William Andrew Carman (Drew)

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ARTIST STATEMENT

My artistic practice is a loose network of creative pursuits, all compelled by and in the service of storytelling. I'm an oil painter, a designer, a landscape architect, fabricator, and musician. Just like any healthy ecosystem, diversity is what makes it whole and resilient. Where one tool may not be able to capture my artistic intent, another can pick up. Where a song can't find the right words to sing, a painting may. But no matter the medium, storytelling permeates throughout my art and is the aesthetic by which I hope to connect with my audience. Often allegorical in nature, my artwork considers stories of human connection, of our environment, of the past and present, of the good and of the lowdown. I tell stories that have been told before and attempt to uncover those that have been hidden.

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

M.L.A. University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia College of Environmental Design Masters Landscape Architecture, 2008 Thesis: Exploring Place through Sketch Drawing

B.A. Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin Major: Environmental Science, 2003

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Practicing Artist, Musician; designcohort & Carman A.D.

Athens, GA, Austin, TX | 2008 - present

Guided from the friend and mentorship of renowned painter, musician, and folklorist Art Rosenbaum in the mid 2000s, I developed a multifaceted approach to my creative work. As an oil painter, designer, and musician my artistic practice is diverse, involving numerous, often overlapping mediums to ensure creative ideas have a variety of outlets to be developed, refined, destroyed, and realized.

In 2023 my oil paintings were featured in 2 juried group exhibits as well as numerous private commissions, including the cover artwork for John Calvin Abney's ambient piano album Storm Variations (Tin Canyon Records). As a musician, I've recorded and released 3 full length albums and 2 EPs since 2008. The most recent, Wilderness EP, was released in 2020 under the solo moniker Carman A.D.

Director of Park Planning & Design- RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture Austin, TX | 2014-present

As the director of an award winning public park design practice, my duties include all aspects of planning, design, and execution of compelling public spaces. I manage the full breadth of major capital park improvement projects from schematic design to construction documentation and construction phase services. My clients include the City of Austin, Georgetown, Dripping Springs, Williamson County, Travis County, Catellus Development, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept (TPWD) and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA). As practice lead, I'm responsible for crafting design direction, strategies, scoping, negotiations, and contract management for my public and private clients. Additionally, I coordinate subconsultants and large scale public art and architectural installations within projects.

RECENT **EXHIBITION RECORD**

2023 THE BIG SHOW Juried Group Exhibit Round Rock Arts **Texas State University**

2023 KINGDOM ANIMALIA

Juried Group Exhibit Round Rock Arts Texas State University

2023 AUSTIN STUDIO TOUR

RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture Studio host Austin, Texas

PUBLIC ART COORDINATION

Colony District Park - City of Austin/Austin Park Foundation

2019, RVi – I managed Construction Administration services for the Colony District Park Development project, which included coordination of the installation of a 30'x60' mural, *Peace and Harmony Mural*, by Tyson D. Davis as part of Austin's Art in Public Places program (AIPP).

Muller Parks & Greenways - Public/Private Partnership- Catellus & City of Austin

Ongoing, RVi – Landscape Architect of Record and project lead for multiple park and greenway projects in the Mueller Development that incorporate coordination with major public art commissions.

2022-3 sculptural pavilions, by my subconsultant Studio 8, in the Southeast Greenway where I was project's lead design consultant, overseeing all aspects of design direction and implementation.

2024 - I'm currently developing the sculptural vignettes for 8 bronze bas reliefs affixed to historic bronze signs located throughout the Mueller Development. They depict scenes from the prominence of 8 historic Austinites including Mary Elizabeth Branch, Isamu Taniguchi and others. Installation anticipated late 2024.

HONORS, AWARDS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2023 TX ASLA Merit Award

Mueller Southeast Greenway, project lead & landscape architect of record, RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture.

2022 TX ASA Honor Award

San Gabriel Park Phase I & II, project lead & landscape architect of record, RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture.

2021 Austin Green Awards Winner

Colony District Park, Playground & Fitness. Austin, TX. project lead, construction administration.

2017, 2018, 2021 - Texas Conservation Symposium - Speaker.
2018, 2020 Texas Trails & Active Transportation Conference - Speaker.

LICENSURE

State of Texas - Licensed Landscape Architect - License No.: 2908