

Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins

Call to Artists EOI

Lion Sculpture to Accompany Police Memorial Wall

Los Alamos

August 1, 2025

This package contains:

- Cover page
- Letter of Interest
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We have collaborated for over twenty years in sculpture, multimedia, and installation art, producing public commissions and exhibitions that bridge art, architecture, and urban design. Our practice is rooted in site-responsive works that blend symbolic power, technical innovation, and contemporary craftsmanship. We believe public art should enliven civic settings, spark collective imagination, and honor the spirit of place. This conviction, shaped through both professional and personal experience, inspires our enthusiastic response to the Los Alamos lion sculpture RFQ.

Our connection to New Mexico is long-standing and meaningful. Daniel has visited the state for over twenty-five years, with family residing in Santa Fe. Together, we have exhibited in the Santa Fe art fair, shown work in New Mexico galleries, and have a major exhibition scheduled for 2027. We know Los Alamos well, having visited multiple times—most recently in June—and are genuinely familiar with its unique blend of scientific achievement, storied landscapes, and natural wonder. The Valles Caldera National Preserve is a family favorite, and the East Fork Jemez River Trail holds particular spiritual significance for us. This enduring resonance with the region compels us to bring our creative perspective and heartfelt respect to a public sculpture meant to accompany the Los Alamos Police Memorial Wall.

We approach this opportunity as a chance to honor the police and broader community of Los Alamos, while using our creative skills, art historical knowledge, and experience in integrated design to create a symbolic lion sculpture that will inspire residents for generations to come. We are fluent in stonework and metal fabrication, adept with digital design and engineering, and deeply aware of New Mexico's cultural and artistic movements. Our goal is to combine the innovation and technology emblematic of Los Alamos with the state's legendary enchantment and sense of place.

Our ability to realize bold, lasting artworks in public space is demonstrated in our portfolio. Projects such as *The Water Guardians*, installed in Toronto's Canary District, illustrate our approach to creating contemporary, site-responsive figures that serve as sentinels. These larger-than-life guardians stand as approachable, symbolically rich beacons, fabricated from highly durable materials. The project highlights how we balance visual strength and technical durability with cultural meaning and environmental stewardship—key qualities for the Los Alamos lion.

Similarly, *Busy Beaver*, a large-scale, near life-size wood sculpture, provides the strongest direct precedent for this project. *Busy Beaver* matches the lion's ideal dimensions) and demonstrates our expertise in animal form, approachable but dignified design, and site integration. The work embodies industriousness, resourcefulness, and natural intelligence—a spirit we would echo in Los Alamos by capturing both the majesty and symbolism of the African lion. The pose, geometric fabrication, and welcoming placement show our sensitivity to crafting works that function as focal points and enduring enhancements to their sites.

We are equally adept at works that integrate symbolism and robust material execution, as with *Directions Intersections Connections*—a relief mural weaving together local history, movement, and abstraction to create a visual landmark for the urban public. *The Delta*, a sculptural water feature in stainless steel and engineered elements, demonstrates our capacity for crafting enduring, transcendental installations designed for decades of outdoor exposure. For the Los Alamos lion, we are prepared to draw from both classical sculptural traditions and high-tech methodologies—always guided by context, appropriateness, and our commitment to a novel, dignified result.

Across all projects, we manage every phase—from concept and engineering through fabrication and installation—with thoughtful selection of materials expressly suited for exterior permanence. We understand the rigorous demands of public art and create with durability, safety, and ongoing public engagement in mind.

Our approach to the Los Alamos lion will be grounded in research, dialogue, and an attentive response to site context. We will collaborate closely with local stakeholders, honoring the solemnity of the surrounding Police Memorial Wall with a design that is bold, dignified, and inviting. The lion will serve as a powerful visual enhancement, bridging remembrance and renewal, tradition and innovation.

Thank you for considering our qualifications and our commitment to creating a landmark sculpture that reflects the strength, resilience, and inspiring future of Los Alamos.

01: Dodecadandy

(public art outdoor)



Dodecadandy

Completed 2022

Commissioned by the TTC

Location: Sheppard West Station, Toronto, Ontario

Sphere: 16' diameter; Spores: 8' x 3'

Aluminum tube and urethane paint

Budget: \$300,000

- Integrated art, site responsive, gateway project.
- Worked with lead architecture firm: DTAH on the integration of the project into a landscape design.



Description:

Installed adjacent to Sheppard West Station in Toronto, *Dodecadandy* addresses the space between the urban and suburban. A rational utopian form (a geodesic sphere) is contrasted against nature and growth from the dispersal of its scattered seeds.

A dandelion seed clock flows northward and a planting pattern follows its spores. The site is integrated thematically with a landscape plan that echoes the form and narrative of the sculpture; symbolizing urban growth, transitory migration, and regeneration.



02: Balancing Act

(studio produced museum art)



Balancing Act
Completed 2023
Powder coated aluminum, felt, fabric, foam, electronics, motors.
Sculpture structure 10' x 10' x 9.5'
Budget: N/A (example of museum quality work)

- A Multidisciplinary, large scale, project of mixed-media elements, that are kinetic, electronic, and interactive. The project indicates an ability to synthesize sculpture and painting to find metaphorical allusions. And to work with materials and customize them for artistic effect.



Description:

Balancing Act consists of a user-controlled large-scale claw crane game where participants can stack sculptural components to create compositions. Accompanying the installation are paintings depicting combinations, portraits, and abstractions of the component shapes.

The beauty in the paintings is echoed in the historical lineage of claw-crane games through popular culture. Constructivism meets portraiture, meets mass media. *Balancing Act* refers to resource extraction, and the play between the artist and participant as subject.



03: The Water Guardians

(public art and landscape architecture outdoor)



The Water Guardians

Completed 2015

Commissioned by Waterfront Toronto

Location: Canary District, Toronto, Ontario

12' x 4' x 22' high (site dimensions 23' w x 100' d)

Galvanized steel, polyurethane coating, rubber surfacing, rubber mounds, lighting.

Budget \$400,000

- Worked with PFS and the Planning Partnership for site.
- Landscape architecture, integrated art, site responsive, social space, gateway project, large format graphic plan.
- 2017 Toronto Urban Design Awards, Large Places and/or Neighbourhood Designs Category.

Description:

The RFP for this project called for a 'living room' space and child-friendly zone in the West Don Lands Village (Canary District) of Toronto. The three figures stand as personifications of water, as sentinels and guardians of the water-ways of Toronto.

Previously a site of industrial contamination, this area has been remediated. *The Water Guardians* stand guard over the district, they form an arch over a river-way-walk-way; and their eyes light up at night – standing as a beacon protecting the neighborhood and the environment.



04: The Humber Molecule Trees

(public art outdoor)



The Humber Molecule Trees

Completed 2017

Commissioned by Infrastructure Ontario

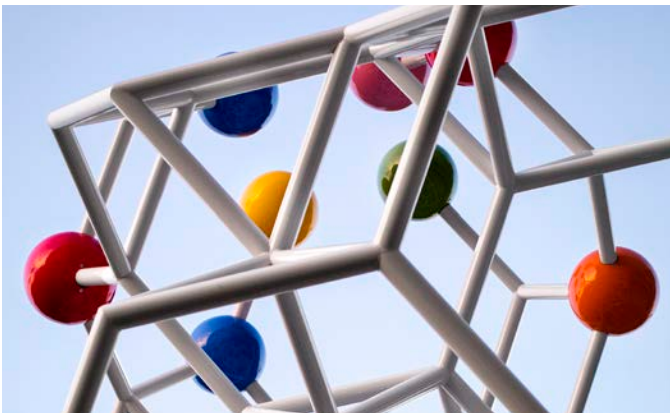
Location: Humber River Regional Hospital, Toronto

20' x 12' x 10' (x 2)

Stainless steel pipe, spun aluminum spheres, and polyurethane paint

Budget \$350,000

- Gateway project – Hospital way-finding
- HOK Architects (building)
- Worked with Quinn Design Associates regarding landscape integration.



Description:

The Molecule Trees frame the entrance of the hospital. The sculpture relates to the adjacent architectural glass and its theme of trees in a forest where diversity creates a unified whole – a community and an ecosystem. The sculpture pays tribute to the rational nature of science and medicine, and the quest for solutions at the molecular level. Realized as a geometry of nestled forms, the sculpture is in bloom, its chemical compounds symbolic of a tree that bears fruit. The sculptures are integrated within the landscape design of the hospital and the hospital's narrative of diversity and togetherness – a social forest.



05: The Eddy, Rite of Passage

(public art and landscape architecture outdoor)



The Eddy, Rite of Passage

Completed 2018

Commissioned by the City of Burnaby

Location: Willingdon Linear Park, Burnaby, British Columbia

Stainless steel, polyurethane coating, steel core rope, rubber surfacing

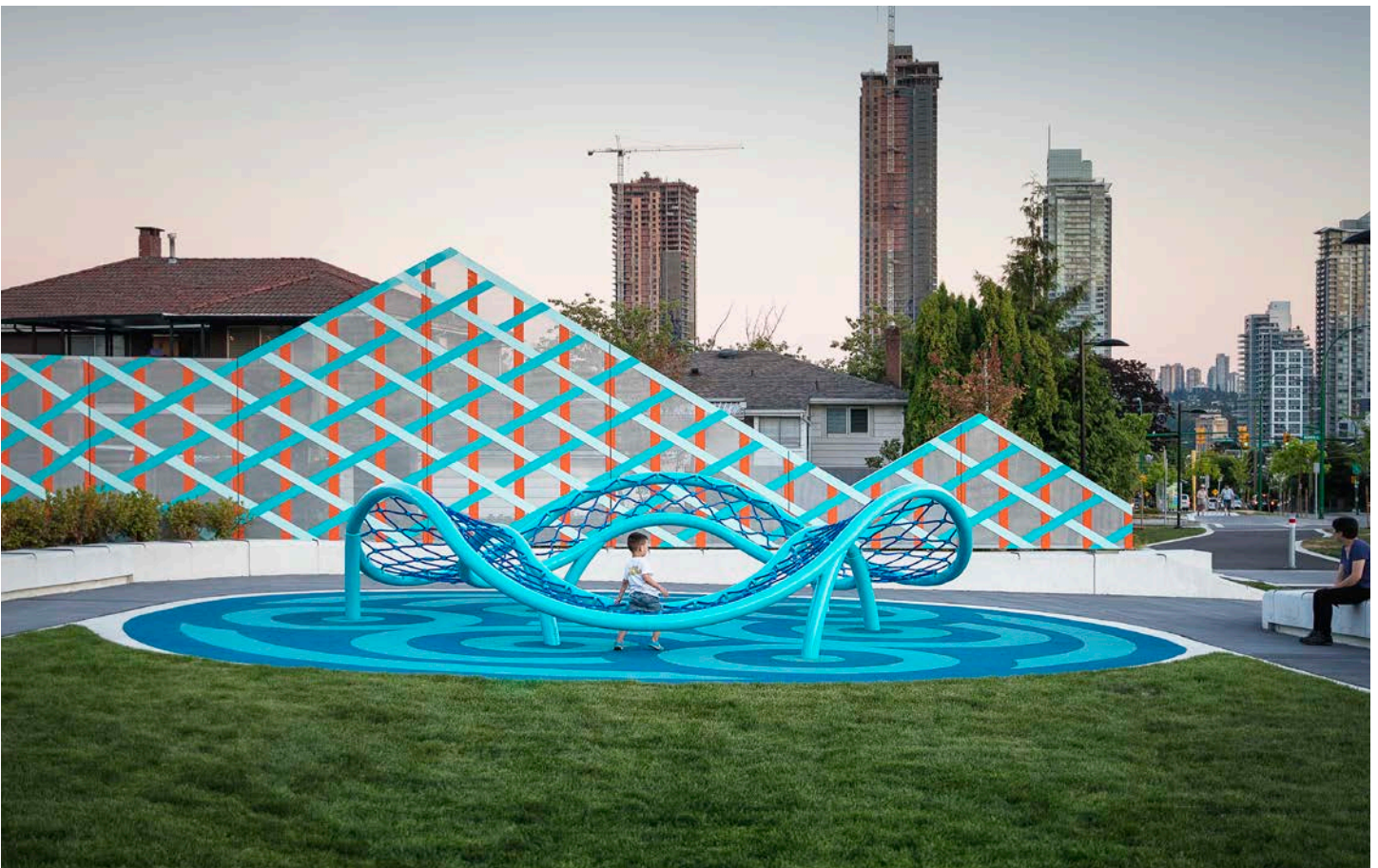
5' x 20' diameter

Budget: \$550,000 (for play structure, rubber surfacing, and art screen backdrop).

- In collaboration with ISL Landscape Architecture Services.
- Landscape architecture, integrated art, site responsive, social space, gateway project, large format graphic plan.
- Linear park, mobility path, narrative path of discovery.

Description:

The Eddy is a social sculpture that is part of a linear park that expresses the watershed themes of the Fraser River Delta. Formal language such as: the passage, the eddy, and the delta, are made into sculptural forms. The linear park also contains over 200m of 'art screens' that are installed in various locations along the park. *The Eddy* is an undulating steel structure that is at once a hammock, a play structure, and a social hub. Based on swirling river eddies, the sculpture's centrifugal form is enjoyed by people of all ages. Tying into the woven art screen that wraps around the pocket park, the netting of the sculpture reinforces social cohesiveness and interaction.



06: The Delta, Rite of Passage

(public art and landscape architecture outdoor)



The Delta, Rite of Passage

Completed 2018

Commissioned by the City of Burnaby

Location: Willingdon Linear Park, Burnaby, British Columbia

Stainless steel, polyurethane coating, thermally sprayed SS non-slip coating, electrical and mechanical, lighting, concrete, custom fountain components.

Sculpture and wet deck: 26' x 22' x 14'

Budget: \$500,000 (sculpture, fountain, wet/dry deck,)

- In collaboration with ISL Landscape Architecture Services.
- Landscape architecture, integrated art, site responsive, water feature, fountain, lighting design.
- 2019 Architecture Master-prize, honorable mention.



Description:

The Delta in Charles Street Pocket Park is a place of rest, atmosphere, and reflection. This sculptural water feature ascends with a welcoming embrace. *The Delta* creates a visual and aural screen for the park, calming and replacing the sights and sounds of traffic with cascading water. *The Delta's* white tubes resemble river tributaries, as water flows from them onto shimmering and faceted stainless-steel rock-like forms. This sculptural installation takes transcendental inspiration from the Fraser River Watershed. The entirety of the linear park symbolizes the region's splendour and encapsulates it in human scale.



07: Speech Bubble

(public art and landscape architecture outdoor)



Speech Bubble

Completed 2015

Commissioned by Pinnacle International

The Pinnacle on Adelaide, Toronto, John Street

metal, paint, LED video screen

16' x 20' x 1' 3"

Budget (for structure, screen, content): \$400,000

- Integrated art, electronic art, graphic art, two dimensional art, digital art, large format graphic design and planning.
- Worked Janet Rosenberg & Studio (Landscape Architects) firm: regarding overall site integration.



Description:

Using the technological language of outdoor advertising communications: the LED screen Speech Bubble is a tool for dialogue and contemplation. Cantilevering audaciously from the ground, it gives voice to a new privately developed public space in Toronto's entertainment district. The speech bubble frame, as a symbol, represents spoken text, yet the LED screen plays a history of geometric abstract art.

The sculpture is integrated with the techno landscape theme of Rosenberg Studio's public square, and is selected as an example of integrated art and landscape.



08: Directions Intersections Connections

(public art outdoor)



Directions Intersections Connections

Completed 2019

Commissioned by the TTC

Location: Woodbine Station, Toronto, Ontario

Aluminum, Polyurethane Enamel

100' x 10' x 4" d

Budget \$250,000

- Integrated art, site responsive, large format graphic plan.



Description:

Directions Intersections Connections symbolizes place, in the context of time, distance, and transport. This integrated relief mural expresses the greater Danforth area through motion, the intersections of communities, and connections to both the present and the past.

Farming fields, city blocks, the Woodbine Raceway, nodes of transit maps, the Don River, and an abstract cityscape blend into each other. From an oblique view, a vibrant wash of color is created by bright vertical fins, expressing concepts of abstraction, measurement, and animation.



09: The Ball is in Your Court

(studio produced public art, indoor)



The Ball is in Your Court

completed 2019

Commissioned by The City of Lethbridge, for the ATB Athletic Facility

Location: Lethbridge, Alberta

Acoustic Acrylic paint, on custom Acoustic Fiberglass Panels, PVC Plastic

16' x 22' x 5 panels (larger) (of a 10 panel series)

Budget: \$200,000

- Integrated art, site responsive, large format graphic plan.
- Diamond Schmitt Architects, worked with regarding: architectural integration.

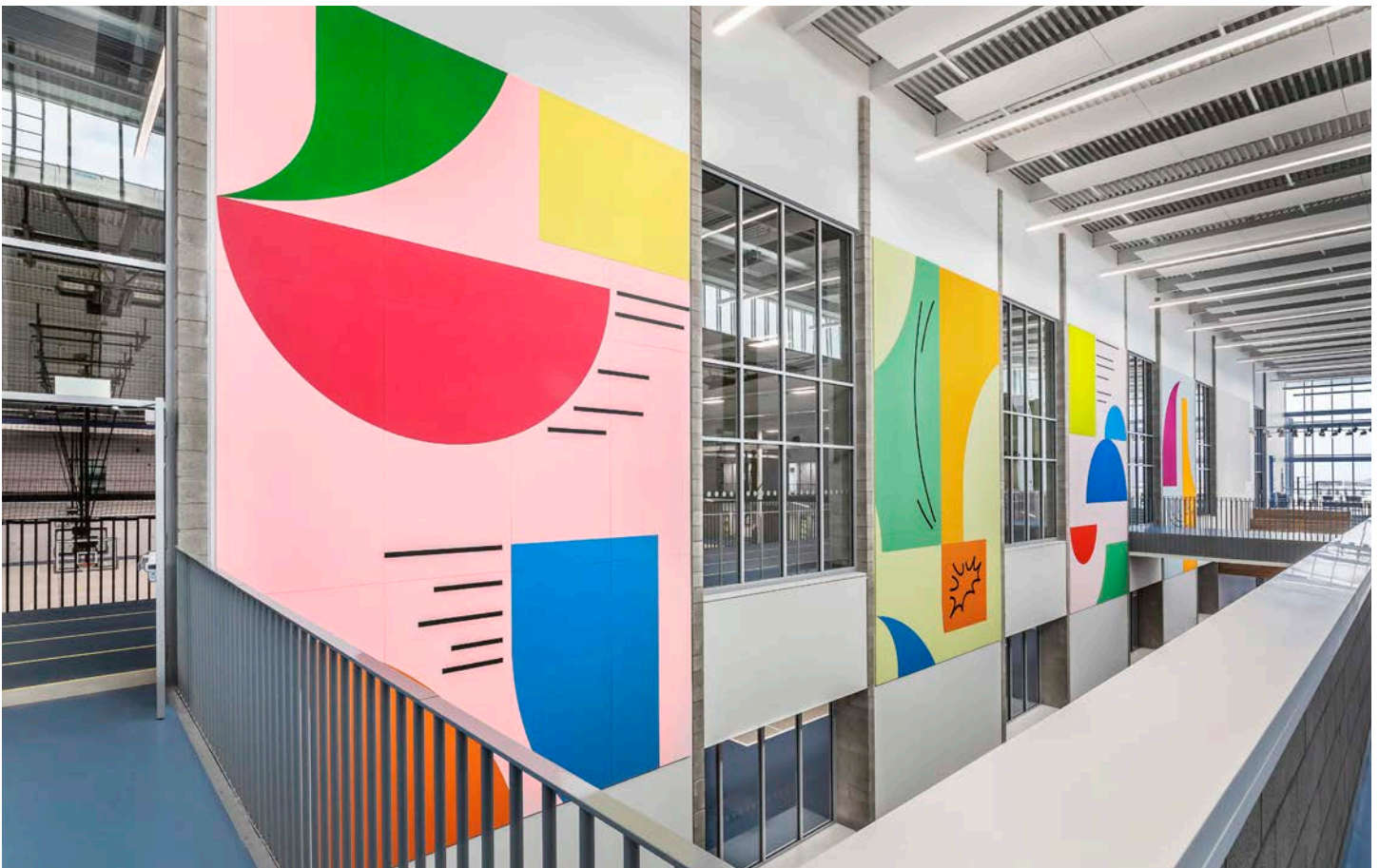


Description:

The Ball is in Your Court solves the problem of mitigating acoustical issues in a huge athletic facility, while integrating an artistic program into an architectural setting. These large-format paintings are made on acoustic panels, and tell a story of colorful component pieces of a basketball court vying for space, as expressed through the motion lines used in cartoon drawings and sports play-books to form a story.

This series represents views of the ten panels installed.

Top left: gymnasium, middle left and bottom: atrium.



10: Busy Beaver

(public art outdoor)



Busy Beaver

Completed 2022

Commissioned by the Schulich School of Business

Location: York University, Toronto, Ontario

Wood, metal, found logs

Beaver: 4' (h) x 3' 6" (w) x 8' (d)

Budget: \$100,000

- Integrated art, site responsive.
- Social sculpture.



Description:

Busy Beaver invites students to sit on its logs as a respite from daily academic life. The beaver, Canada's national animal, symbolizes industriousness, creativity, and the inherent intelligence of nature. This faceted wood beaver has gnawed through the adjacent logs in a systematic and programmed manner, producing geometric carvings. The digital "byte" alludes to the paradox of intelligence in nature, compared with computer intelligence inherent in the sculpture's design. *Busy Beaver* cleverly references new frontiers for innovation and creativity, while nodding to Canada's natural heritage.



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SOLO EXHIBITIONS/ SPECIAL PROJECTS/ SOLO ART FAIRS (abridged)

- 2026 Two Dimensions, McIntosh Gallery, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada
- 2025 Three Dimensions, Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada
- 2024 Three Dimensions, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 2024 Balancing Act, Royale Projects, Los Angeles, California, USA
- 2024 Group Show: Marman and Borins, MKG127, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2023 Three Dimensions, Contemporary Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- 2023 Balancing Act, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, New York, USA
- 2018 Fourth, Fifth, Sixth Wall, Cydonia Gallery, Dallas, Texas, USA
- 2016 Do Androids See Electric Paintings? Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, New York, USA
- 2016 Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins: The Collaborationists, Art gallery of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada
- 2015 The Collaborationists, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, Arizona, USA
- 2015 Parallel/ Instituto Parallel, Parallel Oaxaca, Oaxaca City, Mexico
- 2014 piETa, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2014 The Collaborationists, Black Boxes Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
- 2013 Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins: The Collaborationists, Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
- 2013 Pavilion of the Blind, Tierney Gardarin Gallery, New York, New York, USA
- 2013 We Built Excitement II, Land of Tomorrow, Louisville, Kentucky, USA
- 2012 We Built Excitement, Georgia Scherman Projects at Untitled, Miami, Florida, USA
- 2012 Formulation Articulation Pixelation, Georgia Scherman Projects, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2011 Unknown Unknowns, Ed Video, Guelph, Canada and Elora Centre for the Arts, Elora, Ontario, Canada
- 2010 Total Disinformation Awareness, Launch Projects, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
- 2010 Solo Booth, Georgia Scherman Projects at Volta6, Basel, Switzerland
- 2009 Project for a New American Century, Art Gallery of York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2009 Massive Sale: YYZ Mall, YYZ Artists' Outlet, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2007 Solo Booth (Independent Section), Art Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
- 2005 Solo Booth (Independent Section), Art Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS (completion dates)

- 2026 Metamorphosis, MAA Bower, Denver, Colorado, USA
- 2026 Big Catch, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada
- 2022 Grey Nuns White Spruce Park, St. Albert, Alberta, Canada
- 2022 Busy Beaver, Schulich School of Business, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2022 Dodecadandy, Toronto Transit Commission, Downsview Subway Station, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2021 Salmon Run, Port Moody, British Columbia, Canada
- 2019 The Ball is in Your Court, ATB Centre, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
- 2019 Directions Intersections Connections, Toronto Transit Commission, Woodbine Station, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2018 Willingdon Linear Park, Rite of Passage, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada
- 2017 BMO Bicentennial Fountain, Montreal, QC, Canada
- 2016 The Humber Molecule Trees, Humber River Regional Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2015 Speech Bubble, The Pinnacle on Adelaide, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2015 The Water Guardians, Waterfront Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2015 SFC Bridge, GWL Realty Advisors for Southcore Financial Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2014 John Street Redesign, for the City of Toronto, with DTAH, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2014 Toronto Arts Foundation Awards, Prize Winning Commemorative Plate, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2013 Sedimentary Layers, Camrost Felcorp, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2012 Art Train Conductor, No.9 Art and the Environment, and Metrolinx for Go Transit, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2011 Wave Side, Plazacorp, 21 Grand Magazine, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2009 Google, the Martin Prosperity Institute, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2008 Transformation AGO, Limited edition buttons, commissioned by the AGO, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2006 In Sit You, Toronto Sculpture Garden, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (abridged)

- 2025 And the Stars Look Very Different Today... Royale Projects, Los Angeles, California, USA
2024 Summer Games, KMAC, KMAC Contemporary Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky, USA
2022 Themes and Variations, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, New York, USA
2020 Contemporaneamente, Flip Project Space, Naples, Italy
2019 Double Edged: Geometric Abstraction Then and Now, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC, USA
Expansion of Consequences, Enia Gallery, Pireas, Athens, Greece
2018 Voices, Artists on Art, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
2017 Victory Over the Sun: The Poetics and Politics of Eclipse, KMAC Museum, Louisville, Kentucky, USA
Abstraction: The Rebel Cause, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Canada
Voices, Artists on Art, Artport Gallery, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
2016 Tracks, Symptoms, and Designations: Art and the Index, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, New York, USA
2015 The Architectural Impulse, Cristin Tierney Gallery, New York, New York, USA
Tongue In Cheek, Reynolds Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, USA
2014 Why Can't Minimal, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
IX Biennial of Visual Arts of Nicaragua, Centro de Arte Fog-Banpro | Edificio Málaga, Managua, Nicaragua

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (abridged)

- 2009 Monk, Philip. "Marman and Borins: Project for a New American Century." Art Gallery of York University, Toronto, ON, 2009.
2008 Drouin-Brisebois, Josée. "Caught in the Act: The Viewer as Performer." National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY (abridged)

- 2024 Wozniak, Stephen. "Ways of Seeing, Ways of Being: Art in Three Dimensions" <https://observer.com/2024/01/three-dimensions-contemporary-calgary/>. January 11, 2024.
2023 Volmers, Eric. "Altered states: Contemporary Calgary exhibit asks deep questions about how we process art, time, space and reality." Calgary Herald, October 20, 2023.
Cronin, Ray. "Engagement and Agency: A Conversation with Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins." Sculpture Magazine, July 5, 2023.
Gemima, Clare. "Jennifer Marman & Daniel Borins: Balancing Act." The Brooklyn Rail, July 2023.

LECTURES / PANELS / CONFERENCES / ART EVENTS & PERFORMANCE / TEACHING (abridged)

- 2025 Another Dimension, Lecture, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada
Studio Visits, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada
2024 Another Dimension, Lecture, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Canada
In Many Dimensions, Presentation for the DFZ at UTM, Toronto, Canada
AWARDS

COLLECTIONS – PUBLIC (abridged)

Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Schulich School of Business York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
City of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
City of Burnaby, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

EDUCATION

Marman and Borins graduated from the Ontario College of Art and Design in 2001. Prior to that, Marman received a BA in Philosophy from the University of Western Ontario, and Borins received a BA in Art History from McGill University.

References

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Jillian Bracken

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re: The Ball is in Your Court