Arroyo Chico Multi-Use Project

Public Art

Pima County Regional Flood Control District and Tucson Pima Arts Council selected three different public artists to provide public art for the Arroyo Chico Project. The artists were Mary Lucking and Dwayne Arnspriger, John Davis, and Joshua Sarantitis and Alex Garza. Their work is shown below.

Mary Lucking and Dwayne Arnspriger’s "Meanwhile, Down in the Arroyo..."

Eight seating tuffets in various locations throughout the Park Avenue Basins provide resting spots for pathway users. The tuffets are sculptural cast-concrete with eight different ceramic tile mosaics. Each mosaic presents a different scene of native wildlife in the environment of the Arroyo Chico area, with humans in the background, watching the activity.

Artist Statement: "The tuffet forms disappear into the beautiful park surroundings, echoing the form of an abstract succulent and the color of the desert. The tiles on top are a splash of color and pattern, illustrating scenes of desert animals in the arroyo. The scenes are filled with details specific to the park, including native plants and flowers, cityscapes, views of the Rincons and chasing butterflies."

A seating tuffet from Mary Lucking and Dwayne Arnspriger’s "Meanwhile, Down in the Arroyo . . ."
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John Davis' "High Ground"

A large 12 foot high by 12 foot wide by 10 foot deep metal sculpture on the west side of the Highland turf area, near Santa Rita Avenue. The work was completed in June 2013.

Artist Statement: "The piece celebrates the function of the Arroyo Chico Multi Use Project. The constructed basins, in essence, lift the adjoining neighborhoods above the threat of flood waters. The sculpture gives form to the gesture of this lifting to high ground. The kinetic component of the piece moves with the wind direction, thus making a connection to the weather (which is the potential source of flooding)."
Joshua Sarantitis and Alex Garza's "Mano de La Luna"

The artist team of Josh Sarantitis and Alex Garza will provide a 6 foot high by 10 foot long metal, glass and tile sculpture for the turf area at 12th Street and Santa Rita Avenue.

Artists Statement: "This artwork depicts our communal aspirations for harmony and stewardship. Within a landscape of earth, moon, and sun, the human hand represents openness, wisdom, and acceptance. Here, humanity embraces its unique place in the natural world and seeks to improve both itself and the environment...."