

Flyover Bridge Public Art Project Fact Sheet



City of Tempe
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Photo: Laurie Lundquist

Title: Flyover Bridge

Location: Over U.S. Route 60 at Country Club Way

Artist: Laurie Lundquist

Completion: 2004

Medium: Concrete and painted steel

Description: As part of a freeway widening project, this artist-designed pedestrian/bicycle bridge was built across U.S. Route 60 at Country Club Way to connect the neighborhoods north and south of the freeway. To gather input for her design, the artist worked extensively with neighborhood and school groups. The resulting sky-blue bridge links the residential areas of Cole Park and Bustoz Elementary School on the south side with Rotary Park and the Ward School Campus on the north. With a shape and color designed to blend with the surrounding area, the box-truss style bridge has a "wing-inspired" design that creates a play of light and movement, reminiscent of a bird's wing in flight.

Funding: The project was funded through city of Tempe Capital Improvement Project Percent for Art funds.

Artist biography: Laurie Lundquist is a public artist and an educator who brings a deep interest in landscape and natural systems into her design process. Her numerous public projects seek to revalue the site in ways that are aesthetically engaging and environmentally responsible. Lundquist holds an MFA from Arizona State University and a BFA from the Maine College of Art. She attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in 1985 as a recipient of the Langlais Fellowship. Lundquist uses water as a lens to examine the interface between mechanical and natural systems at work in the environment. The control of water has been a subtext in her work since she moved to the Arizona desert in 1986. Lundquist is co-founder and co-director of Deep Creek Arts.

Artist statement: About her work, Lundquist says, "Parks, open spaces and pedestrian corridors play a vital role in defining a city's identity; they are the places where we connect with our environment and our community. As an artist I am enthusiastic about the possibilities of public art contributing to the quality of life in the urban context. I enter the site looking for details specific to that place or that context. Very often research will reveal interesting bits of history about the place. When I return to the site I look for physical characteristics that may echo the memories of the place and provide anchor points for art elements. I always try to respond to the character of a site and anticipate the ways that people will best connect to the place."