



J STACY UTLEY / MFA

ARTIST BIO | CV FOR PUBLIC ART QUALIFICATIONS

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ARTIST BIO

J. Stacy Utley is a critically acclaimed visual and public artist. Based in Charlotte North Carolina, he is known for creating engaging and thought-provoking artistic works that transform public spaces into vibrant cultural landscapes.

Utley is a graduate of North Carolina State University, College of Design where he received a bachelor's degree in environmental design (2001) and a bachelor's in architecture (2006). He credits his background and early career as an architectural intern for influencing his work, bringing a unique blend to his artistic vision and technical experience. In 2012 he enrolled in the Art Institute of Boston, a conservatory school now part of Lesley University College of Art and Design in Cambridge Massachusetts. Earning an MFA in Studio Art in 2014.

A versatile artist, Utley is known for exploring themes, such as identity, social justice, and gentrification in his drawings, paintings, mixed media, and public work. Whether in a public space or gallery, his work is captivating and evocative. Exploring the interplay of form, color, and texture to convey emotion, narrative, and symbolism.

As a public artist, Utley utilizes a diverse range of materials and methods to create site-specific artworks that resonates with the surrounding environment and reflect the stories and aspirations of the community. Partnering with community members and local stakeholders to foster a sense of ownership and pride in the communities where the artwork is installed. Utley believes that without the public engagement, public art simply does not work. Engaging residents in the creative process ensures that the installation not only beautify spaces but serves as a catalyst for social change and collective expression.

Utley's work has been featured in numerous art installations, exhibitions, publications, and community events, earning recognition for its innovation, creativity, and impact. In 2023, Utley received the Innovative Emerging Professional Design-life Award from his alma mater, North Carolina State University. An award that recognizes a trailblazer who is indicative of where the profession is going. In addition to his recognition and awarded commissions he has received grants to continue to explore his studio practice. He is currently represented by the Elder Gallery of Contemporary Art in Charlotte NC.



INFO

 stacy@jstacyutley.com

 980.522.8601

 www.jstacyutley.com

 **GALLERY REPRESENTATION:**
Elder Gallery for Contemporary Arts
1520 South Tryon Street,
Charlotte, NC 28203

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I believe that public art is not successful without the collaboration and engagement of community members and stakeholders. I am a creative and passionate public artist with a proven track record of conceptualizing, designing, executing impactful artworks for diverse public spaces. With a background in Environmental Design, Architecture and an MFA in Studio Art I bring a unique blend of artistic talent, technical skills, and community engagement expertise to every project.

PUBLIC ART / PROJECT EXPERIENCE

2024 Atrium Health, Lake Norman Hospital, Charlotte NC,

Commissioning Agency: Skyline, Project Budget: 5K for Conceptual Design, Client securing donor for design and fabrication. **Status:** Conceptual Design

2024 Rail Trail Public Art Installation, Charlotte NC,

Commissioning Agency: Charlotte City Center Partners, Project Budget: 10K for temporary art installation. **Status:** Completed

2023 Chavis Park Aquatic Center + Heritage Plaza Public Art Project,

Raleigh NC,

Commissioning Agency: City of Raleigh, Project Budget: 86K, **Status:** Awarded

2023 Chavis Park Heritage Walk Public Art Project, Raleigh NC,

Commissioning Agency: City of Raleigh, Project Budget: 120K, **Status:** Awarded

2021 UNC-Charlotte Remembrance Memorial I Finding Our Center International Design

Competition – Finalist, Charlotte NC,

Collaboration with EVOKE Studio, Commissioning Agency: UNC-Charlotte

2019 Person & Blount Street Corridor Public Art Project, Raleigh NC,

Collaboration with EVOKE Studio, Commissioning Agency: City of Raleigh Project Budget: 120K,

Status: Awarded/ On Hold

2018 EVER UPWARD/ EVEN HIGHER, Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Project (CNIP)

Five Points Plaza and I77/Trade Street Underpass, Charlotte NC,

Collaboration with EVOKE Studio, Commissioning Agency: Arts and Science Council, Project Budget:

500K, **Status:** Completed summer 2021

2017 Taurus, Judicial Building II Plaza, Durham NC,


Collaboration with David Wilson, Commissioning Agency: Durham County, Project Budget: 100K

Status: Completed summer 2018

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EDUCATION

MFA - Studio Art,

Lesley University, 2014

BA of Architecture,

North Carolina State University, 2006

BA of Environmental Design in Architecture,

North Carolina State University, 2001

SKILLS

Public Engagement: Skill in engaging with diverse communities to incorporate their input and reflect local culture and values in the artwork.

Conceptualizing: Ability to develop and visualize artistic concepts suitable for public/ shared spaces.

Drawing and Rendering: Skill in preliminary sketches and drawings that can translate into 3D modeling that will communicate artistic ideas.

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AWARDS/ RECOGNITION

- 2023** NCSU College of Design Fall Commencement Speaker
- 2023** Arts and Science Council Artist Support Grant Recipient
- 2023** Innovative & Emerging Professional Design-life Award Recipient, College of Design, North Carolina State University
- 2022** Knight Foundation Art + Tech Expansion Fund Recipient
- 2022** Best New Public Art as part of a Government Project, Best of the Best, Queen City Nerve
- 2021** Bolt of Inspiration For the Creative Community, Charlotte Creative Mornings

RESIDENCIES

* Denotes forthcoming residencies

** Denotes awarded but deferred due to previous obligations

- 2023** ****Chateau D' Orquevaux International Artist & Writers Residency** - selected
Orquevaux France
- 2018** **Goodyear Arts, Artist in Residency**
Goodyear Arts, Charlotte NC

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

* Denotes forthcoming exhibitions

- 2023** **In Transition**
Elder Gallery of Contemporary Art, Charlotte NC
- 2014** **Any City "AMERICA"**,
African American Cultural Center,
North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC
- 2011** **Solo Exhibition**,
St. Joseph's Historic Foundation,
Hayti Heritage Center, Durham NC
- In Retrospect**,
African American Cultural Center,
North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

* Denotes forthcoming exhibitions.

- 2023** **The Vault**
The Mint Museum Uptown, Charlotte NC
- 2023 Gantt Biennial**
Harvey B Gantt Center for African American History
and Culture, Charlotte NC

SKILLS (CONT'D)

Collaboration: Ability to collaborate with architects, urban planners, general contractors, vendors, community members to integrate artwork into public spaces.

Project Management: Competence in managing projects from conception to installation, including budgeting and scheduling.

Installation: Knowledge of installation techniques and experience in creating site-specific works.

Safety and Structural Understanding: Understanding of safety regulations and structural requirements, permitting for public art installations.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

North Carolina State University,
College of Design: Leaders Council
Member

Arts and Science Council, Going
Public: A Public Art Incubator: Guest
Speaker

North Carolina State University, Duda
Visiting Designer Program (DVDP):
Advisor

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
Incorporated

SELECT COLLECTIONS

Elder Gallery of Contemporary Arts
Charlotte NC

Belk Foundation
Charlotte NC

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SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS (CONT'D)

- 2021 **Venice Biennale Architectura**
'A South Forty', Curated by Fay Jones School of
Architecture - University of Arkansas,
Palazzo Mora, European Cultural Centre
Venice Italy
Collaborative Project Art Project with EVOKE Studio
- 2020 **Home**
Elder Gallery of Contemporary Art, Charlotte NC
- 2019 **A Collective Introspective**
Goodyear Arts, Charlotte NC
- 2018 **Summer Artist in Residence Group Exhibition**
Goodyear Arts, Charlotte NC
- 2017 **Wet Paint**
Goodyear Arts, Charlotte NC
- National Black Arts Festival,**
Atlanta GA
- Work In Progress (WIP) Pop Up Exhibition**
Commons Gallery, Cambridge MA
- Gendered, an Inclusive Show**
Group project with Studio 345
Mint Museum UPTOWN, Charlotte NC
- Requiem for Mother Emanuel, Artist Response**
Mint Museum, Charlotte NC
- 2014 **M.F.A. Graduate Exhibition,**
Vandernoot Gallery, Cambridge MA
- Boston Young Contemporaries,**
808 Gallery, Boston MA
- National Arts Program Exhibition,**
Block Gallery, Raleigh NC
- 2011 **Through Our Eye,**
Fosters Gallery, Huntersville NC
- 2010 **Art by Architects,**
Hodges Taylor Gallery, Charlotte NC

REFERENCES

Will be furnished upon request.

SELECT COLLECTIONS (CONT'D)

- Atrium Health
Charlotte NC
- Moore & Van Allen
Charlotte NC
- The Center for Contemporary
Political Art.
Washington DC
- Johnson C Smith University
Charlotte NC
- North Carolina State University
Raleigh NC