

1. Letter of Interest

Step foot into Sonoma County and you'll have to fight the urge to explore its beautiful backroads and countless pathways. The lush landscape and curved paths invite us to move into nature and appreciate its overwhelming beauty. From rails to trails, the Joe Rodota path has always sustained locomotion, be it goods or people. Train passengers were once transported from Petaluma through Sebastopol to Santa Rosa. Now a paved path, locals use the path for outdoor recreation. I find it important to embrace the timelessness of the spaces we inhabit, so I will create a piece that embodies such. I plan to highlight railroad and agricultural artifacts of the early days of this town in a large, upright sculpture. Relics of the past serve as powerful reminders of those who came before us and deepen our experience on the trail. The rails that once traced this trail remind us that locomotion is what makes us human. Currently my work is seen as a flash of color when you drive down River Road, so installing a piece at this location would allow the public to meander around it and absorb. Moreover, it would be a highlight of my career to be a part of Sebastopol's burgeoning art community.

As a longtime artist I began producing in earnest after taking classes at SFAI about 40 years ago. From then into the late 90's, I participated in several public, corporate, and private art shows that included installation coordination. Due to chronic pain issues I was quiet in the public art world for a period of time. Even so, since the early 2000's my crew and I have been routinely working to populate Davingy Art Park, located on River Road by the historic Ridenour farmhouse. Without the landscape my work could not exist. The sculptures are created to intermingle with the Sonoma County scenery. We have bountiful experience in installing difficult, heavy pieces into the ground. I see potential in old, heavy, metal implements; objects that are typically overlooked by passersby. In my sustainable practice I repurpose big, clunky items that would otherwise be left behind to rust away. There is beauty in the unique shapes and engineering that we can come to appreciate.

My process begins with sourcing an object, typically a large metal implement sparks my interest. My most recent finds have been uncovered from the Ridenour Forestville property, an operating farm established in 1857. This farm equipment is the core of my current work. For this project I'm in the process of retrieving locally-sourced railroad elements. A tiller from the farm has been brought to the studio to be cleaned and prepped. The railroad elements will follow suit. Next step is a concept meeting followed by an engineer consultation. Once approved we will weld, cut, grind, build and stage. Then, it will be sent to a powder coat facility in SF. The piece will be coated with bright colors and sealed with clear coating. Transport, assembly and installation finalizes the project.

2. Art Description/Depiction

Working Title:

Timeless Locomotion



The proposed piece will draw inspiration from “Grinderman.” The modified version will incorporate railroad elements.

I plan to build this project as a vertically oriented structure displaying antique farming and railroad equipment. Specifically, this project will showcase a found tiller from a historic farmhouse and railroad rails sourced from Petaluma. Additional historically relevant artifacts will adorn this project.

The piece will resemble an ikebana arrangement, items arranged together into something new. Brightly colored elements will contrast against the patina of the old materials. The colors will be chosen to compliment the surroundings and sealed to be weather and vandalism resistant.

This installation will involve digging a hole into the ground and filling it with a sufficient amount of cement to create a solid foundation, leaving a few inches for landscaping. It will measure approximately 12-14 ft (h) x 6 ft (w) x 6 ft (d). This will be a heavy piece but nothing we haven’t dealt with before.

Conceptually, this piece will evoke a playful expression of the area’s industrial history from agriculture to railroads. With origins from Petaluma to Forestville each component coalesces to represent the journey of this landmark trail. This work seeks to pay homage to the instruments that aided in the early development of our beloved Sebastopol. Not only are these historic objects displayed in unexpected ways, they acknowledge the past as we grow onward.

3. Timeline

Once a final decision for the form has been reached, we can proceed with the help of our fully equipped studio and crew. At the Davingy Art Park we install pieces 2 times a month and a single project from start to installation, typically takes 1 to 3 months.

- Sourcing and transportation of supplies to studio: 4 weeks (currently in process)
- Build and coating process: 4 weeks
 - a. Powder coating finish in SF: 1-2 weeks
- Transportation, assembly and installation: 10 days

Total approximate time: 2.5-3 months

4. Budget:

A. Artist Fees:

a. Design fees: \$7000

b. Structural Engineering: \$750

B. Materials, Equipment, and Production costs: \$11,400

C. Studio Fees:

a. Rental: N/A

b. Utilities: \$530

D. Transportation of finished artwork to site in Sebastopol: \$250

E. Installation costs, including any equipment rental: \$2460

F. Lighting costs: N/A

G. Insurance: \$200

H. Taxes: \$200

I. Documentation: \$3600

H. TOTAL: \$26,190

McGraw, David

Mixed Media Artist

David I. McGraw

Lives and works in Forestville, California. Born in 1957.

davingy.com

Influenced by Abstract Expressionist tradition, my work has evolved into three-dimensional pieces incorporating metal, wood, fiberglass, and ceramic. The focus of my art is large-scale, outdoor, site-specific installations.

EDUCATION

Painting and Sculpture, San Francisco Art Institute

1984-1988, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

COLLECTIONS

Private Collection

2023, SISTERS, OR

Private Collection

2023, PORTLAND, OR

Farmhouse and Orchard, Davingy Art Park

2019- CURRENT, FORESTVILLE, CA

Shark Mountain, Davingy Art Park

2007-2019, FORESTVILLE, CA

PUBLICATIONS

Morales, Tiffany. "Davingy Art Park." Atlas Obscura, November 30, 2023.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/davingy-art-farm-california>.

Villano, Matthew. "Who's behind Those Quirky Sculptures along River Road?"

Pressdemocrat.com, February 22, 2023.

<https://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/news/whos-behind-those-quirky-sculptures-along-river-road/>.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Sculpture for the Millennium, National Juried Exhibition, Aquatic Park

2000, SAN MATEO, CA

Large scale abstract sculpture made from contoured and welded metal sections. Finished with a coat of industrial paint. Installed in a public park for 2-3 years. City hired a crew and rental crane. The piece was bolted into the ground.

Contact: sanmateoarts@gmail.com

Gallery LaGreca

1994, 1993, 1992, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

The Vintage Court

1992, PORTLAND, OR

**GROUP
EXHIBITIONS**

Ruth Bancroft Annual Sculpture

2009, WALNUT CREEK, CA

Human-size metal sculpture temporarily installed in the garden for 6 months. Bolted into the cement. Small crew and crane provided by the establishment.

Contact: marketing@ruthbancroftgarden.org

Westcott Sculpture Park Annual

2009, SAN JUAN ISLAND, WA

Burning Man Arts Festival

2008, BLACK ROCK DESERT, NV

All Media, National Juried Exhibition, Chico Art Center

1999, CHICO, CA

The Sculpture Group Juried Annual, Blackhawk Plaza Gallery

1998, DANVILLE, CA

Pacific Rim Sculptors Group 4th Annual, Contract Design Center

1998, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

On the Waterfront: Works from the Hunter's Point Artists Community, Transamerica Pyramid Lobby

1995, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Poetry and Presence: Three Sculptors, The Richmond Art Center, Berlex Corp

1995, RICHMOND, CA

An Impromptu Exhibition of Outdoor Sculptures, The Oakland Museum

1994, OAKLAND, CA

Large metal abstract piece installed with crew. Temporary show featured on the second level of the museum. Crane rental for transport was provided.

Contact: [FAQs & Contact Us - Oakland Museum of California \(OMCA\)](#)

Pacific Rim Sculptors Group, Syntex Gallery

1994, PALO ALTO, CA

Sculpture at the Olive Group, Auberge du Soleil

1994, RUTHERFORD, CA

Large scale abstract sculpture remained on site for a couple years. A small crew and crane were involved in the installation.

Contact: [Concierge | Auberge du Soleil](#)

Synopsys Gallery

1994, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA

5. Images of Past Work:



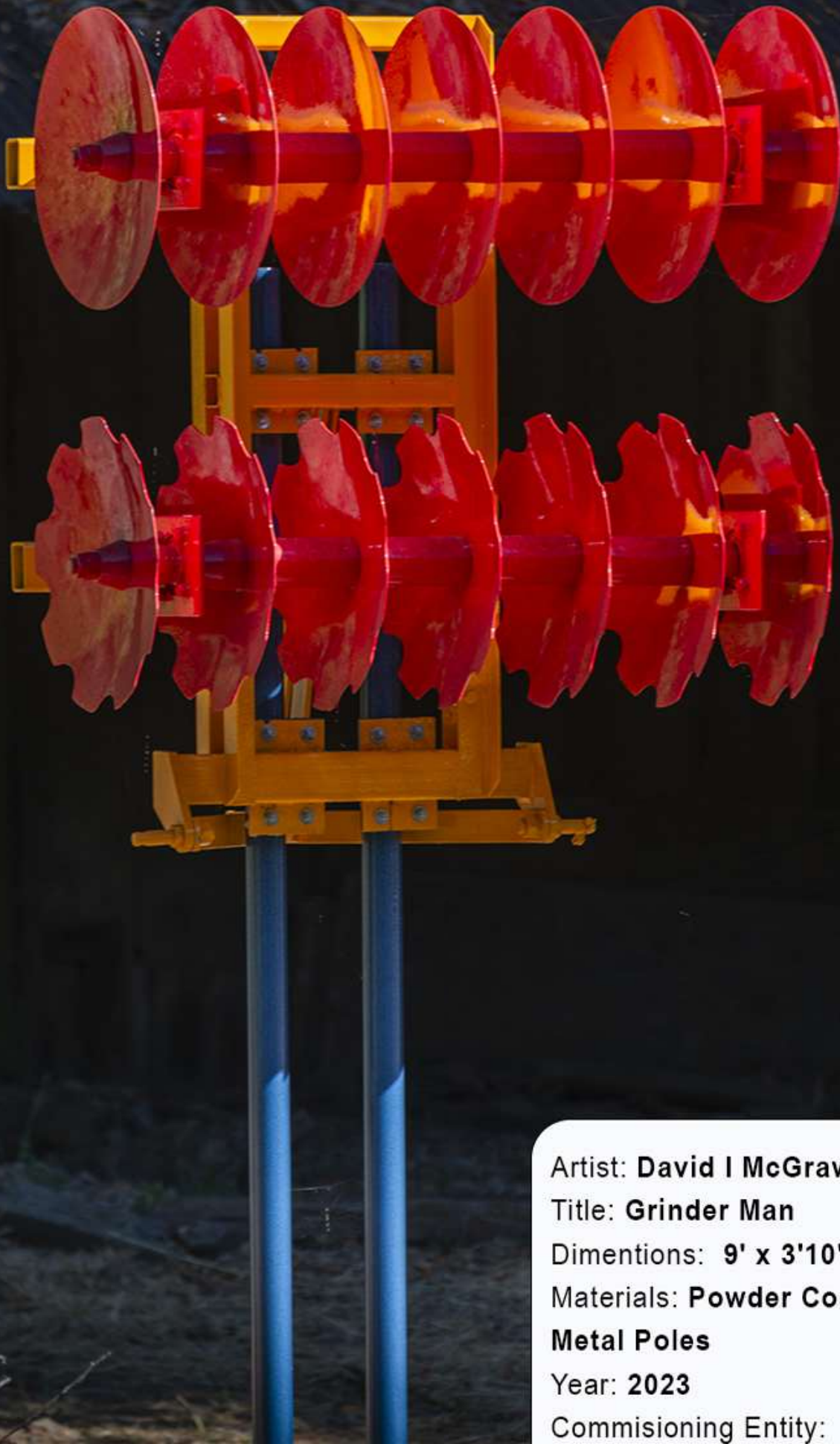


Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**
Title: **Green Truckin'**
Dimensions: **17'10" x 13' x 11'**
Materials: **Powder Coated Metal, Fiberglass Mesh, Pigment Epoxy, Truck Frame**
Year: **2023**
Commissioning Entity: **N/A**
Budget: **N/A**

Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**
Title: **Wilted Corruption**
Dimensions: **12'4" x 20'2" x 1'6"**
Materials: **Powder Coated Metal, Found Metal Plates**
Year: **2021**
Commissioning Entity: **N/A**
Budget: **N/A**



See more images in Google Folder link provided in email submission.



Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**

Title: **Grinder Man**

Dimensions: **9' x 3'10" x 3'**

Materials: **Powder Coated Tiller,
Metal Poles**

Year: **2023**

Commissioning Entity: **N/A**



Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**

Title: **Red Hot Rod**

Dimensions: **7' x 5' x 9'4"**

Materials: **Powder Coated Metal**

Year: **2021**

Commissioning Entity: **N/A**

Budget: **N/A**



Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**
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Dimensions: **17'10" x 13' x 11'**
Materials: **Powder Coated Metal, Fiberglass Mesh, Pigment Epoxy, Truck Frame**
Year: **2023**
Commissioning Entity: **N/A**
Budget: **N/A**



Artist: David I McGraw (aka Davingy)

Title: Orange Dork

Dimensions: 17' x 5' x 4'

Materials: Powder Coated Propane Tank & Hay Dragger

Year: 2023

Commissioning Entity: N/A

Energy,

Title: **Taking Out the Trash**

Dimensions: **20' x 4' x 16'**

Materials: **Powder Coated Metal & Trash Cans**

Year: **2022**

Commissioning Entity: **N/A**

Budget: **N/A**





Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**

Title: **Towering Blue Guardian**

Dimensions: **23' x 7' x 7'**

Materials: **Powder Coated Metal,
Telephone Pole**

Year: **2020**

Commissioning Entity: **N/A**

Budget: **N/A**

McGraw (aka

Corruption

2'4" x 20'2" x 1'6"

Galvanized Coated Metal,
Steel Plates

Entity: N/A



Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**
Title: **Birds of Paradise**
Dimensions: **15'2" x 5'5" x 33'**
Materials: **Powder Coated Trash Cans, Metal, Enamel Styrofoam, Metal Chains**
Year: **2020**
Commissioning Entity: **N/A**
Budget: **N/A**





Artist: **David I McGraw (aka Davingy)**
Title: **Yellow Crown**
Dimensions: **26'6" x 4'8" x 4'8"**
Materials: **Powder Coated Metal, Wood**
Chipper
Year: **2022**
Commissioning Entity: **N/A**