

Web of Native Botanicals

ARTIST: TROY CORLISS
with Elin Christopherson

COMPLETION: October 2007

SITE: Edenvale Library

ADDRESS: 101 Branham Lane
San Jose, CA 95111

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 2



ABOUT THE PROJECT

When considering the content of the artwork, the artist wished to bring images of the natural world outside of the library to the inside. In particular, he imagined a view of the land that may have existed throughout the long history of the area. When working with the community, much of the interest for the project was directed towards the natural beauty that surrounds the area.

Entering the Marketplace, the glass and steel plant forms reveal themselves as a canopy suspended overhead. The work emanates in clusters around the column rising through the center of the room and floats like a huge bouquet cascading into the upper vaulted space of the Marketplace. Four different California native plants are represented: redbud, purple needle grass, California buckwheat and black walnut.

The artist hopes the artwork will generate curiosity and create an incentive to go outside and investigate the surrounding local environment that is so much a part of the City's visual landscape.

The artwork was created with funding provided through a \$212 million library bond measure approved by voters in November 2000.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Troy Corliss creates organic forms designed to interact with a human environment. His work is informed by the study of natural processes and by very hands-on approach to the making of his art forms. Much of Troy's current work is designed for specific large-scale architectural settings - Art in Public Places.

In 1993 Troy graduated from the studio art program at the University of California at Davis where he studied figure drawing and sculpture. In addition to the Edenvale artwork, Troy has completed major commissions throughout the United States including Sacramento, Roseville, Cleveland, Reno, Davis, Denver, and San Francisco. Troy lives in Truckee, California. More of Troy's work may be seen at www.troycorliss.com

Elin Christopherson is the collaborating artist on the project; responsible for the glass elements. She earned her BFA in Glass from California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, and her graduate degree in Glass from Alfred University in New York. Elin has taught glassblowing throughout the United States, and is currently teaching at California College of Arts and San Francisco State University. She lives and works in Oakland, California. More of Elin's work can be seen at <http://www.elinchristopherson.com/>

ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape. Through active engagement between the artists and communities, public art projects strive to reflect the City's ethnic diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

The Public Art Program is a program of San José's Office of Cultural Affairs, a division of the City's Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance and provides 1% for art in City capital improvement projects and eligible private development.

For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program.

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