

SCULPTURE PROPOSAL

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With standard materials used in exterior construction, I propose creating an upright, 12 note (one octave) pipe xylophone. It can be played by people of any age or culture, as music is a language that often crosses these boundaries, and it can be played from either side of the sculpture so two participants can make music together.

The frame containing the xylophone will be made from treated, wooden, fence posts, the same kind of wood that is typically used in decks and fences. The lower half of the structure will be faced with metal, both on the front and back sides. These two metal pieces will be cut into a mountain shape, both sides identical, reflective of the nearby mountain views, and also reflective of the general shape of the one octave xylophone. These two pieces of metal will be 1/8" thick with one on the front side and one on the back and both will be powder coated green. Powder coating the metal will give the sculpture a vibrant look as well as protect it from rusting. These mountain facers serve both as a decorative and pragmatic purpose since it will stop the musical pipes from swinging too far from it's original, vertical position, restricting their swinging motion to only 6", which is the thickness of the wooden posts. The inner, facing sides of the metal mountains will have strips of rubber to prevent the pipes from noisily hitting the metal keeping the notes true to themselves and not creating other sounds.

The xylophone notes will be made of 1" diameter, anodized aluminum tubes, with a wall thickness of 1/16". Within each pipe will be a small metal ball, hung from a chain, that is threaded through the metal rod that suspends each musical pipe. When the viewer jostles the pipe, the ball will hit against the pipe's inner walls to make it play its note. I will cut the pipes myself and tune them to the proper musical notes. This will be done in much the same way as the glockenspiel I created in "Flora's Song" (included in my portfolio) except on a larger scale and not requiring any external mallets to produce the sounds. It will be a self contained unit. Many kinds of wind chimes are often made in the same way. It has been suggested to me by colleagues that including a mallet will hint to participants how to interact with the sculpture. I have not included a mallet in the rendered images but can add this to the sculpture if enough feedback suggests I do so.

The pipe xylophone can be played from either side, as it will look more or less identical with the only difference being the position of the musical pipes (one side will have the high notes start on the left, the other side the high notes will be on the right). Each side will be a mirrored image of itself.

The weight of the aluminum, musical pipes with the inner mallets (approximately 10 pounds) will be supported by a 1/4", solid steel rod that runs through the diameter of each pipe. Four vertical buttresses, with a 45 degree angle cut off the top for aesthetic purposes, will be used on either side of the main frame to prevent it from toppling on either its front or back face. The entire sculpture will be 5 feet tall, 3 feet wide, and 1.5 feet deep (excluding brackets used to secure the sculpture to the ground). I will need to drill into the concrete pad and use galvanized, steel brackets with long bolts and concrete anchors to secure it to the ground. There will be one bracket on the outside of each of the main vertical posts (in between the buttresses). The horizontal, wooden beam that sits on the ground will be secured by one carport saddle. This will have rebar attached that will need to be secured into the concrete with concrete anchors and possibly epoxy for extra strength. The vertical buttresses will have bolts drilled through their centres, securing themselves to the main frame. These bolts have not been included in the renders.

SCULPTURE PROPOSAL

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I will be the only artist working on this project though I will hire a fabricator to make the metal mountain facers, as well as hiring occasional help while creating other aspects of the sculpture and help on installation day. I will use Imperial Signworks in Port Coquitlam to fabricate the green, metal, mountain facers. I have worked with Imperial Signworks through my job (ABC Photo) in the fabrication of custom built lightboxes for artwork by photographers.

The sculpture will take approximately 6 - 8 weeks to create the final piece. The total estimate weight is 330 pounds. The metal pipes with inner mallets will be roughly 10 pounds. The bulk of the weight will be the wood, approximately 250 pounds, and the two metal facers will be 70 pounds together. All holes and any ends of cut wood will be treated with a wood preservative to ensure its longevity. All surfaces of the wood will have a water repellent applied.

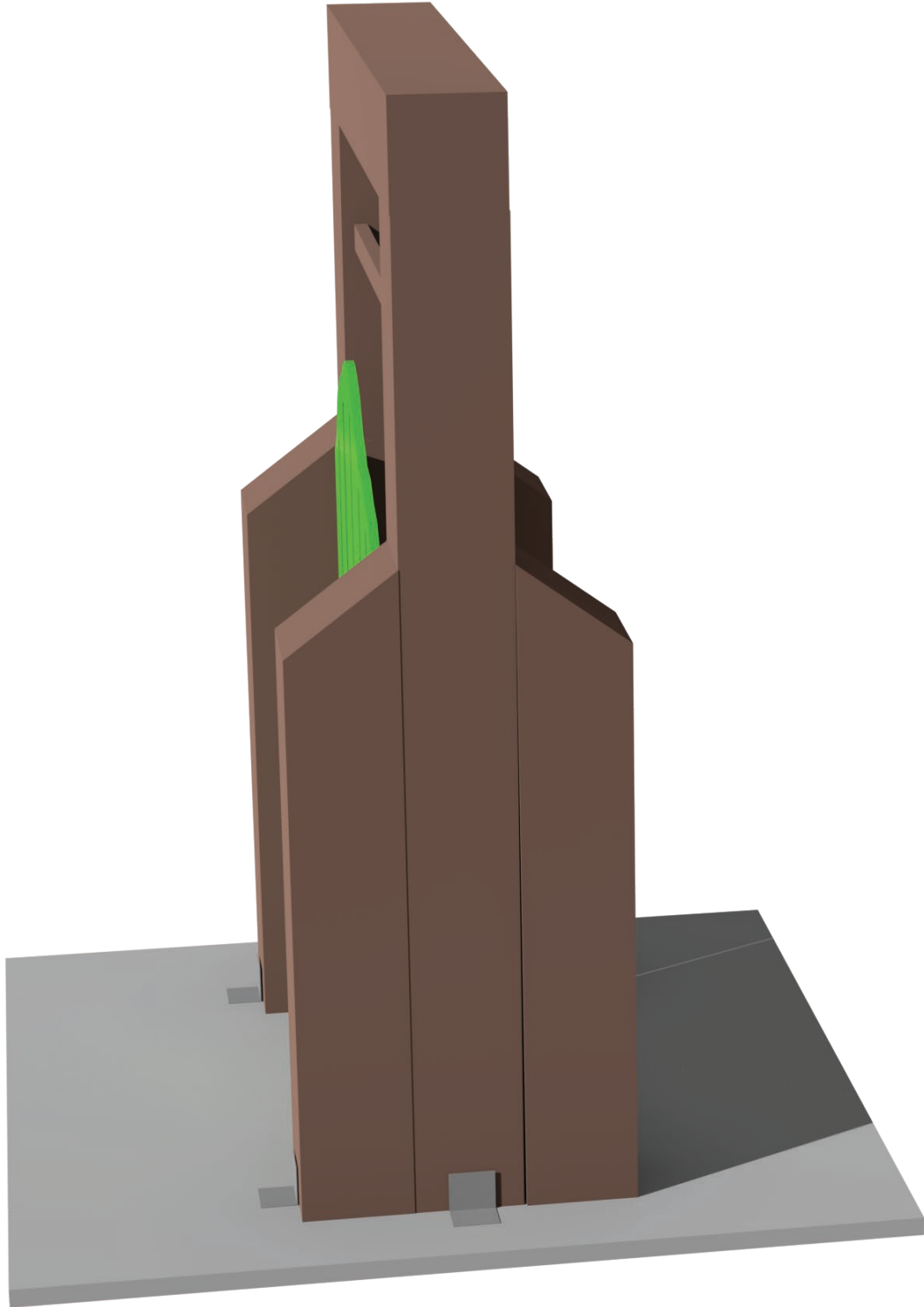
Please note that I will be away on an artist residency from April 11 - May 9. If I am awarded the commission I will be available by email only during this time frame and I may not be able to respond immediately. This should not interfere with the resubmission date of May 15 if revisions are required.

RENDER



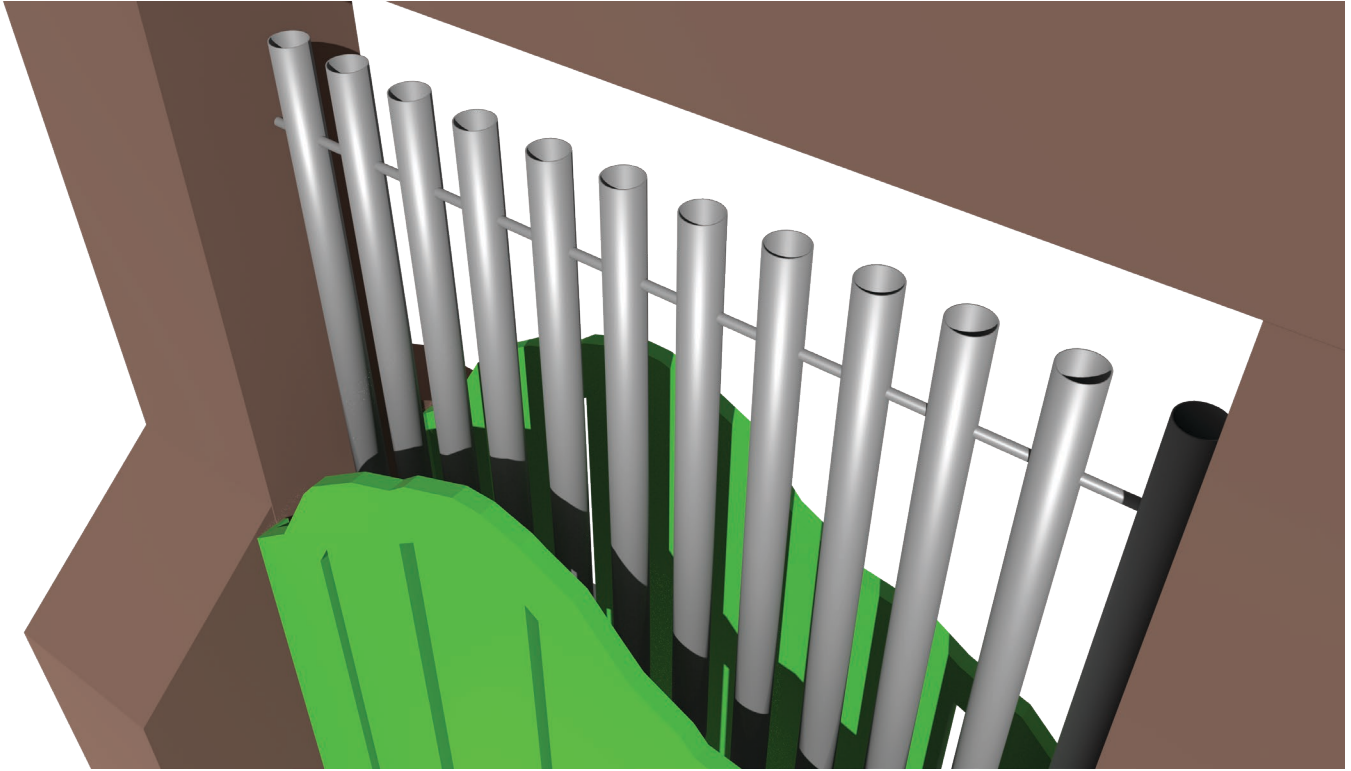
Front view of proposed sculpture . 36" wide, 18" deep, 60" tall, with height of average 12 year child (4' 10") for scale.
Sculpture weighs approximately 330 pounds.

RENDER

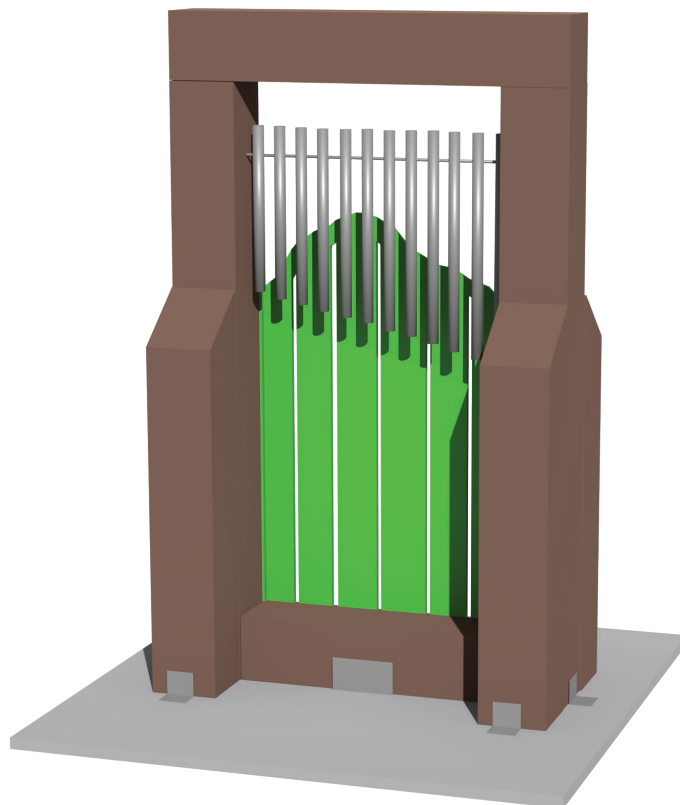


Side view.

RENDER



Top view of pipe xylophone.



View without front metal facer to show carport saddle securing bottom, horizontal beam to concrete.

RENDER



Cross section of single pipe xylophone, showing the hanging inner mallet.

BUDGET

	Langley City Park - Upright Xylophone		
			version 1.0 BUDGET
Details:			Subtotal
	Artist Fee		2,500.00
	Administration		1,000.00
	Permits (building, engineer, parking, etc)		1,750.00
	Insurance		300.00
	Studio / Storage		1,500.00
	Lumber + Finishes		550.00
	Metal		350.00
	Hardware		300.00
	Metal Fabrication		4,800.00
	Tool Rentals		750.00
	Expendables (i.e. tape, sandpaper, brushes)		250.00
	Labour		1,550.00
	Truck rental for delivery		300.00
	Photographic Documentation		300.00
	Contingency		1,250.00
		Subtotal:	\$17,450.00
	Please make cheques payable to: Laara Cerman	GST (5%):	\$872.50
	Tax ID registered as: Kevin Lanthier Laara Cerman	PST (7%)	\$1,221.50
	Tax ID: 833962665RT0001	Grand Total:	\$19,544.00

ARTIST STATEMENT

My work explores the intersection of art, science, and history through investigating patches of wildness that survive within suburban and urban landscapes. My explorations continue into the forests of British Columbia where I aim to teach myself how to see the diversity of the forest floor in the midst of an era where this knowledge has lost its priority but not its importance. With an ongoing practice of collecting wild plant specimens, I am creating a digital herbarium documenting the life cycle of plants while learning about different aspects and uses of flora growing in Canada's most biodiverse province. Through learning about the role of plants in the ecosystem and the gifts they offer us, one becomes more conscious of the mutual connections of life and the importance of reciprocity between humans and the Earth.

While my art practice has been primarily based in photography, I have recently begun exploring 3D mediums through attending classes and residencies to learn new skills. I have completed the Tools for Women Residency at Makerlabs, Vancouver's largest maker space, to learn about woodworking, metalworking, laser cutting, CNC routing, and MIG welding. At this residency I created a prototype project of a hand crank, pipe glockenspiel music box. This prototype became "Flora's Song" which is a music box I hand made that plays a short sequence of DNA converted to music. Since completing and exhibiting this project, I along with my collaborator Dr. Scott Pownall, have been interviewed for national tv on both CBC News and Global News.

I have recently been selected to participate in a paid artist residency at the Cassiar Canner in Port Edwards, BC this spring. Here I will be focusing on expanding my metal work repertoire through creating a metal sculpture in the shape of a plant which contains hidden, musical pipes, than play when it rains.

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION

2011 Vancouver College of Art and Design, Studied Life Drawing, 3D Modelling
2007 Langara College, Diploma of Professional Photo Imaging

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018 - present Fine Art Imaging Consultant + Digital Retoucher, ABC Photo
2017 - 2019 VP Communications, Canadian Association of Professional Image Creators
2010 - present Principal, Cake Imagery Creative Retouching + Photography

SELECTED SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Codex Pacificus* - Richmond City Hall, Richmond, BC
2017 *Codex Pacificus* - Place des Arts, Coquitlam, BC
2015 *Facades of the West Coast* - Plaskett Gallery, New Westminster, British Columbia
2014 *Facades of the West Coast* - Firehall Arts Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Collisions Festival: Invasive Systems* - VIVO Media Arts Centre, Vancouver, BC
2018 *Savour: RAGA Auction* - Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond, BC
2018 *ADDRESS, An Assembly of Designers & Makers* - Vancouver, BC
2018 *Collective Noun* - Ian Tan Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2017 *Canada 150* - Kimoto Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2017 *ROVE* - Gene Studios, Vancouver, BC
2017 *Slideluck Vancouver* - Beaumont Studio, Vancouver, BC
2016 *Sony World Photography Awards* - Somerset House Trust, London, UK
2015 *Langara Photo Alumni*, Langara College, Vancouver, British Columbia
2015 *It's a Sheep Show* - Hot Art Wet City, Vancouver, British Columbia
2014 *Influx + Exodus* - Leigh Square Community Arts Village, Port Coquitlam, British Columbia
2014 *Langara Photo Alumni*, Langara College, Vancouver, British Columbia
2013 *The Story of the Creative* - See.Me, New York City, New York
2013 *Unassisted* - Photo Haus, Vancouver, British Columbia

WORKSHOPS

2020 *Paper Making a Nursery Log* - Children's Festival, Richmond, BC
2019 *Data Sonification* - VIVO Media Arts Centre, Vancouver, BC
2018 *How to Photograph Your Artwork*, Ferry Building Gallery, West Vancouver
2018 *Plant Walk*, Minoru Park, Richmond, BC
2018 *Basket Making Workshop*, Garden City Park, Richmond, BC
2018 *Tea Making*, Richmond City Centre Community Centre, Richmond, BC
2018 *Abstract Art Making*, Richmond City Centre Community Centre, Richmond, BC
2017 *Family Day*, Place des Arts, Coquitlam, BC

CURRICULUM VITAE

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LECTURES

- 2019 *Collider Cafe* - Vancouver, BC
- 2019 *Art At Work: Artist Talk* - Fleetwood Library, Surrey, BC
- 2019 *Women's Maker Meet-Up*, MakerLabs - Vancouver, BC
- 2019 Guest Lecture, Emily Carr University - Vancouver, BC
- 2017 *Thrive Talk Minis 2*, Vancouver, BC
- 2014 *Artist Talk: Role of Digital Technology in Contemporary Art*,
Leigh Square Community Arts Village, Port Coquitlam, British Columbia
- 2012 Guest Lecture, Van Arts, Vancouver, British Columbia
- 2011 Guest Lecture, Van Arts, Vancouver, British Columbia

AWARDS + PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 [Global News - Tunes from plant DNA \(tv interview\)](#)
- 2019 [CBC News - Quand L'art et La Science Se Rencontrent \(tv interview\)](#)
- 2019 [Science Borealis - When Art and Science Collide](#)
- 2019 RBC Emerging Artist Program - Audain Museum, Whistler, BC
- 2019 [Peace Arch News - Creative Bike Rack](#)
- 2017 Prix de la Photographie, Silver Award - Nature/Flowers
- 2017 Applied Arts Photo Annual, Winner - Photo Manipulation
- 2017 [Vancouver is Awesome, The Life and Death of 10 Plants in Diptychs](#)
- 2017 [CTV, Framing Artwork](#)
- 2016 Sony World Photography Awards, Commended
- 2015 Exposure Award Book
- 2014 Applied Arts Photo Annual, Winner - Unpublished/Personal Photography

PUBLIC PROJECTS

- 2020 Richmond Cultural Centre Rotunda - Richmond BC (forthcoming)
- 2019 Utility Art Wraps - Richmond, BC
- 2019 Terra Nova Artist In Residence, Artist Selection Committee - Richmond, BC
- 2019 *The Frasers*, Bike Rack - Surrey, BC
- 2018 *Tufted Vetch*, Utility Wrap, Vancouver, BC
- 2018 *Take Root*, City Centre Community Centre, Richmond, BC
- 2017-2019 Selected for Art Wrap Roster, City of Richmond
- 2016 Short listed for Vancity, Cedar Hills art commission
- 2016 Short listed for Vancity, Kitsilano art commission

RESIDENCIES

- 2020 Cassiar Cannery - Port Edwards, BC (forthcoming)
- 2019 *Germinate*, Ayatana Artists Research Program - Gatineau Hills, Québec
- 2019 *Tools for Women*, MakerLabs, Vancouver, BC
- 2018 Shortlisted for *Nature Park Artist Residency*, Richmond, BC
- 2018 *MEC Outdoor Nation Summit*, Maple Ridge, BC

PORTFOLIO



Bike rack commissioned by the City of Surrey. Various locations around the Fleetwood community.
TITLE: The Frasers.
MEDIUM: Steel
SIZE: 38" x 28" x 6.5"
YEAR: 2019

PORTFOLIO



Commissioned by the City of Richmond. Located in the fitness room at the Richmond City Centre Community Centre.

TITLE: Take Root

MEDIUM: Vinyl Mural Wrap

SIZE: 540" x 114"

YEAR: 2018

PORTFOLIO



Commissioned by the City of Richmond (view from exterior). Located in the fitness room at the Richmond City Centre Community Centre.

TITLE: Take Root

MEDIUM: Vinyl Mural Wrap,

SIZE: 540" x 114"

YEAR: 2018

PORTFOLIO



Commissioned by the City of Vancouver. Located at SW corner of 19th Ave and Cambie St.

TITLE: Tufted Vetch

MEDIUM: Vinyl Mural Wrap

SIZE: 18.5" x 18.5" x 38"

YEAR: 2018

PORTFOLIO



Commissioned by the City of Vancouver. Located at SW corner of 19th Ave and Cambie St.

TITLE: Tufted Vetch

MEDIUM: Vinyl Mural Wrap

SIZE: 18.5" x 18.5" x 38"

YEAR: 2018

PORTFOLIO



Studio Work. Installation of "Common Dandelion" and "Oxeye Daisy" at ADDRESS Assembly in Gastown, 2018.

TITLES: Common Dandelion (left), Oxeye Daisy (right)

MEDIUM: chromogenic print on metallic paper, trans-mounted between aluminum and 4.5mm acrylic

SIZE: 48"x48" (each)

YEAR: 2017

PORTFOLIO



Studio Work
TITLE: Family: Ranunculaceae. (*Ranunculus repens*) Creeping Buttercup
MEDIUM: c-print
SIZE: 40" x 30"
YEAR: 2017

PORTFOLIO



Music box commissioned by the Curiosity Collider for the Collisions Festival, a three day art and science festival held at VIVO Media Arts.

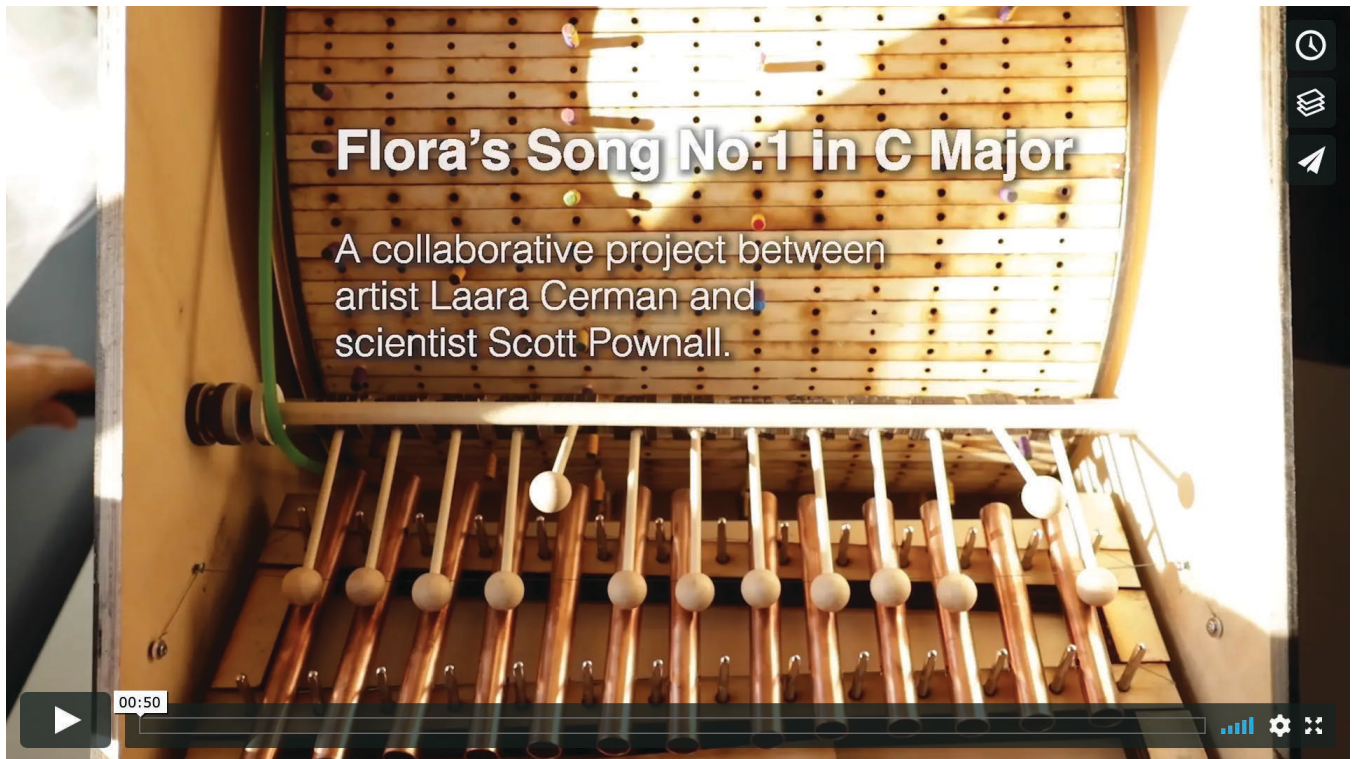
TITLE: Flora's Song

MEDIUM: Wood, copper pipe, paint

SIZE: 20" x 30" x 21.5"

YEAR: 2019

PORTFOLIO



Music box commissioned by the Curiosity Collider for the Collisions Festival, a three day art and science festival held at VIVO Media Arts.

TITLE: Flora's Song

MEDIUM: Wood,, copper pipe, paint

SIZE: 20" x 30" x 21.5"

YEAR: 2019

Hear "Flora's Song No. 1 in C Major" at:

<https://vimeo.com/374998562>

See the interviews at:

<https://globalnews.ca/video/6222048/bc-artist-scientist-crank-out-tunes-from-plant-dna>

<https://ici.radio-canada.ca/tele/le-telejournal-colombie-britannique/site/segments/reportage/141144/collisions-art-science>

REFERENCES

Biliana Velkova | Public Art Planner, MFA
Arts, Culture and Heritage Services | City of Richmond
6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond BC V6Y 2C1
604.247.4612
bvelkova@richmond.ca

Biliana selected me and is currently overseeing an art commission I am working on for the rotunda floor inside the main entrance of Richmond Cultural Centre. She is also familiar with a previous art commission I completed for the City of Richmond in 2017. (Portfolio: Take Root).

Char Hoyt | Curator & Creative Director
Curiosity Collider Art-Science Foundation
604-889-1915
char@curiositycollider.org

Char curated a group exhibition I was part of in November 2019. She selected my proposal to create a music box which plays plant DNA for the Collisions Festival, a three day art and science festival. We also worked together putting on a Data Sonification workshop; Char was also present for an interview I had with french CBC. (Portfolio: Tufted Vetch)

Ashley Guindon | Arts Services
Surrey Arts Centre | City of Surrey
Parks, Recreation, & Culture
13750 88th Ave, Surrey, BC, Canada V3W 3L1
604.501.5193
ashley.guindon@surrey.ca

Ashley was the public art coordinator for a bike rack I designed for the Fleetwood community in Surrey. She was my point of contact for the revisions I made that were based on feedback from the community stakeholders, which she passed along to me. She also facilitated fabricating the work as well as organized an art talk I gave at the Fleetwood Public Library after the bike rack was installed. (Portfolio: The Frasers)

CONTACT INFO

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