








Colin Selig
Sculpture + Site Furnishings

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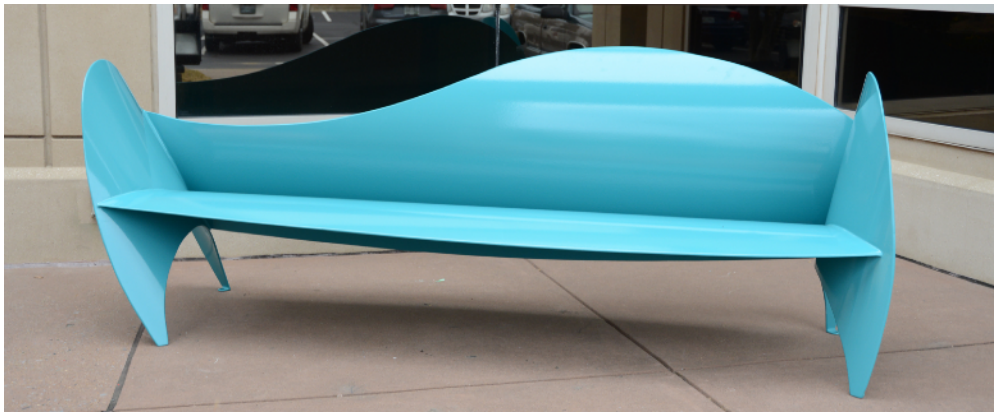

Memphis children's hospital
These benches were commissioned for two outside patio areas on either side of the main entrance to the outpatient clinic at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis. Along with bringing color, curvature and whimsy to the stark exterior of this modern building the artwork also sets a positive tone for children as they enter the building, letting them know they have arrived at a place of innovation and playfulness.

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S T R E E T S C A P E

Palo Alto streetscape
The City of Palo Alto's Public Art Program, in partnership with the Dept. of Public Works and the Downtown Business and Professional Improvement Assoc., purchased five seats for three sites along University Avenue, at the intersections of Emerson, Bryant and Waverly. "The Public Art Program is thrilled to bring Selig's whimsical and environmentally sensitive seating elements to downtown Palo Alto" said Public Art Program Manager Elise DeMarzo.

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Napa art walk
Squirrel is a whimsical, biomorphic sculpture installed at First and Franklin streets in downtown Napa, California. Part of a two year Napa Art Walk exhibition entitled "Shifting Perspective," Squirrel takes on different animal-like forms depending on one's viewing angle. However the most significant shift in perspective occurs when the observer realizes that the sculpture was made entirely from a scrap propane tank. Squirrel is intended to inspire its audience to consider new possibilities for reusing materials.

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Walnut Creek civic spaces
This artist initiated exhibition at various civic locations within the artist’s home town was done in collaboration with the Bedford Gallery at the Lesher Center for the Arts and The City of Walnut Creek, California. Seats were temporarily installed at the Lesher Center, the Pubic Library, and Veteran's Memorial Park.

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Orinda theater square
The Art in Public Places Committee of The City of Orinda, California, worked with community members and the artist to select three seats in a range of designs and colors to for Theatre Square.

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Residential pool
To complete a remodel of a large pool, this client commissioned a series of benches to be placed around the paved deck to serve as sculptural objects as well as functional seating.
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A T T R I B U T E S

Unique

Repurposed from salvaged propane tanks, each seat is designed and hand made by California artist Colin Selig.

Eco Friendly

Regionally sourced scrap tanks are carefully dissected and the parts reassembled, with no additional reshaping of the material. Repurposing has a much smaller carbon footprint than recycling. The end product contains 99% post-consumer reused content, making these among the greenest site furnishings available.

Durable

Made from curved steel with a substantial wall thickness of 1/4 inch (6.5mm) a very sturdy structure is created when the parts are welded together.

Comfortable

The combination of curved seat and curved backrest provides good lumbar support for a wide range of body sizes, an ergonomic improvement over traditional metal benches with flat seats.

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O B J E C T S

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A B O U T T H E A R T I S T

Statement

My artwork explores the boundary between sculpture and sustainable design. The objects I create range from benches and other site furnishings to human-scaled biomorphic sculptures. My aesthetic is modern, abstract and organic, with a sense of whimsy.

I work exclusively with used materials and have developed a patented process to repurpose salvage propane tanks, which are a readily available source of pre-curved steel. The production of my work is extremely eco-friendly from start to finish. The process begins with regionally sourced tanks, an abundant and sustainable material due to strict regulations limiting their service life. I carefully dissect the tanks and reassemble the pieces, while doing no additional reshaping of the material. Repurposing has a dramatically smaller carbon footprint than recycling because the source material is reused in its current form. Upon completion each object I create contains 99% post consumer reused content. My site furnishings are among the greenest available anywhere.

I have done extensive research to ensure the comfort of my seats. The combination of curved seat and curved backrest provides good lumbar support for a wide range of body sizes, an ergonomic advantage over traditional benches with flat seats. I consider many of my functional designs to be prototypes created with volume production in mind.

The whimsy in my work engages people of all ages and backgrounds while its durability and inherent ecological message make it ideal for the public realm. As an artist my hope is to inspire others to consider new possibilities for reusing materials and to help conserve our planet's natural resources.

Bio

Raised in an ecologically conscious household I learned the importance of conserving our planet’s resources from an early age, although my parents had mixed emotions when I took their message to heart and searched through our neighbors’ garbage on my way home from elementary school retrieving appliances and furniture to repair. I studied metal sculpting at The School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston while earning a degree in Philosophy from Tufts University in 1987. My education from that time included apprenticeships with a machinist, a race car fabricator, and a public art sculptor. In the next couple of decades I continued to master my craft, restoring a variety of antique vehicles before focusing on sculpting. Committed to a sustainable lifestyle, I reside and work in an intentional community in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Awards

ASLA
Most Interesting Products Award

Smithsonian Craft Show
Exhibitors’ Choice Gold Award

Core77 Design Awards
Runner Up, DIY category

Spark Design Awards
Spark:Concept Finalist

Eco Arts Awards
Repurposed Materials in Art & Design, Second Place

Patents

2013 US D 683,146
Design patent:
Propane tank bench

2013 US D 683,147
Design patent:
Propane tank chaise bench

2013 US D 683,148
Design patent:
Propane tank lips bench

2014 US D 716,572
Design patent:
Propane tank asymmetric backless bench

2015 US D 721,237
Design patent:
Propane tank club chair

2017 Utility patent approved for issuance: Methods for making seating from pressure vessels.

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