

**Tacoma Artists Initiative Program
2007 – 2008 funding recipients**

Carla Barragan - Loud Omission

Dance

Loud Omission is a new work focusing on pivotal events that result in the impossibility to achieve ones' dreams. Dancers were filmed dancing in front of projected slides of Paula Barragan's drawings. The video was then projected on stage with the dancers dancing live in front of the projection. The piece was performed at Tacoma School of the Arts with excerpts presented at Showcase Tacoma and the 2007 Art at Work month opening celebration at the Museum of Glass.

Terese Cuff - Plunge

Film

Plunge is a short script the artist wrote and will shot in High Definition video. It is a coming of age story relevant to anyone who had yearned for something but doesn't know quite how to get it. The video was screened at the Grand Cinema.

Kyle Dillehay - Second Nature

Visual Art

Kyle produced cast bronze pod-like vessels which contained nutrient rich soil. These pods were placed in tree branches and as wind and rain fell, the nutrients were dispersed, symbolically fertilizing the earth, blurring the boundary between nature and art. The pieces were installed on the campus of Tacoma Community College.

Justin Gorman - In <Trans>it

Interdisciplinary

This project chronicled one year's worth of daily commuting from Tacoma to Seattle by bus, train and ferry through the capturing, collecting and presenting of video, sounds and still photos. The project was documented through an interactive blog and a website. It was presented as an interactive art installation at Showcase Tacoma and at the 2007 Art Slam at the Rialto Theater.

Scott Gruber - Sculpture and Landscape Design for South I Street Triangle Park

Visual Art

Scott designed a park space to include hardscape, a pedestrian pathway, and a basalt sculpture. The sculpture is 7 feet tall and is composed of a series of columns formed into one stone, representative of the individuals that congregate to form a community. The piece is permanently installed near Wright Park.

Chad Hagedorn - Where Rails Meet Sails

Music

Chad produced and engineered an album fusing folk, electronica, and rock, laced with dreamy atmosphere and featuring themes of melancholy. The album features guest appearances from some of Tacoma's finest art-rock talents, including Laura Arellano (vocals), John Walker of John Walker and the Hitchhikers (keyboards), Kizzume of The Mercury Rising (vocals), and local jazz favorite Dave Miner (saxophone).

Chad incorporated natural and man-made sounds from the Tacoma area. Some of these sounds have been converted into samples and loops and may seem unidentifiable. The entire album is free as a digital download at greyslademusic.com with an option to make a donation or purchase a hard copy.

Justin Hahn - The Polymer Chemistry of Biodiesel

Visual Art

Justin's project investigated the molecular building blocks of renewable energy and acknowledged Rudolf Diesel's technical contributions in harnessing that energy. He retrofitted a diesel vehicle to run on homemade biodiesel and created two sculptures based on Diesel's personage. The sculptures were exhibited at the Tacoma Community College library.

Janet Marcavage - Molecular Portraits

Visual Art

This series was comprised of hand-pulled and embossed lithographic prints that synthesized the language of printmaking and genetics. The portraits were silhouettes constructed of colored dots that represented the nucleotides found in our DNA. The dots were also in reference to the halftone patterns traditionally used in printing. The work was exhibited at The Grand Impromptu Gallery.

Kevin Miller - Old Town Poems

Literary Art

Kevin published a book-length manuscript of poems tied to place and the perspective a place lends to the writer. The poems were presented at a public reading at King's Books.

Betty Sapp Ragan - City Tales

Visual Art

Betty completed a dozen large-format hand colored photo collages. The imagery consisted of architectural decorations that were photographed in San Francisco, Chicago, and New York. Portraits were combined with these architectural elements. An exhibit of these pieces was presented at the Sandpiper Gallery.

Elise Richman – Topographies

Visual Art

Elise began a new series of sculptural wood and encaustic pieces. The work was shown at the Kittredge Gallery at the University of Puget Sound.

Holly Senn - (Un)Written

Visual Art

Using discarded library books, Senn created sculptures that explored the lifecycle of ideas. Senn's sculptures were exhibited at the Collins Library at the University of Puget Sound in 2008.

Lucas Smiraldo - Voice of the Americas: A Post 911 Millennial in Five Movements

Literary and Performing Art

Lucas' created a professionally illustrated poetry manuscript of multiple narrative identities and a symphonic fusion of spoken word and original music presented in five movements. The work explored the current decade from numerous perspectives including JFK, Martin Luther King, and Gordon Parks. The work was presented in a live performance ensemble with original music at the Broadway Center.

Katherine Stricker – Pressed

Dance

Pressed was an evening-length contemporary dance installation which was performed at Barefoot Studios in 2008. The work involved performers who interacted with original set pieces, exploring the theme of confinement.

Josephine A. Zmolek - On the Backs of Our Mothers

Dance

Josephine created this dance/theatre piece for five women of all ages. The performance explored the themes of labor, strength, and endurance of women facing loss and suffering. The work was based on collected personal and family stories. The piece was performed at Barefoot Studios.

Paul Zmolek – Migrant

Dance

Migrant was a physical theatre/dance piece inspired by the experiences of migrant workers in America. The work utilized historical, theoretical and personal materials as source materials for the creation of the piece. Migrant was performed at Barefoot Studios.