



BILL VIELEHR | Artist Statement

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My work is universal in nature and visually able to stand the test of time. Reflection, high polish and color are inherent to the process that creates my reliefs and freestanding bronze and aluminum walls and columns. The sculptures change colors through the day and the seasons through undulating chrome-like reflective surfaces that mimic sunsets, sunrises, blue skies, city lights and colors from all passing entities, creating transforming visual patterns. Visual art references etched in the metal and addressed in the finishing of the works make them ideal for a public art environment.

The work I am involved with at this point is people friendly and inviting, usually free-standing walls or wall works, full of sculptural elements and sometimes incorporating seating. The sculptures are designed to draw people to them — to walk around and touch them — delighting each viewer with the variety of texture, color, form, and discovery of theme. My work is very tactile and intensely visual because of the use of lines and texture contrasting with the highly polished surfaces.

The sculptures are highly durable, low-maintenance, cast and fabricated bronze and aluminum. The method is to create drawings and sketches (symbols) that are sculpted and textured in wax, and then cast. The symbols used are part of the communication message and enhance the cultural relevance and humanize the work.

Many site-specific works seem to be caught in time, to be particular to the present. I prefer to pursue a timeless quality in my work, a breach of culture, time, and technique that transcends the immediacy. The perception of now can appear shallow, and the depth of tomorrow and yesterday can be emphasized. I attempt to

use contemporary and historic effects together to make the work timeless and ageless — prompting us to relate forward and backward simultaneously.