

## 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 packed up her mini-van and moved directly to Providence, RI. Since her work is greatly influenced by her surroundings, the sculpted Mid-West farming implements soon transformed into sculpted New England clapboards. Ms. Christy attributes attending the University of Northern Iowa as an extremely formative time where she not only discovered metal, but was introduced to the avenue of public art. Since then, Christy has focused her career on creating artwork for the public realm. She continually exhibits public artwork throughout the United States with sculptures currently on view at The Pittsburgh International Airport in Pittsburgh, PA, and The Meredith Sculpture Walk in Meredith, NH.

Among her permanent public art commissions, *Fence Roadway* is a stainless steel sculpture honoring former long-time Mayor Jon Crews which was recently installed at the Cedar Falls City Hall in Iowa. Other works include *Pathways* where Christy received a grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts to spend six months actively gathering community input on the final design ultimately serving as a Gateway to Main Street in Fitchburg, MA. 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, Rhode Island Foundation, *New Works 2006* and the Berkshire Taconic Foundation.

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

Christy exhibits gallery work regularly and considers these sculptures as her sketchbook of ideas for bigger public art projects. She was honored to receive an Artist Fellowship in the Craft Category from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to complete her *Tabernacle Series*. This series will be on view at the Art Complex Museum in Duxbury, MA summer 2022. Other solo exhibitions include "*Course*", 2014 and "*Waves of Grain*", 2012 at the Boston Sculptors Gallery. 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 sets out to express the connectedness between home, nature, and one another. She resides in Boston with her family.