

Proposal

Sculpture for Peninsula Park Sculptor's Showcase.

Mark E NeuCollins
2769 Anchorage Rd NE
Solon, IA 52333
319.624.2948
neuegrafik@mac.com

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Mark NeuCollins

Artist Bio:

As an undergraduate, I studied furniture design at the Rhode Island School of Design under Tage Frid. After nearly 20 years of professional work as a graphic designer, I enrolled in the graduate college at the University of Iowa to pursue a Master of Fine Arts degree in Intermedia Art. In the intervening years I have worked at the leading edge of a major paradigm shift in the visual arts—the shift from manual/analog to computer/digital production.

This path has provided me with an ability for exploring visual form both through the manipulation of physical objects and through the manipulation of new and varied media. I have applied these capabilities in pursuit of a fine art practice which I would characterize as non-media-centric, conceptually based, and formally rigorous.

Curriculum Vitae

Work Experience and Education

2000-Present: graduate student in Intermedia, University of Iowa School of Art and Art History. Anticipated graduation date December 2006.

1993-Present: owner and sole proprietor of neue grafik design works, a graphic design studio offering complete design services for print and web.

1995-Present: director of the Outcomes Program for The National Spine Network, a non-profit orthopedic spine research organization

1990-1993: staff designer for Acromed Corporation/Pro Systems Inc., an orthopedic surgical implant manufacturer in Cleveland, Ohio

1988-1990: design artist at the University of Iowa Department of Medical Graphics – Graphic Specialist II

1983: BFA Degree. Rhode Island School of Design



Recent exhibitions/performances

- May 2006: Video shown at the Spatial Intersections 3 show at the University of Iowa Museum of Art.
- Dec 2005: Public screening of "Bridge [Structuralism]" the inaugural HDV (High Definition Video) work produced in the intermedia production studio.
- Fall 2005: "Free Art Show" one person MA Thesis exhibition at Arts Iowa City Gallery.
- Spring 2005: "Monument Garden" installation at the University of Iowa Eve Drewelowe Gallery.
- Spring 2005: "Infusion" video and sound project selected for presentation at the prestigious SEAMUS (Society of Electro-Acoustical Musicians) annual convention.
- Fall 2004: "Infusion" a video and sound project in collaboration with electronic musician Jean-Paul Perrotte presented at the University of Iowa Museum of Art: Spatial Intersections Show.
- Spring 2003: CSPS, Cedar Rapids: Public Intermedia Workshop. "America" a spoken word performance.

In addition to the exhibitions listed, I have participated every semester in the intermedia department's group show of the work of current intermedia students.

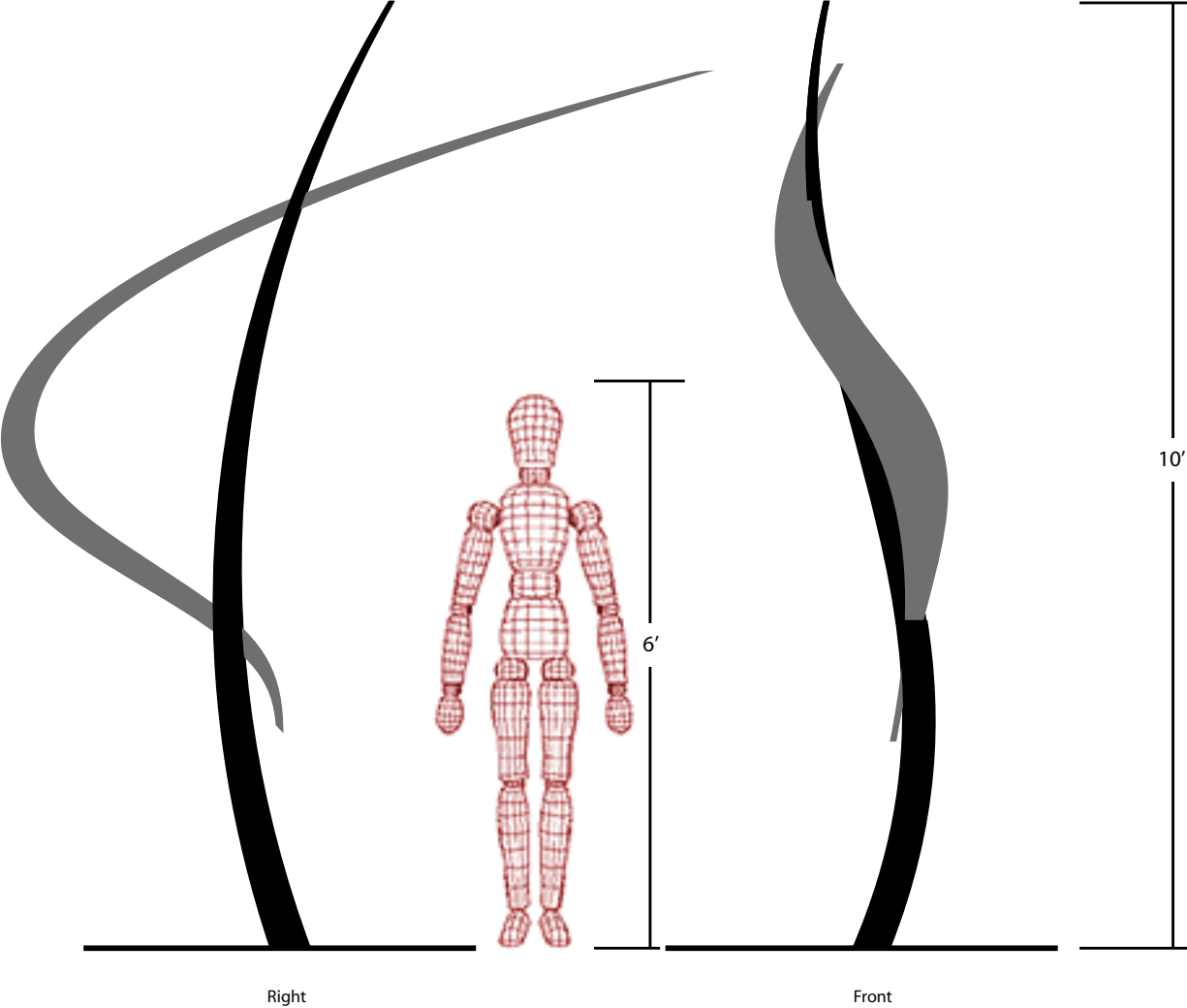
Artist Statement

The gradually sloping floodplain that descends to a gentle curve in the river at Peninsula Park bespeaks a narrative of land-history. Standing at the site of the sculpture pad, it is easy to imagine a time before ours, when indigenous people may have walked these very banks, and before even this, in a geographic time scale far beyond our comprehension, when it was just the land. As I thought about the sculpture that would be appropriate for this site, it seemed imperative to me that it be tied to this idea of land-history.

The inspiration for this sculpture, with a working title "Stem and Blade," comes from observing prairie grass in the wind. The resilience, strength in flexibility, and ecological adaptation of this plant to this geographical location seems metaphorical both of the land and the people who have chosen to sink their own roots here.

Stem and Blade

Concept drawing



Materials: Bent and laminated wood with exterior gloss enamel paint

Stem and Blade

Model



Timeframe

June 2006: Working drawing development
Materials acquisition
Construct wood bending forms

July 2006: Bend and laminate wood
Carve and shape
Join post and cross-member
Install base connector

August 2006: Paint and finish

September 1, 2006: Deliverable.

