
GILLIAN CHRISTY

SCULPTOR

Biography

Gillian Christy was born in Iowa in 1979. She attended the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, IA, receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2002. Setting her sights towards the East Coast she moved to Providence, RI in 2003. Since her work is greatly influenced by her surroundings, the sculpted Mid-West farming implements soon transformed into sculpted New England clapboards and cobbled streets.

While the urban landscape inspired, attending the University of Northern Iowa was an extremely formative time for Ms. Christy's development as an artist. She discovered new materials, such as metal, and was introduced to the avenue of public art. Christy has focused on creating artwork for the public realm, and has completed numerous corporate and public art commissions in New England, and continually exhibits public artwork throughout the United States.

Among her permanent public art projects, *Pathways* serves as a Gateway to Main Street in Fitchburg, MA. Christy received a grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts to spend six months actively gathering community input on the final design. In Providence, RI *Wave Traveler* is the focal point in the public courtyard of Waterplace Residential Towers. The monumental *Embrace* incorporates sculptural elements to an existing smokestack at The Plant. *Embrace* was funded in part by local grass-roots fundraising, as well as grants based on artistic merit from the Rhode Island Foundation, *New Works 2006* and the Berkshire Taconic Foundation.

Christy's work is in permanent collections such as Somerby's Landing Sculpture Park, Newburyport, MA, T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, RI, The Genesis Health Services and Illini Foundation in Bettendorf, IA, as well as The Hearst Center for the Arts in Cedar Falls, IA. Numerous sculptural works have been created for private residences as well as for the corporate environment. Permanent sculptures are located at the front entrance of *AC Hotel Cambridge* in Cambridge, MA and in the penthouse suite of *W Hotel* in Boston, MA. Imagery of Christy's sculpture have appeared in the movie *Central Intelligence* as well as on television for the *NFL on CBS*, *The Apprentice* and *Gravity Games*.

Christy is an alumni member of the Boston Sculptors Gallery where she exhibits gallery work regularly. Her solo exhibitions there include "*Course*", 2014 which examined the beauty and mystery inherent to seasonal growth. "*Waves of Grain*", 2012 featured an expansive wall piece recalling the rolling hills of Iowa. In 2009 Christy exhibited a solo exhibition "*Inside: Outside*" at Appalachian State University, Boone, NC which then travelled to Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, MA.

Ultimately, Christy is inspired to create artwork based on the familiar objects that one may view through their daily travels. She discovers these elements found in existing architecture, industry or among everyday items found within the home. In her work she sets out to express the interconnectedness between home, nature, and one another. She resides in Boston with her family.