MATTHEW PLACZEK

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST I MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR

CONTACT

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BIOGRAPHY

Matthew Placzek, a renowned sculptor with over 35 years of artistic experience, is known for creating works ranging from wall-mounted to monumental sculptures reaching heights of 90 feet. His artistic journey began at the age of 14 in Nebraska, where he drew inspiration from the natural beauty and wildlife of the Platte River. His unique style quickly earned him recognition in various art shows and competitions, leading to significant installations worldwide.

As his career progressed, Matthew expanded his focus from monumental works to large, complex installations, completing numerous projects for cities, universities, healthcare facilities, and corporations. His latest endeavor features a collection of 80 bronze sculptures that have become iconic landmarks, celebrated in national art and architectural publications. Through his art, Matthew aims to create a personal connection with viewers, evoking a range of emotions and encouraging interaction with each intricately detailed piece. His work invites exploration of textures, shadows, and movement, fostering an engaging and immersive experience.

EDUCATION

Hastings College
Hastings, Nebraska
1986

Creighton University
Omaha, Nebraska
1987

SKILLS

Concept Development
Design Creation
Composition
Visual Storytelling
Materials & Techniques
Production
Installation
Project Management
Client Communication

EXPERIENCE

PLACZEK STUDIOS
Founder, CEO, and Sculptor
January 1991 - Present

Placzek Studios specializes in site-specific sculptures that range from single figures cast in bronze to extensive multi-media sculptural installations using steel, acrylic, color and light. I have an extensive team assembled to design, engineer, fabricate, assemble and install artwork.

RECENT PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS

"Emerge" - 12 foot-tall stainless steel and acrylic sculpture - Burns Road Community Center - Palm Beach Gardens, FL 2026

"Lauritzen Tree" - 18 foot-tall tree with acrylic leaves with donor names engraved - Lauritzen Garden - Omaha, NE 2025

"Bear Canyon" - 35 foot-tall tree with acrylic leaves and bronze woodland creatures - Children's Nebraska - Omaha, NE 2025

"CQuence Vessels" - 14' feet tall - Hand painted metal vessel water feature - CQuence Health - Omaha, NE 2024

"CQuence Screens" - 11' feet tall - Hand painted metal vessel water feature - CQuence Health - Omaha, NE 2024

"Allen Memorial Chime" - 11' feet tall chime - Hand-painted Stainless Steel - Allen Premium Outlets - Allen, Texas, 2024

"Mangroves" - 14' feet tall - Hand painted metal Mangrove Trees - Sunseeker Resort - Charlotte Harbor, Florida Omaha, NE 2023

"Poppies" - 14' feet tall - Hand painted metal and acrylic, LED lit poppies - Yanney Heritage Park - Kearney, NE 2023

"Yanney Butterflies" - 16' feet tall stainless steel and acrylic hand-painted butterflies _ Yanney Heritage Park, Kearney Nebraska

"Marshland Symphony" - 14' feet tall - Hand painted metal and acrylic grasses and cranes - Grand Island, NE 2023

INSTALLATIONS

Public Monuments

"Atrium Health Chime" - 14 feet tall - Stainless Steel Chime - Atrium West Healthcare - Charlotte, North Carolina 2022

"LED Lit Butterfly Screens" - Stainless Steel, LED lighting, and Acrylic - Ormond Memorial Art Museum & Gardens Beach, Florida 2021

"Radiance" - 22' feet tall - hand painted butterfly sculpture, stainless steel and acrylic - Yanney Heritage Park, Kearney, NE

"Luminous" - Rooftop Butterfly Screens, Hand-painted Stainless Steel and Acrylic– Chicago, IL, 2020

"Bronze Horses" - 2 Larger-than-life sized horses, 10' feet-tall by 24' feet-wide, Bronze – The Ridge Senior Living, Lakewood, CO 2020

"Majestic Flight" - Eagle in flight, 8' feet-tall, Bronze – Omaha VA Medical Center Omaha, NE 2020

"Reflection" - Wave wall sculpture, 40' feet-tall by 140' feet wide, Hand-painted metal– Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, Omaha, NE 2020

"Honor Flight" - Two flying eagles soaring above a river, 14' feet-tall by 6' feet-wide, hand-painted metal and acrylic– Fort Bliss Medical Center, El Paso, TX 2020

"Pinwheels" - 3 Pinwheels varying in size from 10' to 16' feet-tall Acrylic, stainless steel and LED lighting– Okoboji, IA 2020

"Leaves" – Ceiling suspended leaves, hand-painted, rolled metal – Choctaw Regional Health, Talihina, OK 2019

"Choctaw Children Courtyard" – Two bronze figures, and butterfly screen, Stainless Steel, Acrylic, and Bronze – Choctaw Regional Health, Talihina, OK 2019

"Choctaw Family Plaza" – Six bronze figures, and two leaf arches, Stainless Steel, and Bronze – Choctaw Regional Health, Talihina, OK 2019

"Essence" – 22 foot-tall butterfly spire, Stainless Steel, and Acrylic – The Club at Boynton Beach, Boynton Beach, FL 2019

"Symphony Waterway Butterflies" – 14 foot-tall monarch butterfly spire, Stainless Steel, and Acrylic – The Club at Boynton Beach, Boynton Beach, FL 2019

"River Ridge Butterflies" – 3, 4 foot-wide, 5 foot-wide, 6 foot-wide suspended butterflies, Stainless Steel, and Acrylic – Jefferson Parish Library - River Ridge Library, River Ridge, LA 2018

"The Work Continues" – 7 foot-tall Bronze Figure – Boys Town, Omaha NE 2017

"Alaskan Adventure" – 18,625 Square-foot Stainless Steel, Bronze, Concrete, Splash Park – Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha NE 2016

"Connections" – 16 ft tall by 10 ft wide Stainless Steel Paint, LED Lighting – Bellevue University, Bellevue, NE 2015

"Leaf Arbor" – 18 ft tall by 30 ft wide Stainless Steel and Aluminum – CHI St. Luke's Health Springwoods Village Hospital, Spring, TX 2015

"Reflections" – Wall Sculpture – 10 ft wide by 6 ft tall – Martin Army Community Hospital, Fort Benning, GA 2014

"Cascading Leaves" – 110 ft long by 30 ft wide Painted Aluminum – Methodist Richardson Medical Center, Dallas, TX 2014

"Spirit" – 140 ft long, 40 ft wide, 15 ft high Stainless Steel, Aluminum, Acrylic and LED Lighting – OU Children's Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK 2014

"Serenity" – 15 ft Bronze and Painted Steel – Alamance Medical Center, Burlington, NC 2014

"Aquatic Rhapsody" – 12 ft Bronze Fountain – Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, NE 2012

"Imagine" – 90 ft Stainless Steel, Bronze, Polycarbonate and LED Lighting – Children's Hospital and Medical Center, Omaha, NE 2010

"Noodles & Doodles" – 20 ft Painted Aluminum – Joslyn Art Museum Sculpture Garden, Omaha, NE 2009

"Sioux Warrior" – 15 ft Bronze – Joslyn Art Museum Sculpture Garden, Omaha, NE 2008

"Airborne Monument" – 8 ft Bronze – Heartland of America Park, Omaha, NE 2007

"Illumina" – 35 ft high by 100 ft wide Stainless Steel, Bronze, Aluminum, Acrylic, and LED Lighting – Century Link Center Omaha, Omaha, NE 2007

"Unity" – 18 ft Stainless Steel – Department of Homeland Security, Omaha, NE 2006

"Labor" – 30 ft high by 40 ft wide Bronze Monument – Omaha Riverfront, Omaha, NE 2003

"*Through Currents of Time and Space"* – 25 ft Bronze and Stainless Steel – Landmark Center, Omaha, NE 1991