

Nga Trinh

As a child growing up in Viet Nam, I learned paper folding to make my own toys when I was about ten, and now I incorporate it into my artwork. My origami concentrate on the themes of environmental stewardship through the use of recycled materials, and on illustrating the multifaceted interactions between man and nature, plant and animal, pattern, shape and color.

My origami also highlight the innate tensions between pattern and regularity of form, irregularity, spontaneity and emotion. I stress the use of mostly recycled materials in order to show that art can be both sustainable and affordable, and my goal of having my works displayed publicly, is to drive this environmental message forward for the public benefit.

In my over forty years living in California, I've seen lots of changes in cities' public buildings, parks and downtown areas in terms of seeing artworks added. I love this idea and would like to see more permanent art pieces in cities' public places that reflects the diversity of our cities. Most of us are immigrants from a distant land and we often bring and introduce to this new land our arts, games, foods, costumes and cultural heritages. These are important parts of who we are, the more we know the better to bridge the gap of misunderstanding and ignorance about one another. And what's a better way to show that other than in public streets, parks and buildings through art?

My origami pieces were sold to Bay Area private collectors, Roundtree Visuals Company in Emeryville, The Alameda County Arts Commission, City of Mountain View's Visual Arts Commission and City of Hayward's Main Library.