

# Shadow Graph Bus Shelter Public Art Project Fact Sheet



City of Tempe  
Cultural Services  
3340 South Rural Road  
Tempe, AZ 85282  
480-350-5287  
480-350-5161 FAX  
[www.tempe.gov/arts](http://www.tempe.gov/arts)



Photo: Craig Smith

**Title:** Shadow Graph Bus Shelter

**Location:** Northeast corner of Curry and Scottsdale roads

**Artist:** Jeff Zische

**Completion:** 1995

**Medium:** Steel tubing, sheet metal, galvanized steel, expanded steel, fiberglass and polyurethane enamel.

**Description:** The Shadow Graph bus shelter was created to add a bit of fun to waiting for the bus. The shelter's purple, yellow, blue, orange and red colors remind mass transit travelers of a child's toy rather than a typical bus stop. The cut out shapes near the top of the shelter project reverse shadows on the wall behind it in the late afternoon and on the street in morning. Many of these cut out symbols reflect the environment in which the bus stop exists. For example, there is a spiral which represents a monsoon and a ziggurat to represent the buildings in the area. The seats are perforated, to allow air through. They are also curved, which makes them comfortable. Tempe's goal with its Artist Designed Transit Shelters is to encourage people to use the public transportation by making it attractive, innovative and functional.

**Funding:** The project was funded through city of Tempe Capital Improvement Project Percent for Art funds made available through the Tempe Transit Tax.

**Artist biography:** Zischke is originally from Ann Arbor, Mich., and has lived in Tempe since 1984. He has designed other public works around the valley, including "Universal Solar Shadowgraph" formerly on display at the Tempe Arts Center sculpture garden, as well as the chandeliers inside Harkins Centerpoint Movie Theater and the decorations inside Kiwanis Park wave pool. In addition to Zischke's public projects, he also owns and operates a furniture and interior design business.

**Artist statement:** The Shadowgraph Transit Shelter is a painted steel structure that incorporates symbols of movement in the desert, such as wind, water, flower, fauna and people. The symbols, cut out of steel plate, cast their shadows on the adjacent wall shifting in the afternoon sun. The shelter incorporates the indigenous colors of the valley: ochre, turquoise and orange iron oxide.