

# Flow Field(s) @ freedom park

mark wentzel, artist

PROPOSAL FOR:



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## CONCEPT/FOCUS

A vector is an entity with direction and magnitude as relative to space. Flow Field(s) sets up a Cartesian landscape that unfolds the surface of public green space allowing people to move into an open environment and experience their body as a vector. Flow Field(s) is a temporary work designed as an exploration of direction, particularly human direction, within a natural setting. How we move through time and space as humans carries with it a range of markers, things that tell us what time it is and where approximately we are. But what is increasingly clear through scientific discovery is that both time and space, as we understand them, are fluid. They are altered by things such as memory, mass, consciousness, and distance. As technology persistently invades our time and redefines our space we may begin to feel an increasing insecurity about our connection to ourselves and the natural world. If we consider the human experience in terms of movement, at various scales, we may apply the simple concept of direction as a tool for self contextualizing and psychological mooring...if we could simply "watch where we're going." Flow Field(s) is an environment where the concept (and practice) of movement and direction can be experienced and observed. From human scale chess to a self designed disc golf course to novel spontaneous interactions, the movements inspired by Flow Field(s) can be seen to represent both quantifiable and qualifiable human gestures, a record of our direction.



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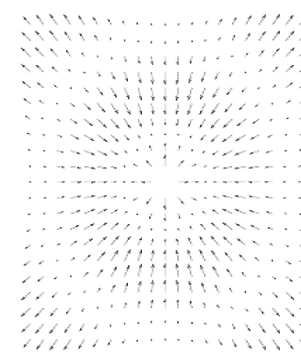
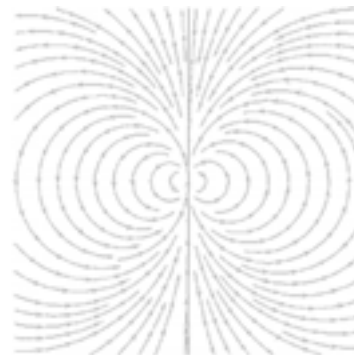


## DESCRIPTION of CONTENT

Flow Field(s) is the application of a grid pattern and vector fields using environmental friendly turf paint on a section of Freedom Park at Freedom Parkway and Ponce de Leon Avenue. The duration of Flow Field(s) will depend on the type of paint used, weather conditions, amount of participant foot traffic, and its being installed in the fall after mowing season ends. The patterns will be applied to the grounds of the park using stencils and free-hand application. The design will consist of a grid stretching out to the edges of the park, avoiding non-grass areas that would not outgrow the pattern in Spring, and will integrate three different vector field patterns. The design will also bend around each tree in the park using a pattern of laminar flow (fluid moving in parallel layers without cross-currents). The work will be visible from cars driving along three high traffic streets and stopped at either of two intersects. A side street, Barnett Street, dead ends into that section of the park allowing for viewer drop off or brief in-car viewing. The Freedom Park trail winds through the middle of the design making bike and pedestrian traffic ideal modes for viewing. Of course, walking, running, playing, and standing in the field(s) is ideal. The topography of the site offers open, relatively flat areas for long-range interaction and steeper grades and wooded areas for exploring and finding unique vantage points for viewing Flow Field(s).



Vector Fields



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Flow Field(s) site is nestled near the din of the Ponce Ave/Freedom Parkway intersection, at the heart of the Atlanta's current wave of gentrification. This section of the park crowned by Thornton Dial's sculpture, The Bridge, is a unprimed canvas for artists, Atlantan's, and visitors to both retreat from or confront the issues and energy of the city. The history of Freedom Park represents a community's redirection of a large scale highway project, a history that can be retold within the context of Flow Field(s). The work itself represents the idea of individual awareness, direction, and location. The city of Atlanta is moving forward quickly and the Poncey-Highland neighborhood is at the epicenter. How the whole community progresses along with this change is unclear. A strong and growing presence of art in the context of rapid change is essential for community expression, negotiation and, in the spirit of Freedom Park history, mitigation. This project is a possible first step in an ongoing dialog set inside the context of Freedom Park. The Flow Field(s) project has already received unanimous approval from the Freedom Park Conservancy Executive Board. The Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs application is submitted and its vetting process is underway. As conversations and collaborations continue the possibility of future work will be presented. The long range strategy of Flow Field(s) is to advance community agency and awareness, and develop future experiences in Freedom Park to this end.

