

VICKIE JO SOWELL

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EDUCATION:

1978-1980 M.F.A. Mills College, Oakland, CA (Sculpture)
1974-1978 B.A., Montana State University, Bozeman, MT (Art)

AWARDS/COMMISSIONS:

2014 **Orange is the Happiest Color**, Escuela Bilingue Internacional,
Emeryville, CA
Powder-baked enamel on steel

Signature sculpture for new bilingual school campus. Extensive interaction with school staff and students to create panel designs that present images and words in three languages

Contract Value: \$27,600
Reference: Margaret Parker Salop Capital Improvement Project Manager
Escuela Bilingüe Internacional
msalop@ebinternacional.org

2011 **Marina Gates**, Marinas Int'l, Emeryville, CA
Powder-baked enamel on steel

Entrance artworks for the Marina and Sportsfishing docks. Reconditioning of existing structure, additional artworks, new panels.

Contract Value: \$21,500
Reference: Don Gussler Harbormaster, Emeryville Marina
dgussler@marinasinternational.com

2011 **The Rippling**, McKinley Arts and Culture Center, Reno NV
Powder-baked enamel on steel

Sign supports for informational signs at Reno's Arts Center that featured local endangered species

Enamel painted steel

Entryways and decorative fencing for Elementary school renovation

Contract Value: \$25,000

2008 **Life is a Ball**, King Park, Brentwood, CA
Welded Bronze

Commission for City of Brentwood, CA's King Park. Figures of five bronze dogs are rendered in the act of leaping for a thrown ball. The standalone figure of "King," Brentwood's first licensed canine, sits nearby.

Contract Value: \$44,000

2008 **Roots of Oakland**, Highland Hospital, Oakland, CA
10 tile mosaic panels with hand-crafted text and floral elements

I was commissioned to provide 10 ceramic tile mosaic panels for the terraced main entryway to Alameda County's Highland Hospital.

Contract Value: \$13,000

2007 **Sprazzo di Sole**, Orinda, CA
Enamel on Steel

Commission installed at Private Residence, Orinda CA.

Contract Value: \$10,000

2007 **Sweidy-Stata Poolhouse**, Atherton, CA
Powder-baked enamel, zinc-dipped steel

Private Commission, Sweidy-Stata Home, Atherton, CA. I was commissioned to provide a full suite of artworks for the poolhouse location, including three gates, two railings, a large window treatment, and over 50 feet of ornamental fence.

Contract Value: \$37,000

2005, 2007 **Richmond Works**, Richmond, CA
166 waterjet cut steel panels, powder-baked color coatings

Public Art Commission for the City of Richmond's Transit Village. The commission consists of approximately 600 feet of fence in three sections along Marina Way, bordering the Transit Village. Panels depict 7 original thematic designs relating to the people and times of Richmond. Follow-on for Traffic Circle barrier, 2007.

Contract Value: \$150,000

2005 **Stockton Heliotrope**, Stockton, CA
Enamel on Steel 50' diam.

Commission installed at Matt Equinoa Park in Stockton, California. Three sculptural sections sits atop a hexagonal shade structure establishing a spiraling floral bouquet that tracks the sun. Floral images are of native flowers that attract beneficial insects.

Contract Value: \$20,000

2004 **Neighborhood Convergence**, Emeryville, CA
11 8' tall Enamel painted steel figures

Public Art commission, Emeryville, CA. The commission consisted of eleven enamel-painted steel figures, each approximately 8' tall, executed in collaboration with Emeryville painter M. Louise Stanley and lighting designer Jeremy Hamm. The figures are installed on both sides of the Powell Street undercrossing of Interstate 80 in Emeryville.

Contract Value: \$125,000

2004 **Fruitvale Revival**, Oakland, CA

Public Art Commission, City of Oakland. The commission was for a central arch that combined architectural icons drawn from the Fruitvale district with organic fruit and branch fabrications that sprang from Fruitvale's orchard heritage. This plaza entryway crowns four columns along the edge of International Boulevard. A follow-on commission put in place a similar single central arch around a hundred yards away.

Fruit glass enamels by Deborah Lozier

Contract Value: \$30,000 + \$12,000 f.o.

2002 **Legends of Milpitas**, Milpitas, CA

Installation for Murphy Park in Milpitas. Four pillars with capitals depicting aspects of local history.

Contract Value: \$15,000

2002 **Ironhorse Trail**, Dublin, CA
Powder-baked enamel on Steel 183" x 103" x 6"

Percent-for-Art fulfillment, IronHorse Trail Housing project in Dublin, California. The commission included this signature marquee at the entrance to the project, and a series of treeguard elements along the streets there.

Contract Value: \$22,000

2001 **Michael's Palette**, Emeryville, CA
Powder-baked enamel on Steel 13' x 10' x 8'

Commercial commission, percent-for-art fulfillment, Michaels Arts Store, Emeryville, CA

Contract Value \$17,000

2001 **Emeryville Firestation #2**
Powder-baked enamel on Steel 20' x 3' x 3", 15' x 4' x .5"

For the City's first public art project for the Emeryville Firestation #2, I served as both sculptor and designer, serving as a design/color consultant for the entire facility in addition to the metalworks I installed.

Contract Value \$25,000

2000 **PickleWorks** Gates and Signage (Percent for Art fulfillment)

EXHIBITIONS:

2008 "Artscape Orinda," 11 Public Art Sculptors
2004 "Off the Rim" Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ
2003 "Big Little" Jewelers and Sculptors in Metal, Oakland, CA
2000 "Introductions" Sculpture Garden, Wildwood Farm, Glenellen, CA
2000 "Interpreting the Figure" Mill Valley Sculpture Garden
1998 1078 Gallery, Chico, CA (2-person show)
1998 "Body and Soul" Matrix Gallery, Sacramento, CA
1998 S.F. Museum of Modern Art, Rental Gallery, San Francisco
1997 "Marked Metal" Richmond Arts Center, Richmond, CA
1997 "Humor, Parody, + Satire", PRSG at SF Design Center
1996 National Women's Caucus for the Arts, Mills College, Oakland, CA
1996 Pacific Rim Sculptors Group at the Mother Lode, Sonoma, CA
1995 SF Women Artists Gallery, San Francisco, CA
1995 Andrea Schwarz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
1994 Public Art Sculpture Exhibition, City of Santa Clara, CA
1994 Pacific Rim Sculptors Group, Syntex Gallery, Palo Alto, CA
1994 ISC Exhibition, Contract Design Center, San Francisco



Elevation rendering of Sowell's design proposal. Each mural will measure approximately 24'w x 5'h x 1"d and be constructed of 1/8" metal sheeting. The metal sheeting will be cut so that the negative spaces of the designs are left, creating the "lines" of each scene. The lines will be painted a rust-brown and the bare wall behind the metal frame will be filled in with colored paint, reminiscent of a coloring book.



Imagery depicting the Murphys' wagon train journey to Sunnyvale.



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