



Contemporary Public Art Program | City of Las Vegas Public Art

The Contemporary Public Art Program uses city Capital Improvement Project funds to partner with the community, artists and creative teams to present temporary, site-responsive murals, sculptures, projections, performances and other proposed media on public and private designated property sites.

SIX WAYS TO DRAW ATTENTION BY ERIK BURKE

Six Ways to Draw Attention (2019) references the six bay doors while also speaking to the six units behind those doors ready to be drawn at any moment. The doors serve as the space between as attention can be drawn inward or outward just as public art can help create introspection and community. The content of the mural is a merging of Fire Fighters and the uniqueness of cacti in this particular environment. By overlaying the imagery it places the attributes of cacti on the figures, resilient, tough, unwavering, bearing water, to name a few. The transparency of this line of work lacks any personal or political agenda except respond and relieve. The imagery moves past the recognizable into textures and colors bearing sensations related to heat and pressure.



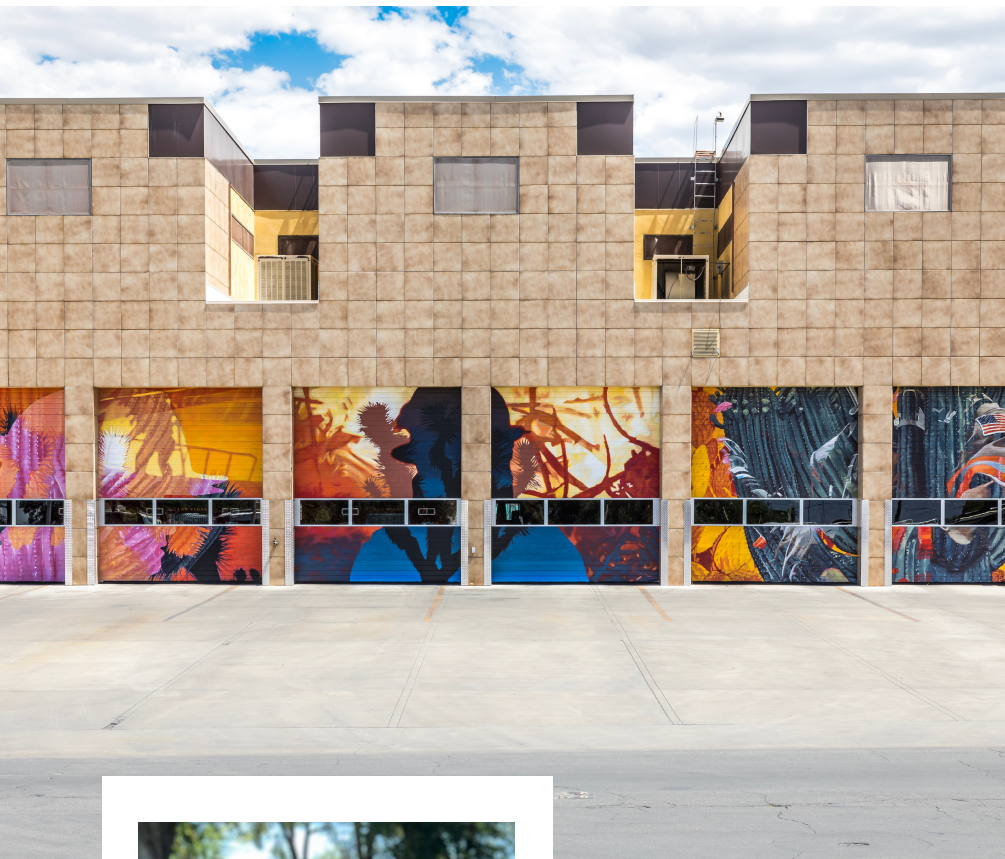
"My explorative nature has taken me to places surreal and commonplace. I use these opportunities to learn from our built environment, and the people and history that make them unique. Through these travels the changing geography becomes my muse, inspiring me to create intrinsically and intuitively to gain a sense of place.

I believe my painting is highly informed by these variations in sites and I use this pairing as an admission to transcend tourism, explore citizenship, and most importantly, engage the community. By beginning a dialogue with people and places I hope to pass authorship of my work on to the community and be a catalyst for civic pride.

My paintings reflect a deep interest in storytelling and the narrative power of images to reactivate a variety of spaces. Through a culmination of portraiture, ecology, and the creative use of urban spaces

I hope to create allegories that can tell the untold. Or at least unravel it a bit.

Once it was my goal to bring art from the pedestal to the people. Now I just try to remember to take the oil bars out of my pockets before doing laundry."



Mona Shield Payne Photography



Erik Burke (b. 1978) lives in Reno, NV and creates place-specific murals throughout the world. His pairing of photographic representation with impressionistic painting is complimented by a strong sense of design. In his work one can see how painting reflects a deep interest in storytelling and the narrative power of images to reactivate a variety of spaces. Past works have included creating a 40-acre ground drawing in the USA, making a body of work while bicycling 2000 miles across Europe, leading art workshops with communities in need around the globe, and painting upwards of 200 murals. His latest work can be seen in Spain, Bosnia Herzegovina, S. Korea, Italy, and closer to home in Reno. His work has been published in the book 'Street Art; The Best Urban Art from Around the World', The Huffington Post, and the NYTimes.