



ELMENDORF/GEURTS  
5830 Downing Street  
Studio K-10  
Denver, CO 80216

July 23, 2018

Dear Art Selection Committee,

Thank you for your consideration of our submission for the Castle Rock's Philip S. Miller Park public art opportunity.

We have experience creating artwork that is durable and safe as well as whimsical and engaging. There are many potential sites at the park where artwork would enhance the space and we welcome an opportunity to work with the committee and other stakeholders to submit a piece that fits the needs of the community. The Elmendorf/Geurts team is happy to offer the committee two options for this call. Option one is a proposal for a newly commissioned artwork and a full design process. Option two is a direct purchase of an (or both) existing artwork.

The proposal for a newly created artwork would be drafted with attention paid to the audience of the park, the 15-year required lifespan and an element of interactivity and multimedia. This new concept would fit the scale of the park and would likely be much larger than the 4' x 4' offered in the prospectus. We enjoy creating art that people interact with and in a park setting, it would need to be visible and appealing throughout all seasons and during the day and night. This new artwork would be exclusive to the City of Castle Rock.

The two artworks that are available for direct purchase are Therolin and Tree of Transformation; both are original E/G designs that were engineered and fabricated by us. Images of these artworks can be found below in the Photos section. Therolin is made of stainless steel and piano wire and measures 20' x 1' x 4'. Tree of Transformation is comprised of steel, an antique piano and LED lights and measures 20' x 20' x 20'. Both artworks do not have any unusual foundation support.

We look forward to hearing from you and working alongside the group to create art for the park that is truly memorable.

Sincerely,

Ryan Elmendorf & Nick Geurts

**From:** Nick Geurts  
**To:** [Kristin Zagurski](#); [Maia Aman](#); [Ryan Elmendorf](#); [Rachel Cain](#)  
**Subject:** Miller Park Castle Rock RFP  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 2:17:44 PM

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Hi Kristin,

Thank you for selecting us as semifinalists for your project! We have several ideas that we are developing for our proposal for this commission. For the two sculptures available for purchase as shown in our application, we intend to propose an artistic pavilion structure to go over them which would draw park users in and create a shaded area to interact with the art. For both of these, the overall budget of \$50,000 is adequate. Our rough breakdown of budget costs are:

- 15% Artist Fee
- 20% Materials
- 30% Fabrication
- 10% Engineering
- 10% Foundations
- 5% Permitting
- 10% Contingency

For both of the proposed artworks, as well as any other concepts that we may come up with, the sound and light levels can be adjusted after installation.

Please let us know if you need any additional information prior to your meeting. Thanks again for this opportunity.

Nick and Ryan

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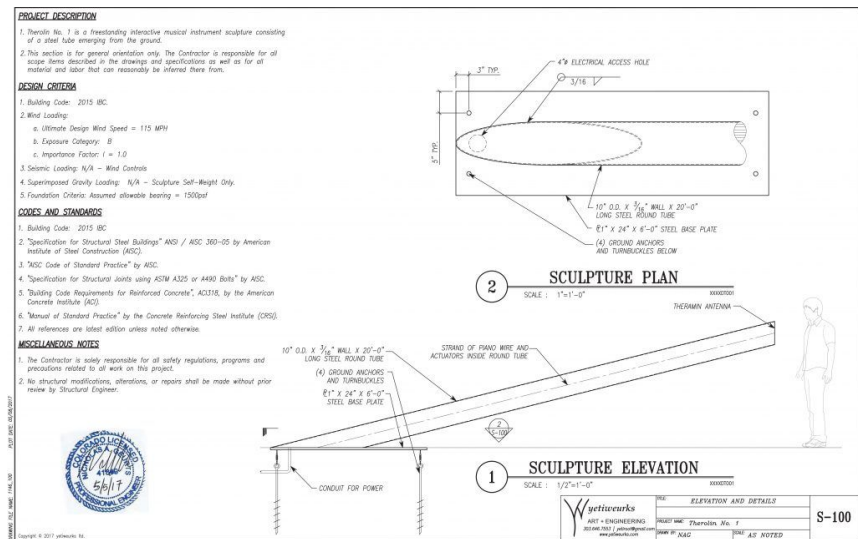
Nick Geurts | 303.646.7553  
[www.artplusengineering.com](http://www.artplusengineering.com)

## Photos

**Therolin (available for direct purchase)** - Stainless steel, piano wire, 20' x 1' x 4'

An interactive musical sculpture as well as a study in electromagnetic and acoustic vibrations.

By pairing a 20 foot long piano string suspended in a steel pipe to the “touchless musical instrument,” the [theremin](#), the Therolin converts the musical output from the theremin into notes played on the string by “plucking” it with electromagnet actuators on specially engineered frets.



**Tree of Transformation** (*available for direct purchase*) - Steel, Repurposed Antique Piano, LEDs, 20' x 20' x 20'

An interactive musical tree that sprouts from a full-size upright piano. Overhead, the canopy consists of nine hand-crafted steel pans and LED lights which are actuated by the piano keys to make music.





**Sky Song** - Mirror Polished Stainless Steel, Electronics, 30' x 14' x 10'

A musical sculpture consisting of two pieces, which when viewed straight-on, merge and reflect the sky to the ground. The keys on the free-standing piece can be played by participants and the wall-piece amplifies them throughout the space. Awarded the Year in Review 2018 by Americans for the Arts.



**Awakening** - Steel, Optics, Electronics, 20' x 20' x 20'

A human head and hands emerging from the ground. The head is a camera obscura - when participants enter they will see an image of the outside world projected on the back of the head with the perspective of a giant. Controls in the head let users articulate the fingers.





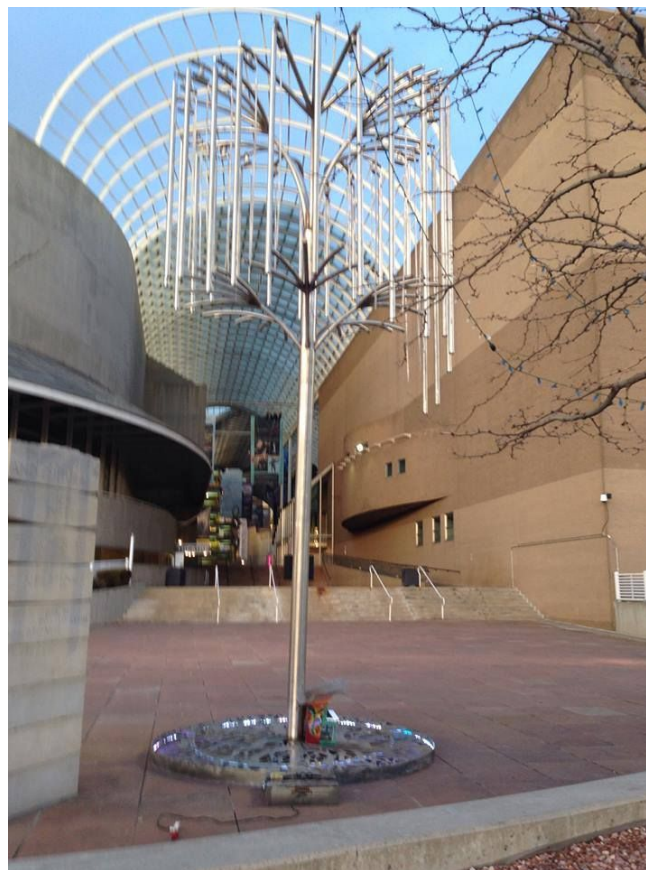
**True West** - Stainless Steel, Concrete, Lexan, 16' x 10' x 10'

Interactive compass that points West in its resting position. Participants can affect the direction and rotation of the needle by interacting with three concrete pedestals.



**Tree of (Im)Permanence** - Stainless Steel, LEDs, Midi Controlled, 20' x 8' x 8'

The Tree of (Im)Permanence is a 20ft tall, interactive musical tree. The toy piano at the base contains a midi keyboard with 25 keys which actuate the stainless steel bell chimes and LED lights which hang from the limbs of the tree.







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**PASSION**

Utilize a deep understanding of the connection between structural engineering and large scale art to create interactive electro-mechanical installations that instill awe and wonder in the public, encouraging them to explore their surroundings through safe, durable, innovative and elegant designs.

**GRANTS & COMMISSIONS RECEIVED**

Museum of Outdoor Arts 2018  
Denver Arts and Venues 2016, 2017  
Burning Man 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018  
Apogaea 2013, 2014, 2015

**SELECT PROJECTS**

2018

**Mobile Movie Theater** | Commission | Museum of Outdoor Arts

A tensegrity structure designed to host 30 people while they watch a movie on a 14' screen. To be completed Spring 2018.

**Seesaw Wave Machine** | Award | Burning Man Black Rock City Honorarium

Interactive demonstration of wave behavior via participants' movements of the connected seesaws. With 42 total seats, it is an opportunity for many participants to interact and collaborate to affect (and be affected by) the overall motion of the system. To be installed fall 2018.

2017

**True West** | Commission | Denver Arts and Venues: Green Valley Ranch Town Center Park

An interactive large-scale compass that points West in its resting position. Control the direction of the compass needle by interacting with three concrete pedestals.

2016

**Sky Song** | Commission | Denver Arts and Venue: Levitt Pavilion, Ruby Hill Park

An interactive piece consisting of two separate components, one freestanding in the plaza and the other attached to the side of the building, that visually align when visitors stand behind them. Press buttons on the freestanding piece to actuate bell-like tones from the piece on the building. Awarded the Americans For the Arts, Public Art Network, Year in Review 2018.

**Sun Spots** | Award | Burning Man Global Art Grants

An interactive piece consisting of a wall-mounted array of actuated mirrors that react to pedestrians and create a wave-like motion as people move through the space. To be installed winter 2018.

**Awakening** | Award | Burning Man Black Rock City Honorarium

A giant human head and hands emerge from the earth. Enter the head to see the world through the giant's eyes as a camera obscura and to articulate the mechanical fingers outside.

2015

**Tree of Transformation** | Award | Burning Man Black Rock City Honorarium

Temporary Installation | Civic Center Park, Denver | February - June, 2018

From a full-size upright piano emerges a steel tree with a canopy of nine hand-crafted steel pans 20 feet overhead. Play the keys of the piano to strike the steel pans.

2014

**Tree of (Im)Permanence** | Award | Burning Man Black Rock City Honorarium

Temporarily Installed | Children's Hospital, Aurora | May - August, 2015

Temporarily Installed | Denver Performing Arts Complex | January, 2015.

Permanently Installed | Shiloh House, Centennial | July, 2017

A 20 ft tall tree with chimes at the top grows from a toy piano. Play the notes of the toy piano to ring the bells and light up multi-colored hanging light rods.

## ELECTROMECHANICAL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING -- SELECT PROJECTS

2017 | **Talking Parking Meters** | by Jim Green | City of Denver

Collaborated to produce motion activated talking parking meters

2016 | **Cirri** | by Patrick Marold | Denver International Airport

Performed structural analysis and designed connections for sculpture.

## EDUCATION -- NICK GEURTS

2004 | M.S., Structural Engineering, Washington University in St. Louis