

## CAROLYN BRAAKSMA

Public Artist and Owner  
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## EDUCATION

Graduate work in Studio Art at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, 1987-1989  
B.A., magna cum laude, Metropolitan State College, Denver, CO 1980.

## SITE SPECIFIC AND PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS

- 2005 –present **Northside Atzlan Community Center**, Fort Collins, Colorado.  
Design collaboration with architects for walls, windows and floor enhancements for new recreation center.
- 2004-present **Silver Spring Gateway**, Chevy Chase, Maryland  
Design of concrete and terrazzo outdoor seating pieces reflecting the Art Deco period of architecture.
- 2004-present **Children's Hospital at Fitzsimons**, Aurora, CO. Collaboration with design team for schematic and final design for 19,000 square feet terrazzo atrium floor.
- 2006 **Route 85 / US 101 Interchange project**, City of Mountain View, California; untitled. Artist designed imagery for 10,000 precast concrete facing panels for mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) walls. Collaboration among artist, community members, engineers, and architects. Imagery of shoreline birds and flora that are native to San Francisco Bay area.
- 2006 **Two Ways**, Bio-tech, Science and Engineering (BSE) Building, University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas. Artist designed images for the atrium floor and balustrade panels; the images form a collection of contextual clues to the activity in the BSE Building on the San Antonio campus. Two levels of GFRC panels measuring 3' x 21' overlook the 43' diameter concrete floor embedded with stone and metal accents.
- 2005 **The Sky of Humankind**, Minnesota State University Moorhead, MN. Artist designed 6,000 square feet terrazzo floor for the Science Building main lobby and central hallways. The narrative for the floor includes mythological symbols of Draco, Cygnus, and Pisces, with the sun, planets, and stars for the cosmos. Cygnus represents all birds that migrate through Minnesota's avian flyway, evolving through ribbons and paths that transform into microscopic biological and molecular features along the adjacent hallway. Budget: \$125,000
- 2003 **What is the Cost of Raising a Child?**. Why Opportunity Works (WOW) Center in the Extension 4-H Youth Building, Iowa State University, Ames, IA. Collaboration with Brad Kaspari and construction oversight for terrazzo floor with hand-carved bronze inlays depicting the guiding principles of 4-H as center pieces.
- 2003 **Vivarium Subterraneum**, Fort Collins, Colorado. Commission of design and fabrication of formliners for cast-in-place concrete retaining walls and bronze railing enhancements for bikeway underpass. Hand-carved imagery of insects and roots refers to underground activity beneath the layer of concrete. Artists also oversaw construction. Above ground, 14 bronze pasque flowers wrap around selected railing posts. Four walls measure 12' x 60'. Artist-artist collaboration
- 2003 **TREX**, Denver, Colorado; untitled. Currently under construction. Collaboration with design team for surface treatment of retaining walls and sound walls on Denver's Transportation Expansion Project of the I-25 Corridor. Patterns and imagery reflect Colorado's geography, ecology and natural history along the I-25 Corridor. Note: this project was procured outside of Denver's Public Art Program.
- 2002 **The Green**, a public park, Charlotte, North Carolina. To emphasize client focus on literacy, artist transformed park paving into a giant game board, laying out patterns in brick, stone, concrete, and sandblasting these materials to create hopscotch, riddles, and alphabet games. Park centerpiece is a 24' diameter fountain plaza featuring three 9'6" x 9'6" spouting fish. Encircling the fountain plaza, spiral benches of precast concrete water waves start low, close to the ground and ramp up to normal seat height of 16" –18". Artist-artist collaboration.
- 2001 **King Harvest**, Frederiksen Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Artist designed various aspects of interior and exterior design centering on regional farming and food production of Iowa. Includes brickwork design of chimney and fireplace, cast stone inset in walls, and terrazzo floors designed in conjunction with Brad Kaspari. Images include aerial view of plowed field patterns, hawthorn leaves, grasshoppers, and grains, vegetables and fruit.

- 2001 **Drifting Beyond Control**, San Diego International Airport, San Diego, California. Twenty-four precast concrete panels measuring 9.5' x 9.5'. Commissioning agency: Port of San Diego. Below the glass enclosed sterile corridor, images on the outdoor concourse walls are derived from marine biology specific to southern California. Visual content ranges from enlarged microorganisms to algae, kelp, and marsh plants. Artist-to-artist collaboration with Barb McKee.
- 2000 **The Path Most Traveled**, Scottsdale, Arizona. Infrastructure project for on/off ramps, bridge piers and eight miles of concrete sound abatement walls. Artist was member of design team, which included architect and landscape architect, to decide surface treatment of concrete sound walls, retaining walls for ramps, bridge piers and bridge abutments. Imagery is site-specific to Arizona and includes lizard skin texture, topographical references, rustication inspired by the character of the saguaro ribbing, and Maricopa Indian patterns.
- 1999 **Alchemy Works**, Hill Hall, Department of Metallurgy, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado. Collaboration with architects and artist David Griggs. Artists were hired for project before ground was broken, enabling them to design numerous surfaces and finishes of the building. Artists designed main terrazzo floor, window, cast-in-place concrete columns and capitals, precast concrete and cast-in-place concrete for exterior of building and plaza. Images of alchemy and metallurgy throughout.
- 1999 **The Great River**, Winona State University Library, Winona, MN. Artist designed terrazzo and stone floor reminiscent of map, locating Winona near center of floor. Images of Minnesota include canoe, paddle, log brands, Mississippi River, and indigenous fish. Collaboration with Brad Kaspari. Extensive use of text in river.
- 1995 **Champa**, City and County of Denver, CO. Earth Day intersection, 36' x 36'. The artist-designed area of the concrete intersection was dyed, stained, stamped and sawcut by a concrete paving company to make different patterns and textures. The colorful central area of the intersection can be seen as overlapping rugs that create two distinct areas of imagery. The patterns and pale blue color of one "rug" are peculiar to the indigenous Arapaho Indians. "Champa" is the Sioux/Assiniboine name for Cherry Creek and for the chokecherry.
- 1994 **To Market, To Market**, Homart Community Center/Broadway Marketplace in Denver, Colorado. Seven panels, each 6' high x 14.5' long, of precast concrete that provide a corner identification for a shopping center within the City of Denver. Fruits, vegetables, pig's head and lobster in the della Robbia style reference historic terra cotta. Text further refers to marketing and grocery shopping.
- 1994 **21st Century Artifacts**, Denver International Airport, Denver, Colorado. Commission of artistic treatment of 50,000 square feet interior space; artist-artist collaboration. Materials used in this project include terrazzo, stone, polished precast concrete, and cast bronze imbedded in the floor space. The imagery of fossils, dinosaurs and other indigenous features exhibit the unique regional geology and geography of the area.
- 1992 **Broadway Underpass**, Boulder, Colorado. Commissioned by the City of Boulder. Artist designed and fabricated formliners that determined the surfaces of the underpass walls. The art is integrated with the structural walls, and the on-site construction crew poured the concrete in place. The images in the wall surfaces refer to Boulder and to the University.

## GRANTS, AWARDS

- 2002 National Terrazzo and Mosaic Association Honor Award for **King Harvest**.
- 2001 Crescordia Award for Special Achievement in Environmental Excellence and the President's Award for an art in public places project. Awarded by the Valley Forward Association of the Greater Phoenix Area in partnership with Honeywell for **The Path Most Traveled**.
- 1995 American Concrete Institute Special Recognition Award for **To Market, To Market**.  
Historic Boulder Preservation Action Award for **Broadway Underpass**.  
American Institute of Architects award for **Broadway Underpass**.

## PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY POSITIONS

- 2002-present Serves on T-REX Art Committee, decision-making body for RTD T-REX Public Art Program, Denver, Colorado.