

# Public Art Films

# Public Art definition

- Public art is any work of art or design that is created by an artist or a team of professionals that can include an artist, an architect, an engineer, and a landscape architect, specifically to be displayed in a public space.
- Usually site-specific. It enriches and enhances that site
- Often has a community component to it.
- It's not a specific art form
- Can be permanent or temporary

# Americans for the Arts' Public Art Network

- Public art is often site-specific, meaning it is created in response to the place and community in which it resides. It often interprets the history of the place, its people, and perhaps addresses a social or environmental issue. The work may be created in collaboration with the community, reflecting the ideas and values of those for whom it's created.
- Being public, the art is free and accessible to everyone. Public art creates a heightened awareness in the viewer of the site of the people and the broader context of what's around them. Today, viewers may capture a photo of the public art on their smartphone and share the work and the experience with others, extending the reach of public art beyond the site.
- Whatever the form, public art instills meaning—a greater sense of identity and understandings of where we live, work, and visit—creating memorable experiences for all.

# Public art "today", from Forecast Public Art

- The classic images evoked by the phrase 'Public Art' are usually of static bronze or monolithic stone structures. While these images of grand works of metal and stone have a well-established place in the artistic lexicon, they only encompass a portion of what is regarded as contemporary public art. As all artistic definitions expand, contract and evolve over time, so has the contemporary view of public art. Today, public art has moved beyond that of permanence and solidity, seeking to engage the community in a manner that, while not excluding the methods of the past, brings them to life as a part of the community. Contemporary public art is not simply an aspect of the landscape, expanding to examine the ideas of personal and community engagement, the context and recontextualization of place and fomenting the exchange of ideas and identity within a community.

# History of Public Art



*Gates of Paradise*, Baptistery doors, Lorenzo Ghiberti, 1425-1452



*Eiffel Tower, Gustav Eiffel, 1887-1889*



*Statue of Liberty*, Frederic Bartholdi, 1884





WPA - *California*, Maxine Albro, 1934, Coit Tower, San Francisco, CA





GSA Art in Architecture - *Harmony Ridge*, Robert Lobe, 1996, USGS, Reston





*Robert E. Simon, Zachary Oxman, 1993*





*Angel of the North, Antony Gormley, 1998, Gateshead, England*



*Spiral Jetty*, Robert Smithson, 1970, Great Salt Lake, Utah





*The FUNtain, Steve Mann, 2006, Ontario Science Center, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*





Bench, Columbia, Missouri





*Liquid Pixels*, Ned Kahn, 2002





*Maryland Treasures, Cheryl Foster, 2008*





*Bay Lights*, Leo Villareal, 2013, San Francisco





*Transparent Tapestry, Tim Tate, 2007*





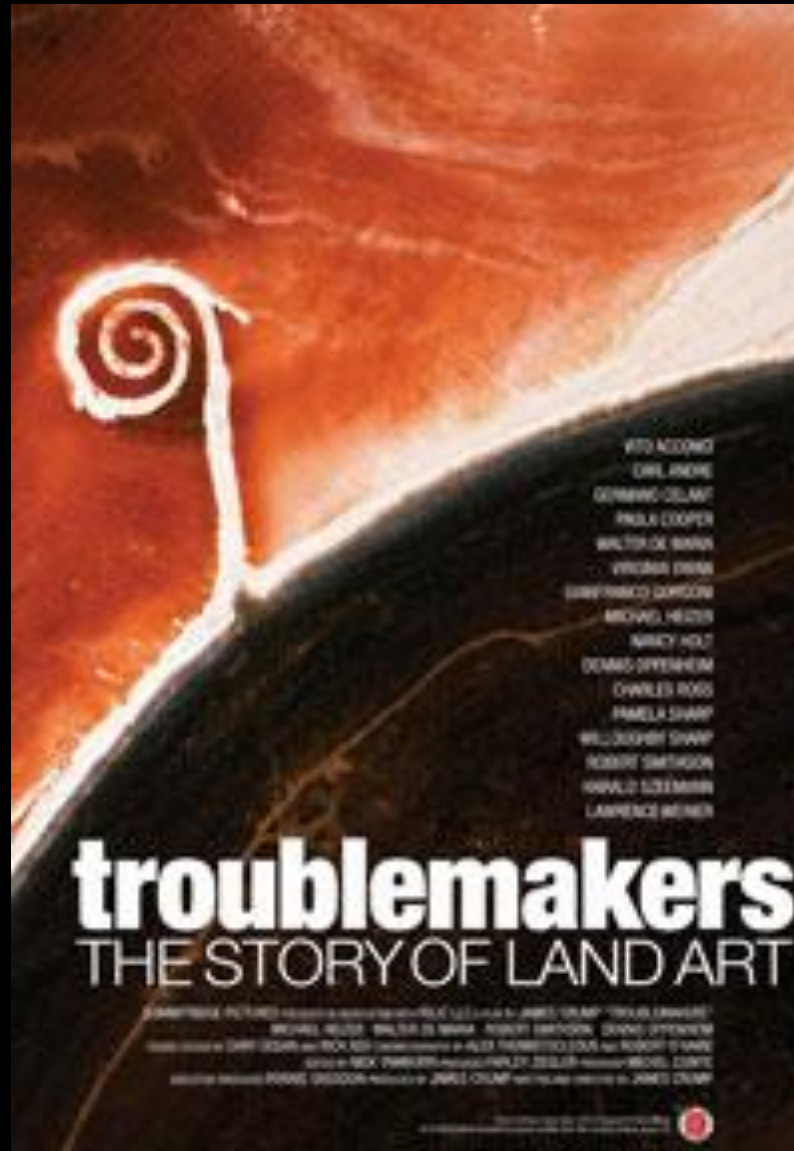
*Public Art Private Views*

# Upcoming Weeks





*Bending Sticks, Patrick Dougherty*



pi\_troublemakers\_poster





*Inside Out: The Peoples' Art Project, JR*