



COVER LETTER

I focus on public art because it can enrich people's lives across diverse communities. What motivates me as an artist is sparking people's curiosity in ways that help them connect with others and with something larger than themselves, including the natural world and the community context.

I build metal animal sculptures that bridge between abstraction and representation, capturing form, gesture, and emotion with concise aerial calligraphy. Despite a level of abstraction, the subjects and stories of my work are recognizable by passing drivers and pedestrians. The bold, iconic forms of my pieces make great community landmarks. My work will complement the Police Memorial Wall, honor the Police Department and the service of its officers, and support the function and identity of the site.

Lynx Caeruleum is a recent piece that shows my commitment to site specificity and honors the service of firefighters. It welcomes people to a new city fire station on the campus of Montana State in Bozeman and represents a mother bobcat (the University's mascot; the Bozeman firefighters are big fans of MSU sports) and her kit. The cats are shown leaping into action, honoring the fire department's role as first responders. During my site visits I was impressed by the many ways the Bozeman Fire Department preserves and passes along its history. The mother bobcat teaching her kit to hunt reflects how the BFD values its culture and heritage. Prior to developing a proposal for the Los Alamos Police Memorial Wall site, I look forward to visiting the area and hearing from police officers and other stakeholders, to ensure my artwork reflects the culture of the department and its place in the community.

Crane in its Vigilance is another example honoring public service. The title refers to an ancient legend and heraldic symbol of watchfulness. The theme of vigilance relates to the site: the sculpture stands in front of the city's justice center, which houses the courts and police. The subject, a wading bird, highlights the artwork's location in rain garden landscaping. Since the underlying legend concerns a sentry who never sleeps, nighttime lighting was an important part of this commission. My work for Los Alamos will reflect its physical as well as community context.

I've been specializing in public art since 2008. I've completed more than a dozen outdoor public art commissions and have pieces on exhibit across the country. Before switching to sculpture full time I was an architect. Architecture skills that transfer to public art practice include context analysis, placemaking, project management, and collaborating with public agencies, engineers, and community stakeholders.

I'm a welder. I draw on my background in industry to create durable, elegant artworks that stand the test of time and reward closer looks with craftsmanship and clever construction.

Thank you for your consideration.



RESUME

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 1986 - SCULPTOR, Babcock Artworks LLC, Seattle, WA.
Site-specific, inclusive, and accessible public sculpture; community engagement; functional and interactive art; kinetic art, metal fabrication.
- 1995 - 2008 ARCHITECT, Snell Partnership, Seattle, WA.
Design, project management, consultant coordination, construction administration, project teams, public presentations, research, permitting.

PUBLIC SCULPTURE COMMISSIONS

- 2025 NEST welcome sculpture/seating installation, Madison, WI.
- 2024 LYNX CAERULEUM, fire station artwork, Bozeman, MT.
- 2023 BEAT FEET musical instrument/sculpture, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2021 SUNRISE bike racks, Eaton Elementary School, Washington, DC.
- 2021 - 2025 EL GATO, gateway sign/artwork series for the Town of Los Gatos, CA.
- 2020 SONG OF THE SKINKS musical instrument/sculpture, Jacksonville, FL.
- 2019 SCRATCH sculpture/seating installation, Missoula, MT.
- 2018 SNOWSHOE outdoor sculpture for transit stop, Anchorage, AK.
- 2018 OTTERS sculpture/seating installation, N. Mason Schools, Belfair, WA.
- 2016 CRANE IN ITS VIGILANCE, Kirkland Justice Center, Kirkland, WA.
- 2016 MOUNTAIN GOATS sculpture/seating installation, McCall, ID.
- 2015 GREAT BLUE illuminated street clock, Port Townsend, WA.
- 2013 KRILL, EGG, and FALL kinetic sculptures, Edmonds, WA.
- 2012 MOOSE sculptural bike racks, Lewiston, ID.

PRIVATE SCULPTURE COMMISSIONS

- 2025 DAM sculpture/seating installation, Redmond, WA.
- 2021 CURIOUS? monumental outdoor sculpture, Redmond, WA.
- 2017 CROW outdoor kinetic sculpture, Queen Anne, Seattle, WA.

OUTDOOR SCULPTURE EXHIBITS

- 2023 - 2025 ELMWOOD PARK ART WALK, Roanoke, VA.
- 2022 - 2023 SOMETHING NEW, Bainbridge Island, WA.
- 2022 - 2023 DOWNTOWN SCULPTURE GALLERY, Auburn, WA.
- 2020 - PRICE SCULPTURE FOREST, Whidbey Island, WA.
- 2019 - 2020 ART FOR AWHILE, Broomfield, CO.
- 2017 - SAN JUAN ISLANDS SCULPTURE PARK, Roche Harbor, WA.
- 2015 - 2018 INTERURBAN ARTSCAPE, Shoreline, WA.
- 2016 - GALLATIN ART CROSSING, Bozeman, MT.
- 2016 - 2018 CITY HALL SCULPTURE GARDEN, Milwaukie, OR.
- 2015 - 2019 ART OF COMMUNITY, Hood River, OR.
- 2014 - 2016 CIVIC CENTER PARK, Newport Beach, CA.
- 2013 - 2015 GALLERY WITHOUT WALLS, Lake Oswego, OR.
- 2012 - 2016 FRANCONIA SCULPTURE PARK, Franconia, MN.
- 2012 - 2015 ARTCURRENTS, Coeur d'Alene, ID.
- 2011 - 2020 ART ON THE AVENUES, Wenatchee, WA.
- 2011 - 2014 HEART OF PHINNEY PARK, Seattle, WA.

AWARDS

2018 and 2022 PEOPLE'S CHOICE, Gallatin Art Crossing, Bozeman, MT.

WORK IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

2016 SAMARAS outdoor sculpture, Wenatchee, WA.

2020 CURTSY outdoor sculpture, Wenatchee, WA.

JURIED PUBLIC ART ROSTERS

WASHINGTON STATE ARTS COMMISSION AIPP ROSTER

CITY OF SEATTLE PUBLIC ART ROSTER

OREGON STATE AIPP ROSTER

OCALA FLORIDA PUBLIC ART ROSTER

CITY OF SACRAMENTO ARTIST ROSTER

MERIDIAN IDAHO PARK IDENTITIES ROSTER

MINNEAPOLIS-SAINT PAUL AIRPORT ARTIST ROSTER

LA METRO ARTIST POOL

CITY OF PALO ALTO PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST POOL

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC ART QUALIFICATIONS PRE-QUALIFIED LIST

IOWA ART IN STATE BUILDINGS PROGRAM

OKLAHOMA CITY PRE-QUALIFIED ARTIST POOL

EDUCATION

1991 - 1994 MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE, University of Colorado, Denver, CO.

1987 - 1988 WELDING MAINTENANCE MECHANIC CERTIFICATE,
Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI.

1986 - 1990 BACHELOR OF ARTS, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
Major: History of Art. Honors: Phi Beta Kappa.

SPECIAL COURSEWORK

2004 - 2013 PRATT FINE ARTS CENTER, Seattle, WA.
Sand cast bronze, investment casting, kinetic sculpture, drawing,
woodworking, neon signs, steel sculpture, flameworked glass.

2009 - 2010 NORTH SEATTLE COLLEGE, Seattle, WA.
Structural engineering.

1993 UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, Smichov, Czech Republic.
Urban/landscape design studio.

RESIDENCIES

2012 FRANCONIA SCULPTURE PARK, Franconia, MN.

OTHER EXHIBITS

2021 GUEST ARTIST, Ryan James Fine Arts Gallery, Kirkland, WA.

2018 THE CROW SHOW, Studio Door Gallery, San Diego, CA.

2017 NORTHWEST FINE ARTS COMPETITION, Phinney Center, Seattle, WA.

2014, 2017 JURIED ART AUCTION, Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle, WA.

2014 CITY HALL GALLERY, Shoreline, WA.

2013 - 2016 KESTREL suspended mobile, Pybus Public Market, Wenatchee, WA.



IMAGE LIST











IMAGE	TITLE/LOC.	MEDIA	SIZE/BUDGET	YEAR
	1 <i>Lynx Caeruleum</i> Bozeman, MT	powder coated aluminum	47"H x 70"W x 67"D \$69,000	2024
	2			
	<p><i>for City of Bozeman Percent for Art</i></p> <p>Welcomes people to the new city fire station on the campus of Montana State University in Bozeman. The cats leaping into action honor the fire department's role as first responders. I was impressed by the amount of effort Bozeman Fire Department puts into preserving and passing along its history. The mother bobcat teaching her kit to hunt reflects how the BFD values its heritage. And of course, the firefighters are big fans of the MSU Bobcats. I look forward to learning about the culture and history of the Los Alamos PD and reflecting them in sculpture that honors service.</p>			
	3 <i>Crane in its Vigilance</i> Kirkland, WA	bronze, GFRC	17'H x 11'W x 5'D \$165,000	2016
	4			
	<p><i>for Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission</i></p> <p>Honors the work done by the police and municipal court by referring to an ancient legend and symbol of vigilance. In many cultures cranes are symbols of good fortune, so the piece is an encouraging welcome to the diverse community.</p> <p>The wetland bird highlights the rain garden landscaping, and ground-level features tie into the rainwater management system. My work for Los Alamos will complement its context.</p> <p>The legend underlying <i>Crane in its Vigilance</i> concerns a sentry who never sleeps, so night lighting was critical. My background in architecture has prepared me well for large, multifaceted public art projects involving multiple trades and designers.</p>			

IMAGE	TITLE/LOC.	MEDIA	SIZE/BUDGET	YEAR
	5 <i>El Gato</i> Los Gatos, CA	powder coated aluminum	67"H x 63"W x 30"D \$165,000	2025
	<i>for Town of Los Gatos</i> A series of 5 sculptures serving as gateways to the Town of Los Gatos, CA. My work captures the gesture and emotion of a proud lion.			
	6	The design is an homage to the town's namesake. The town's name derives from a Mexican land grant that predated the Mexican-American war. The grant was called "la Rinconada de los Gatos," referring to the mountain lions that were the land's primary inhabitants.		
	7 <i>Nest</i> Madison, WI	powder coated aluminum	10'H x 12'W x 10'D \$60,000	2025
	<i>for Bayview Foundation</i> Welcoming entry to affordable housing development, based in community engagement. A pair of cardinals cooperates to build a nest, amid symbols of hospitality reflecting residents' cultures. Cardinals are adaptable birds who readily bring their nest-making traditions to urban environments -- good ambassadors for diverse Bayview residents bringing their home traditions to Madison. My work for Los Alamos will have an appealing, iconic presence as well as symbolic significance.			
	8			
	9 <i>Curious?</i> Redmond, WA	powder coated aluminum	7'H x 10'W x 6'D \$82,000	2021
	<i>private commission in partnership with City of Redmond</i> A grizzly bear pries up the corner of her pedestal to see what's underneath. Passersby who investigate what she's looking at (a plaque that says, "Curious?") become part of the story. Encourages people to explore and engage with their community.			
	10	This piece illustrates some ways I like to engage with viewers, including bringing them into a story and sparking curiosity. My work for Los Alamos will draw people in and bring them together.		



MATT BABCOCK
Lynx Caeruleum



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Lynx Caeruleum



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***Crane in its
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El Gato



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MATT BABCOCK
Nest

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Nest





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Curious?



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Curious? (detail)