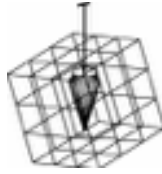


**Brad Kaspari**



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Brad Kaspari/ Kaspari Design Cover Sheet

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## **City of Saint Paul — Wilder Play Area**

### **Artist's Statement**

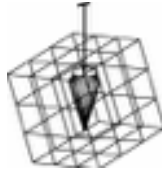
While most of my completed work has been for large institutional based projects, over the past several years I've been part of a design team working with Saint Paul's Residential Street Vitality Program. Because this program is focused on residential street-scapes it's fostered a different type of vision regarding infrastructure and public spaces. I'm finding these types of neighborhood based initiatives to be a particularly interesting departure from projects I've done in the past. They bring unique (especially logistical) challenges, but also opportunities to develop a different, more open-ended type of narrative.

Much of my ongoing work for Saint Paul has been focused on micro-greenspaces and how they can both increase the livability of urban spaces and also have a positive impact on environmental concerns such as lighting, water-handling and energy consumption. This is a particular interest of mine and is an area that I'm continuing to pursue in my own, more speculative, work.

I've also become very attuned to the idea of small scale place-making. This is a term that is often used in relation to large public-infrastructure projects, but is just as important for fine-grained neighborhood based initiatives. Many of the pieces I've done for SPSVP have acted as gateways or beacons (utilizing solar powered light fixtures) that act as transitions between public street scales and more intimate or removed green spaces. (See Upper Afton Arbor images.)

For Wilder Park I would likely propose an entrance arch that incorporates the name of the park and includes some type of solar powered accent lighting. I've also had a long standing interest in the idea of art pieces acting as support structures for climbing plants and I'd like to explore the possibility of this concept. (See Hiawatha Maintenance images.) It's a bit difficult to focus on the type of materials and finishing I'd propose without first discussing maintenance and prevailing design with the Parks Department, but my best guess is the pieces would be fabricated from stainless steel or painted mild steel.

In closing, I maintain that successful public art is often more than one artist's vision. It is a collaborative effort between a community and the artist to bring identity and engaging visual interest to public places. My public art is integrated and contextual in nature—my projects begin with listening and observing in order to develop specific ideas of history, culture, and community that are then translated into an accessible visual narrative. I bring twenty-years years of experience in public art place-making to this process of defining and making real the visions of the community.



## Recent & Selected Projects

- 2015 *Telescope* Group Exhibit at Instinct Gallery, Minneapolis. *Clepsydra*, water governed kinetic time piece. Includes work of poet Michael Bazzett.
- 2015 - 2016 Awarded terrazzo floor design and production for Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ. With Carolyn Braaksma. In progress.
- 2013 - present *Theater of Machines 3 - Time Machines* Developing series of slow kinetic devices concerned with the variable perception of time.
- 2015 *COSM*, Glass and aluminum sculptural installation for Marvin Windows & Doors corporate exhibit. With Michael Pilla, MonarchStudios.
- 2014 *Sound Observations*, Interactive sound and light installation for Northern Spark festival, Minneapolis. Includes work of composer Eric Jensen.
- 2012 - present City of St. Paul. Member of Saint Paul Street Vitality Program (SPSVP) Public Art design team. Miscellaneous scattered site sculptural pieces for residential streetscapes. *Rain Flowers*- 46 stainless steel sculptures for boulevard rain gardens, *FloPosts*- sculptural stop sign supports. *Upper Afton Arbor* and *Highland Trellis* - site specific sculptural installations with Forged steel and LED lanterns - with Lisa Elias. On-going.
- 2013 - present *Bee & Reverie*, 500 piece dispersed sculptural installation. Primarily sited in Minneapolis and across greater Twin Cities Metropolitan area. With Marcus Young. Ongoing.
- 2011 Woodbury Public Safety Training Facility. *Confluence* Lobby wall sculpture - formed metal and controlled LED lighting.
- 2011 City of Minneapolis Hiawatha Maintenance Facility, Minneapolis, MN. *En Avant* Scattered site sculptural installation. Budget \$135,000. With Carolyn Braaksma.
- 2010 Ramsey County Library - Roseville, MN. *Alphabet Maze* Terrazzo for entrance and children's library foyer and accompanying informational poster.
- 2008 Honey Creek Resort State Part, Appanoose County, SE Iowa - Lodge and site enhancements. Floor, fireplace, art glass, and garden structure design, scattered site sculptural installation. Budget \$195,000. With Carolyn Braaksma.
- 2008 *You Are Here*, Bud Werner Memorial Library, Steamboat Springs, CO - Terrazzo floor design and fabrication.
- 2008 Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL - Life Sciences Teaching and Research Building. *Life Tapestries*. Terrazzo installation. Budget \$90,000. With Carolyn Braaksma.
- 2007 Norman Pointe 2, Duke Realty Corp., Minneapolis, MN - *Topo-graphy* Atrium wall sculpture - formed metal and controlled LED lighting.
- 2004 Minnesota Percent for Art in Public Places - Rochester Community and Technical College. *Principles of Uncertainty* Site specific kinetic sculptural installation. Budget \$59,600.
- 2002 Fort Lauderdale International Airport. *There is No Other* Terrazzo installation. With Carolyn Braaksma.
- 2001 Hawthorn Court Residence Complex, Iowa State University. *King Harvest* Misc. architectural details for community center and surrounding site. Includes terrazzo flooring, decorative brickwork, and cast block wall treatments. Budget \$183,000. With Carolyn Braaksma.

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- 2001 Illusion Theater *Illusion* 14 cut copper and wire cloth window grills for lobby renovation. Funded through the Jerome Artist's Grant Program.
- 2000 Member, Hiawatha Light Rail Design Team. Collaborated with project architects on station design, analysis of social and architectural contexts, public art integration plan and commission opportunities.

## Awards & Recognition

- 2015 - 2017 Knight Foundation Multi-year Grant for *Bee Real, Bee Everywhere* to promote awareness of pollinator friendly habitat development. Part of artist team with Christine Baeumler and Amanda Lovelee. Administered by Public Art Saint Paul.
- 2014 Minnesota State Arts Board, Artist Initiative Visual Arts Grant.
- 2012 Participant in Public Art Focus Group sessions to help develop guidelines for St. Paul's Percent for Art projects and planning. Coordinated by Regina Flanagan & Public Art St. Paul.
- 2011 Participant in Sound Points™, collaboration between Minnesota Public Radio and the Minneapolis Arts Commission.
- 2007, 2008, 2009 & 2011 National Terrazzo and Mosaic Association "Job of the Year" and Honor Awards for terrazzo production.
- 2005 Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grant
- 2002 National Terrazzo and Mosaic Association Honor Award for terrazzo design and production.
- 2001 Jerome Foundation Artist Grant

## Professional Affiliation

- February 1995 - present Owner, Kaspari Design Services
- Provides a broad range of two and three dimensional design and fabrication services for Public Art Projects and corporate clients. Emphasis is on integrated and contextual public art design, discrete interactive sculptural works, CADD translation and architectural drafting, production of CNC tooling files, and specialty fabrication for architectural settings.
- In house expertise includes:
- Cut , formed, and fabricated metal assemblies.
  - Decorative flooring including tile and terrazzo.
  - Glass and ceramic mosaic.
  - Painted and stained art glass.
  - Cast part pattern making.
  - Kinetic engineering and computer controlled assemblies.
  - Integral lighting including LED specification and assembly.
  - Graphic Arts and logo design.

## Education

- 1990 University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN - MFA, Sculpture
- 1977 Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA - BFA, Printmaking and Glass-working





**Brad Kaspari**

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## **City of Saint Paul — Wilder Play Area Timeline**

My goal would be to install the piece before the end of the 2016 construction season, but this is contingent on the date of contract issuance, acceptance of preliminary design, and overall ease of coordination with the Parks Department.

### **Proposed Timeline:**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Contract Issued                        | April 14     |
| Preliminary Design Review & Acceptance | May 16       |
| Final Design Review (if required)      | May 23       |
| Fabrication Completed                  | September 9  |
| Installation                           | September 23 |

## Brad Kaspari

### City of Saint Paul — Wilder Play Area

#### Image Descriptions

1. *Honey Creek* (fireplace overview). Glass mosaic with applied bronze and cast glass, one of four panels. Honey Creek Resort - on Lake Rathbun, Moravia, Iowa. Mixed interior details for IDNR resort development. Glass mosaic, cast bronze, patterned ceramic floor tile inserts, cast and stained concrete, art glass panels.
2. *Honey Creek* (detail of bird mosaic).
3. *Honey Creek* (detail of fish mosaic).
4. *En Avant* (overview from Sabo Bridge), City of Minneapolis - Hiawatha Yard Maintenance Facility, painted and galvanized steel, mixed metals, kinetic features. (Video available on request.) Project includes 5 large trellis structures with sculptural inserts, each structure approximately 8' x 12'. Site is planted with ornamental grasses and various climbing vines which will eventually encompass the structures and backing wall. 2011 completion.
5. *En Avant* (detail of Cement truck trellis, the mixer on the truck spins in the wind).
6. *En Avant* (detail of Dump truck trellis).
7. *Rain Flowers* (form 2 of 3). City of St. Paul. Residential Street Vitality Program (SPSVP) Public Art Pilot Project. Stainless steel. Approximately 45 to 50 scattered site sculptural objects across three neighborhoods for City implemented residential rain gardens.
8. *Rain Flowers* (form 3 of 3).
9. *Upper Afton Arbor* City of St. Paul. Residential Street Vitality Program (SPSVP) Public Art Pilot Project. Rusting steel, stainless steel, and fabricated solar lighting. Located at crossing of Battle Creek Regional Park trail and Upper Afton Road. With Lisa Elias.
10. *Upper Afton Arbor* (light detail).











