Colorado Photographic Arts Center, Denver, CO Juror: Samantha Johnston

2020

QUARANTINE PICTURE SHOW, Instagram and online exhibition, SF Camerawork, San Francisco, CA
LAZY SUSAN 2, online exhibition, Blue Arrangements, Tucson, AZ
CONTEMPORARY 2020, Art Room, Dallas, TX

2019

BONE BLACK, DZINE Gallery, San Francisco, CA
WATER MUSIC, DZINE Gallery, San Francisco, CA
ORDINARY, 1337 Gallery, Art Works Downtown, San Rafael, CA

2018

REASON AND REVERIE, Natalie and James Thompson Gallery, San Jose State University, CA Curator: Aaron Wilder
EXPOSURE 2018: TO THOSE WHO SERVE, New Hope Arts, New Hope, PA
WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT?, Mendocino College Art Gallery, Ukiah, CA Curator: Tomiko Jones

2017

SIZE MATTERS, Helmuth Projects in conjunction with Medium Festival of Photography, San Diego, CA
Juror: Katherine Ware, Photography Curator, Santa Fe Museum of Art
THE ART OF ABSTRACTION, 1337 Gallery, Art Works Downtown, San Rafael, CA

2016

WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT?, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA Curator: Tomiko Jones
PULLING THREADS, Root Division, San Francisco, CA

2015

DOMESTIC, PHOTO Gallery, Oakland, CA
TECHNOLOGICAL MEDIATIONS, 1337 Gallery, Art Works Downtown, San Rafael, CA

2014

RELICS, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA
HOME, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Ana, CA

2013

HOME: WHERE WE LIVE, Minneapolis Photo Center, Minneapolis, MN
LENS 2013, Perspective Gallery, Evanston, IL Juror: Karen Irvine, Curator, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL

2012

EMERGE, Midwest Photo Center, Wichita, KS

2011

EVER AFTER, Chapel of the Chimes, Oakland, CA

2010

ROLL CALL, SF Camerawork, San Francisco, CA

2009

IT'S STILL LIFE, Rayko Photo Gallery, San Francisco, CA

NATIONAL EXHIBITION, MARIN SOCIETY OF ARTISTS, Marin Art and Garden Center, Ross, CA Juror: Scott Shields, Chief Curator, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento

2008

VIVIDWILD, Fort Gallery, Oakland, CA

DIVAS, Robert V. Fullerton Art Museum, San Bernardino, CA Curator: Thomas McGovern

PICTURES OF THINGS, Visual Arts Center, Portsmouth, VA

GRANTS, AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

2024

KALA ARTIST IN RESIDENCY, Berkeley, CA

2023

VACANT TO VIBRANT, San Francisco, CA

2022

COVID-19 TIME CAPSULE, San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco, CA

ARTLIFT MICROGRANT, Palo Alto, CA

2017

STUDIO LAB RESIDENCY, in collaboration with Mobile Arts Platform: Peter Foucault and Chris Treggiari Pro Arts, Oakland, CA

2015

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, in collaboration with Chris Treggiari, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA

2014

PHOTOGRAPHY GRANT, The Puffin Foundation, Teaneck, NJ

2011

ALTERNATIVE EXPOSURE GRANT, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA Jurors: Julie Lazar, Director International Contemporary Arts Network; Jasmine Moorhead, Owner and Director, Krowswork; and Rosten Woo, co-founder of the Center for Urban Pedagogy

COLLECTIONS

Center for Photography at Woodstock

CHROMA, The Arts and CIIS

Cornell University

En Foco

Four One Nine (with Luminous Waveforms)

J Resort Hotel and Casino (with Luminous Waveforms)

Jonathan Carver Moore (with Luminous Waveforms)

San Francisco Arts Commission

Sobrato Family (with Luminous Waveforms)

Sutter Health

Wonderspaces Museum (with Luminous Waveforms)

Luminous Waveforms

Phil Spitler & Victoria Heilweil
Annotated Image List



(Luminous Waveforms_01)

Waveform Seating

Client: Arts Los Altos, 2021

Location: Village Park, Los Altos, CA

Materials: Acre, LEDs

Budget: \$30,000

The seating is made from Acre, a fully weatherproof and sustainable material with weatherproof interior lighting. The custom lighting patterns harmonize with the site placement. This photograph shows a 10' and 12' waveform seat. All our waveform seating is one of a kind.



(Luminous Waveforms_02)

Waveform Seating

Client: Napa Lighted Arts Festival, 2023

Location: Oxbow Market, Napa, CA

Materials: Baltic Birch Plywood, LEDs

Honorarium: \$5,000

This installation consists of two 8' seats. These were chosen for the Napa Lighted Arts Festival and are an illustration of an alternate seating design with a back.



(Luminous Waveforms_03)

Waveform Seating

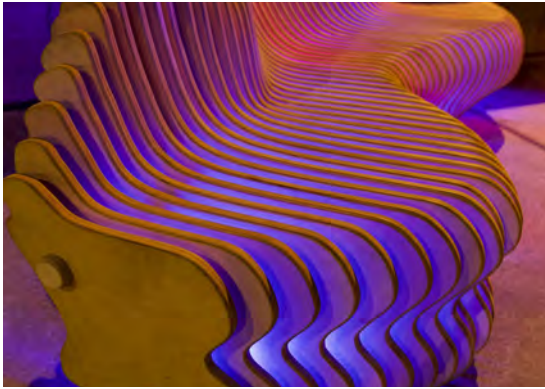
Client: Sobrato Family, 2019

Location: Hillsborough, CA

Materials: Marine Plywood, LEDs

Budget: \$18,000

This is a private commission consisting of 8' and 6' seats. The marine plywood was stained to match the client's house. This example shows the seating during the daytime. We design for both daytime and evening usage to ensure the artwork is impactful whether or not it is illuminated.



(Luminous Waveforms_04)

Waveform Seating

Client: Napa Lighted Arts Festival, 2023

Location: Oxbow Market, Napa, CA

Materials: Baltic Birch Plywood, LEDs

Honorarium: \$5,000

This is a detail of an 8' Waveforms Seat with a back. The parametric design creates an organic flow. The $\frac{3}{4}$ " slices provide a comfortable surface for resting.



(Luminous Waveforms_05)

Cascade (detail)

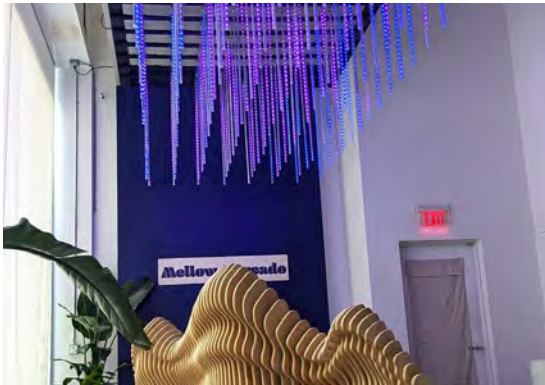
Client: Vacant to Vibrant, 2023

Location: San Francisco, CA

Materials: Plywood, LED Tubes

Honorarium: \$5,000

Luminous Waveforms was one of 18 projects selected from 900 applications for Vacant to Vibrant, a program to reinvigorate downtown San Francisco by placing artwork and small businesses in empty retail and office space.



(Luminous Waveforms_06)

Cascade and Waveform Seating

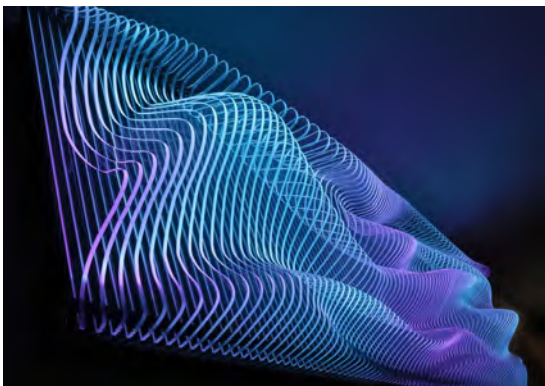
Client: SF New Deal, Vacant to Vibrant, 2023

Location: San Francisco, CA

Materials: Plywood, LED Tubes

Honorarium: \$5,000

Luminous Waveforms was one of 18 entities selected from 900 applications for Vacant to Vibrant, a program to reinvigorate downtown San Francisco by placing artwork and small businesses in empty retail and office space.



(Luminous Waveforms_07)

Spectrascape 1

Client: J Resort Hotel and Casino, 2022?

Location: Reno, NV

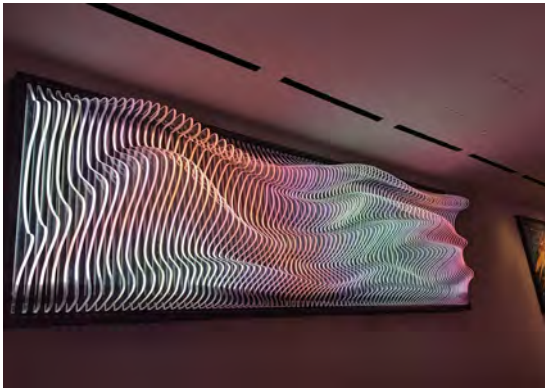
Materials: Acrylic, LEDs

Budget: \$125,000

This is a private commission for the J Resort and Casino in Reno, NV. The wall piece is 5' high by 18' wide and was created for the main casino and lobby in the hotel. The public artwork was fabricated in 1' sections for ease of install and maintenance.



(Luminous Waveforms_08)
Spectrascape 4 (detail)
Resonance in Light Exhibition, 2024
Location: Heron Arts, San Francisco, CA
Materials: Acrylic, LEDs
This smaller Spectrascape is 3' high by 7' wide. This piece was installed at Heron Arts for the Resonance in Light Exhibition.



(Luminous Waveforms_09)
Spectrascape 1
Client: J Resort Hotel and Casino, 2022?
Location: Reno, NV
Materials: Acrylic, Stainless Steel Rod, Plywood, LEDs
Budget: \$125,000
This is a private commission for the J Resort and Casino in Reno, NV. The wall piece is 5' high by 18' wide and was created for the main casino and lobby in the hotel. The public artwork was fabricated in 1' sections for ease of install and maintenance.



(Luminous Waveforms_10)
The Overlook at St. Gabriel's
Client: Boston Art, 2020
Location: Boston, MA
Materials: CLED Tubes
Budget: \$20,000
The Overlook at St. Gabriel's wanted a large scale illuminated artwork for their space. The dimensions are 4' high by 20' wide. The light score changes the color of the light in the tubes very slowly to create a mood and movement without distraction to people working in the space. The palette was chosen to harmonize with the existing stained glass in the site.



Sunnyvale

Plaza del Sol, Phase II

Artist Designed Light Sculpture

Luminous Waveforms

Phil Spitler and Victoria Mara Heilweil

luminouswaveforms.art

Introduction

Our collaborative practice, *Luminous Waveforms*, sits at the intersection of fine art and creative technology. We produce experiential works of art using innovative technologies in the design and fabrication of each individual piece. Our artworks are inspired by organic curves in nature and use custom light scores to create more complexity in the aesthetics and viewer experience. We create work that is form and function, social as well as aesthetic.

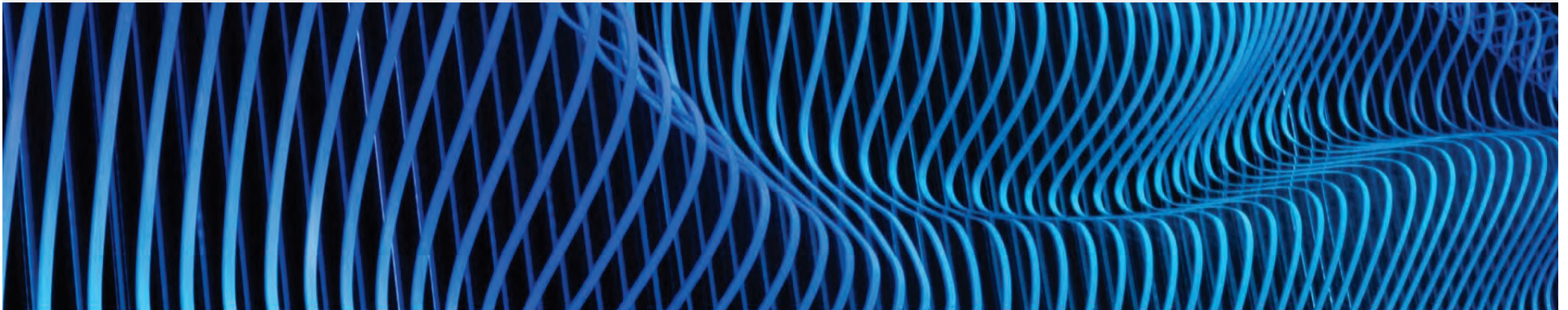
As Bay Area artists we have a connection to the area in and around Sunnyvale. The location of Sunnyvale in Silicon Valley pairs well with our use of cutting edge tools in our artwork. Our experience using CNC fabrication, laser cutting, LED lighting and sequencing in our creative process is something we build upon with every new project; keeping our designs feeling modern, elegant and cutting edge into the future.

We began developing a unique visual language with our initial seating commission in 2016. Important aspects of our aesthetic include parametric forms that are divided into slices to create a flow and the use of light to highlight and enhance the curves. We have iterated upon this language for the past ten years and expanded it to other forms and materials. For our proposal we will apply our design process and visual language to your Plaza del Sol project. Our proposed light sculpture is an iteration of our existing aesthetic, which is both familiar and an exciting challenge for us as artists.

When we visited the site, we felt it called for a public artwork that would enliven the space and draw the community to the plaza. Adding color and organic forms warms up the stark concrete environment and adding additional lighting encourages nighttime use of the seating area.

Goals

- Create a striking sculpture to attract more visitors to the Plaza del Sol.
- Use light to add illumination to the plaza in the evening to encourage more usage of the seating area.
- Utilize our design aesthetic of curved, repeating lines and parametric forms as the basis for our light sculpture.
- Harmonize the forms, color and lighting with the enhancements being added to the plaza.
- Have visual impact during the day and night.
- Bring a playful energy to the plaza.



Inspiration

These images illustrate the organic lines and parametric design we are known for and our visual inspiration for the design of our artistic light sculpture for Plaza del Sol.



Previous Related Commissions

Our design aesthetic draws inspiration from organic forms. The projects on this page are all from our illuminated seating, and showcase them both during the daytime and in the evening when lit up.

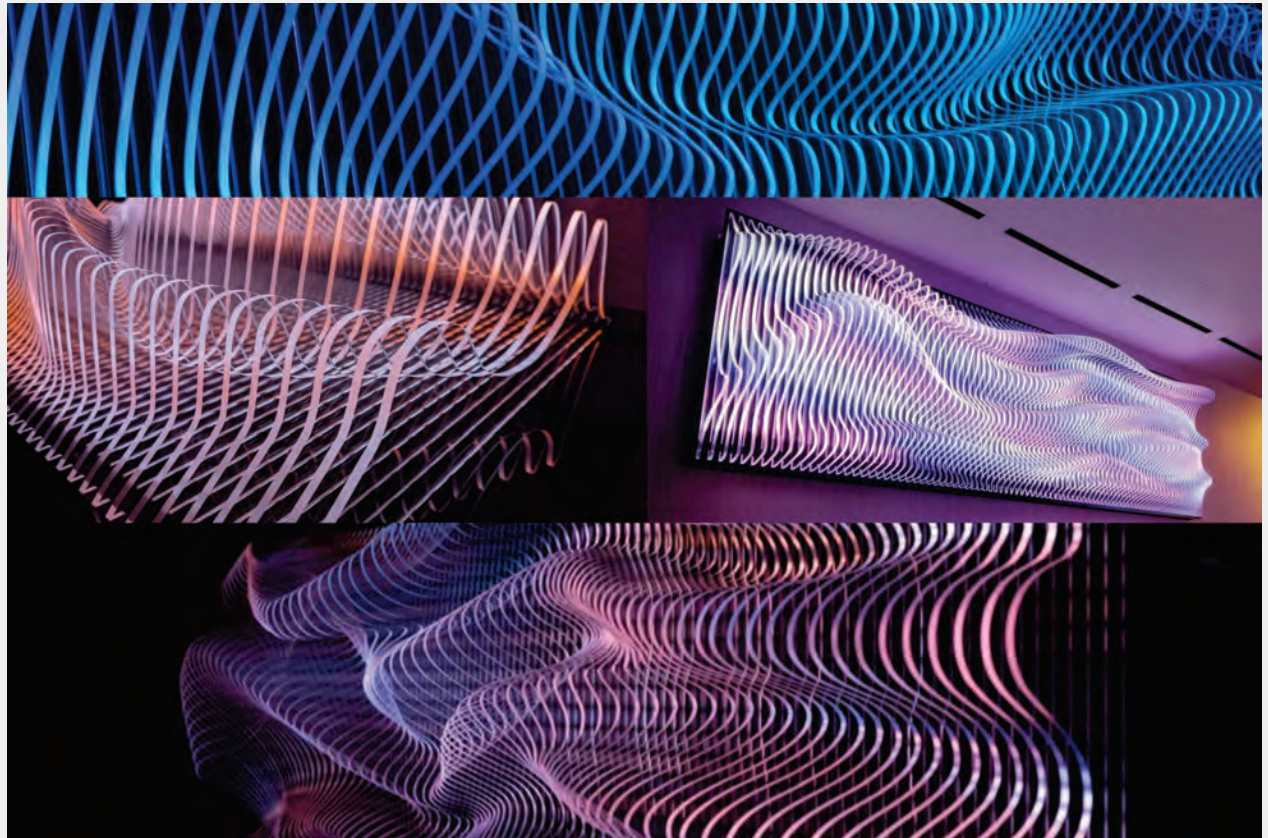
<https://philspittler.carbonmade.com/luminous-waveforms>



Previous Related Commissions

These images illustrate our use of parametric curved and repeating forms. Projects on this page are examples of our illuminated wall sculptures. These use acrylic and edge lighting to create movement that accentuates the physical forms.

<https://philspitler.carbonmade.com/spectrscape>



Proposal

For Plaza del Sol, Phase II, we propose to create an overhead light sculpture that serves as both a visually stunning artwork and functional illumination needed for the plaza. Our design is simultaneously sophisticated for young professionals and fun for families.

Our proposed light sculpture is whimsical, playful and bold. It is a statement piece that will add vitality to attract the local community to the Plaza del Sol. The light sculpture serves as a beacon at night to welcome visitors and encourages them to utilize the seating area for both rest and interaction. During the day, the forms will echo the same sense of liveliness to bring the community to the plaza. The rectangular outline of the supports will frame and anchor the seating and visually connect it to the existing retail spaces.

The concrete and metal of the plaza invites an addition of color, which will be provided in both the daytime and evening experience of the light sculpture. Nighttime uses colored lighting that moves slowly across the sculpture to activate and echo the wavelike forms in the structure. These abstract lines also evoke technological innovation and the flow of energy. In the daytime, metal forms to support the lighting will also use our signature curves and have a color palette that integrates with the overall mood of the plaza. In addition, the use of color connects with the planned children's play area.

The organic curves utilized in our design aesthetic enhances and harmonizes with the additional greenspace and nature. The undulating forms balance the stark open space, adding warmth. These forms also speak to the lines in the existing labyrinth, evoking movement and calm.

Our proposed light sculpture will have a quiet elegance during the day and come alive as evening falls. It will enhance the plaza, visually connect to the planned enhancements and entice the Sunnyvale community to spend time in the space.

Renderings

These renderings are a mock-up to visually illustrate our proposal, and should not be seen as a finalized design. If our proposal is selected, we will spend time to refine the shape and color palette of the light sculpture.



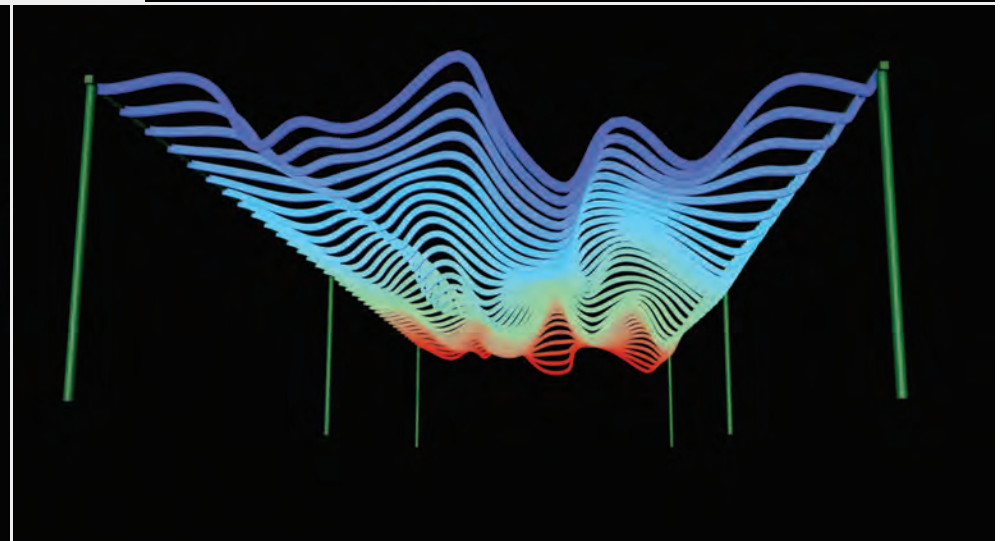
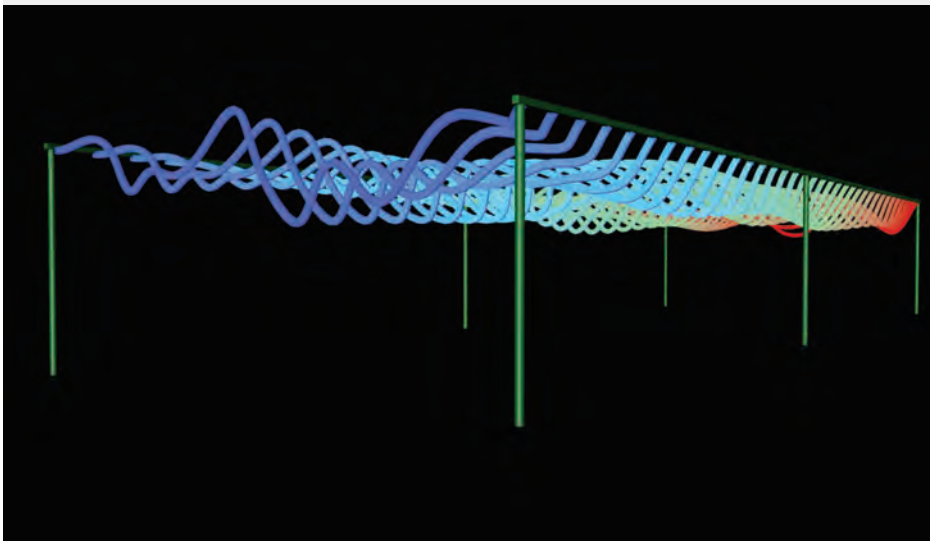
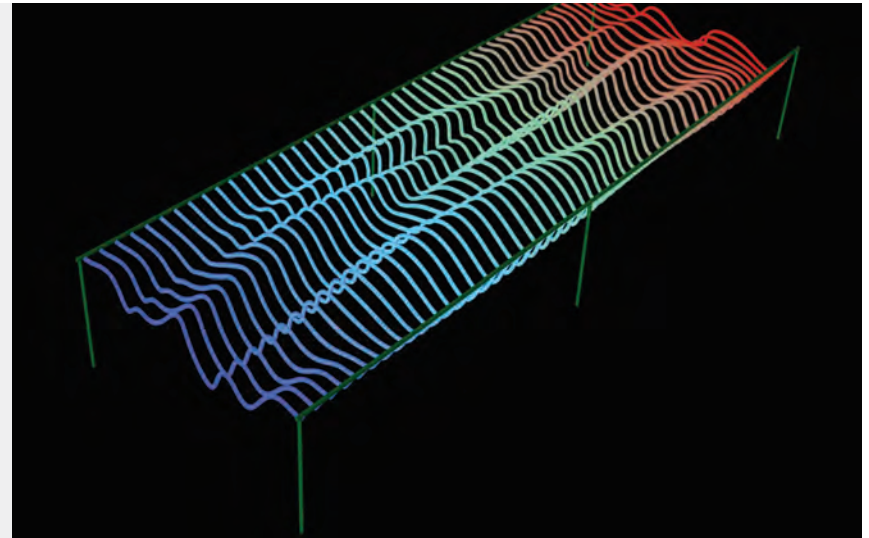
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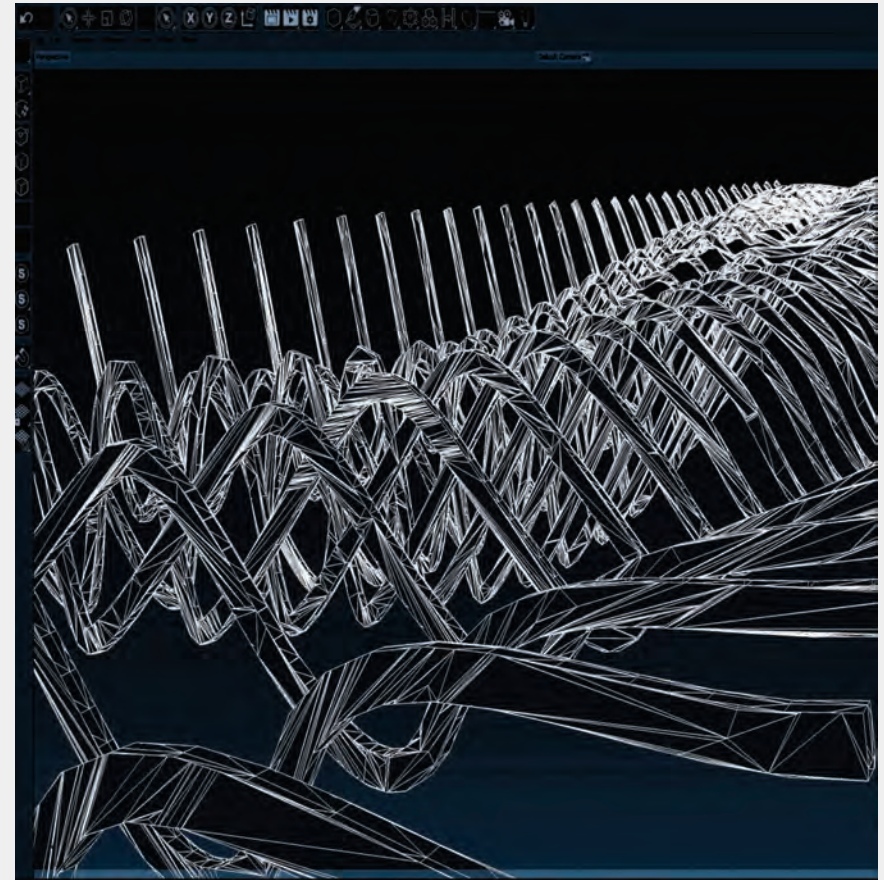


Process and Materials

We begin our design process on the computer by creating a 3D model, which is then divided into slices. Once we have our initial design, we make a small scale prototype to see the forms in a physical state. This important step in our process allows us to see any issues with the design and experience how the curves flow in space. After any needed additional iterations and prototypes, we settle on the final design for fabrication.

Our outdoor materials are all weatherproof and easy to maintain. For this project, we foresee using either steel or aluminum that can be powder coated in any color for the support structure. The LED tubes are ones we have worked with in the past and are extremely consistent. They are a 40mm diameter LED neon tubes with diffusion and soft illumination that have a strong light output.

The custom light score is inspired by the site. We brainstorm initially in our studio to experiment with the lighting, but do the final adjustments to the palette, illumination and motion on location to work with the surrounding elements.



Luminous Waveforms

Luminous Waveforms, the collaborative art practice of Phil Spitler and Victoria Mara Heilweil, merges fine art with emerging technology to create innovative and immersive art experiences. Luminous Waveforms projects have been exhibited at the Napa Lighted Arts Festival, Oakland Immersive Arts Festival, ZERO1 Biennial, California Academy of Sciences, Autumn Lights Festival in Oakland, Maker Faire, Jonathan Carver Moore Gallery and San Francisco City Hall. Spitler and Heilweil have also produced public artworks for the City of Indio, Los Altos Public Art, J. Resort in Reno, CA and the Temple of Direction at Burning Man. In 2023, Luminous Waveforms was selected from over 900 applicants as one of just 18 proposals for Vacant to Vibrant—a collaboration between SF New Deal and the City of San Francisco—to revitalize downtown with pop-up activations in vacant storefronts.

Victoria, an MFA graduate from California College of the Arts, has over 30 years of experience as an exhibiting lens-based fine artist and independent curator. She brings a refined approach to conceptual development and visual aesthetics to the collaboration. Phil, with more than three decades in visual effects and emerging technologies, has spent the last 10 years mastering illuminated art, using fabrication techniques such as laser cutting, CNC milling, and 3D printing.

Our collaborative process is a true partnership, with both of us equally involved in the concept, design, and fabrication of each piece. Phil takes the lead on technical execution, leveraging his expertise in LED sequencing and coding, while Victoria ensures every project meets the highest artistic standards with her meticulous attention to detail. Together, we merge technical innovation with artistic expression to create unique and impactful works.



Thank You

luminouswaveforms.art

