

Project Data Sheet

Austin, Texas



Title Rhytons

Location Zachary Scott Theater, Austin, Texas

Description

Rhytons conceptually marries the theatrical use of the site and an innovative bronze sculpture to celebrate performance through form and sound. Rhytons is a knotted, double, horned, bronze sculpture, inspired by a "rhyton", an ancient horn-shaped drinking vessel for libations, not to be put down until emptied. The word rhyton derives from the Greek rhein, "to flow". The sculpture's form flows in a continuous line that doubles back upon itself to become a knot, leaving each end open. By knotting the archetypal form of the horn, there is the physical gesture of coupling which references the body and the coupling of sculpture and performance, resolving itself through the viewer's interaction with the sculptures sound. Two feet into each opening, a perforated bronze screen conceals a motion sensor connected to the master sound system in the building. Each sensor notes the presence of a viewer/listener then triggers the sculpture to perform the artist's sound work, music or dialogue programmed to relate to current productions at the theatre.

Date 2012

Medium Bronze, sound components, motion sensor

Dimensions 4'-5" H x 11'-9" W x 4'-9" D

Commissioned by The City of Austin

Engineer Patrell Engineering Group, Inc., Glendora, CA

Subcontractor Metal Arts Foundry, Lehi, UT