

BIOGRAPHY

Brennan Conaway is a Portland-based artist with strong ties to Tokyo. He creates sculptures after extensively researching a particular place, a forgotten bit of history, or some unusual idea. Brennan is currently an artist-in-residence with the Center for Land Use Interpretation in the high desert of Wendover, Utah, where he is working on occasional projects through 2009.

Brennan's large outdoor sculpture "#17" is featured in the 2008 Bellevue Sculpture Exhibition in Washington state. His public sculpture "Centropolis" will be on display in downtown Bellingham, Washington, as part of the Velocity show through 2009.

He is also involved with public art projects in Portland. His outdoor sculpture "Invader" will be at Tryon State Park through 2009, and RACC selected him as a public artist for their 2007-2009 Design Team Roster.

In 2007, Brennan was a finalist for the Swan Island Station public art project. In 2006, he designed and built a temporary public artwork, "Project B-7," on Burnside Ave. in downtown Portland.

He is a founding member, curator and designer of the Nowhere gallery — a nomadic art gallery that travels to events and openings throughout the city. Nowhere gallery has been featured in the Willamette Week and the Oregonian. Since its creation in 2005, Nowhere has exhibited the work of more than 20 Portland artists.

Brennan has shown his own work at the Museum of Contemporary Craft, the Walters Cultural Arts Center, and the Hoffman Gallery. His sculptural chair "Ro(_)oM" won first prize at Show2005 in Portland.

Brennan graduated with honors from the Oregon College of Art & Craft in 2005. The rigorous course of study at OCAC trained him to transform any material into the objects he wants to create. He frequently works with wood, stone, concrete and metal.

Since 2005, Brennan has taught woodworking classes at OCAC, developing in 2007 the curriculum for "Backyard Structures," a hands-on class where students design and build large sheds and outdoor structures.

Brennan lived in Tokyo for 8 years, working at The Japan Times newspaper, before moving to Portland. He returns for visits to Japan as often as possible.