

QUILL HYDE

Bringing wonder, inspiring joy, encouraging personal transformation, exploring interaction, facilitating dialogue, enabling participation and building community through public art.

CONTACT

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They/Them

EDUCATION

BA, Physics
Reed College, Portland OR

BS, Mechanical Engineering
Columbia University, NY NY

Both awarded in 1995, as a combined plan program integrating liberal arts and engineering.

BIOGRAPHY

I was born in 1972, and raised on a small rural farm in Eastern Washington state. Inspired by animals, stories, and practical mechanics, I lived a fantasy childhood full of incredible adventures.

After college, I worked for 15 years automating Broadway shows. I moved back to Eastern Washington in 2008, both to find the freedom to build art, and to be there for my family.

I am an artist, an engineer, a musician, and a parent.

I believe that we can build a better future, with room for all living things on this planet to live happy, fulfilled lives. It starts with discourse, which is the intention behind my art.

ART PROJECTS

2020 -2023: The Council of Animals (What to do about the Humans). A piece conceived to ask the question - what would our Animal family have to say about us? A reflection on our fraught relationship, the piece has four judges (Polar Bear, Elephant, Rhino, and Chicken) who've gathered for a Council, with Coyote as the mediary between the Humans and the Animals. The piece was first debuted at Burning Man in 2022, and went to Washington DC in a collaboration with PETA for the summer of 2023. Steel & Aluminum, the animals vary in size from 10'-0" to 18" tall.

2007-Present: Acavallo, a mobilized ship-carousel, with faceted steel horses. A fully interactive kinetic art experience, with an integrated stage for performances. An ongoing project, evolving annually. Acavallo has brought joy & wonder to many thousands of people at festivals across the nation. Steel, wood, rope, kinetic mechanisms, sound, lights, and fire.

2019 Rockababy horse sculpture - an exploration of the potential for faceted shapes to express the organic, and simple mechanisms to achieve elegant motion. Covid interrupted the full scale development of this piece. Steel with kinetic elements.

2018 The Penguin Colony. A public art piece to encourage dialogue about global warming. 6 Faceted steel penguins, with fire-pit bellies, arranged around a shack, with benches for relaxed interaction between participants.

2015 Alaffia, Lomé, Togo. A whimsical integration of Western design concepts & traditional African techniques to create an immersive performance space, both functional and fantastical.

2014 The Merpony, a faceted steel mermaid-pony, caught between worlds., with the tension of being two different creatures, and neither, inspired by my struggles with gender identity.

More at quillhyde.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

1995-2004 Engineer & project manager, Feller Precision Inc, in New York NY. Designed and built hundreds of automated systems for Broadway shows. Productions included Sunset Boulevard, Mamma Mia, and many others throughout North America, Europe and Mexico.

2004-2008 President, Hyde Power Systems, building theatrical & architectural automation systems.

2008-Present HydeMade, a sole-proprietorship in Tonasket, WA. Designing and building public art, with a focus on community involvement.

2022-Present Design Engineer, with 618 Design in New York.