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# Designing The World's Best Public Art (Designing The World's Best Series)



## Synopsis

This book explores the collaboration between artist and client in relation to featuring art in a public space. It includes written descriptions and approximately 200 illustrations which identify artists, architects, artworks and their settings. The content focuses on the level of collaboration between artists, architects and the public with attention to the impact their projects have on the communities where they are installed. Public art is unique because it requires several groups, often with different interests, to work collaboratively in seeking inventive design solutions. With the original vision of the artist, along with the collaboration of the architect and community, there is a deeper understanding of the work and a sense of public ownership. Through this process, the finished work has a greater visual and intellectual impact. The material has been compiled by the internationally renowned public artist and academic Professor Garrison Roots. Each artist and contributing programme

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Roots (fine art, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder) has assembled a fine collection of public art works, all completed within the last ten years in the United States and all evincing a real desire to delight and engage. The book is especially successful at showing how public art projects can transform mundane, even ugly, urban fixtures such as freeway footbridges, public restrooms, and water treatment plants. The first section includes overviews of 14 artists, e.g., Joan Llaveria Arasa, Douglas Hollis, and Norie Sato, covering their work, methods, and education; descriptions of their

previous work; and photographs of completed projects. The second half focuses on projects sponsored by eight different metropolitan-area public art programs (e.g., the Broward County, FL, Cultural Affairs Council and the Phoenix, AZ, Arts Commission), providing a history of their efforts. The book's layout is attractive, but many of the photographs are too small, making details difficult to see. There is a brief introduction by Roots, but the value of this title resides in its showcasing of the art. For discussions of the aesthetics and politics of public art, consider Suzanne Lacy's *Mapping the Terrain* or Rosalyn Deutsche's *Evictions: Art and Spatial Politics*. Recommended for design and architecture libraries and worthwhile for larger public library art collections. Michael Dashkin, PricewaterhouseCoopers, New York Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Este artista, además de ser un gran creador en la escultura, se ha arriesgado al realizar este libro, donde demuestra su gran preparación y un excelente juicio. Pocos artistas son tan claros en sus exposiciones escritas y Garrison Roots lo es, dando un enfoque objetivo y sumamente valioso. La experiencia de acercarse a las manifestaciones artístico-públicas-urbanas será mucho más enriquecedora si lo hacemos con la ayuda de este autor. Totalmente recomendable para los estudiosos del arte.

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