

Dec. 4, 2023

Robert Michael Smith

Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Attn: Sebastopol Public Arts Commission  
Selection Committee for Community Sculpture Garden Project

This letter of intent is to confirm my interest for inclusion of my black marble sculpture, "Diploidal Pas de Deux" in the Sebastopol Community Sculpture Garden.

Since returning to Sonoma County in October 2019 after 40+ years working away throughout the World it has been my primary focus to reestablish my professional base here. Am a native son who is interested to be newly engaged with my home county community. This is very strong personal motivation for my Art to being included in your Community Sculpture Garden.

This recent version of "Diploidal Pas de Deux" was completed 2023. The sculpture dimensions are: 30" width x 22" depth x 36" height that will be placed atop a concrete base 24" x 24" x 40" with 6" raised pads at bottom for clearance for forklift tongs for a total installation height of 82" above concrete pad. Photos of competed sculpture are attached including a rendered image that portrays the concrete block base design with built in skids for easy lifting and installation with a heavy duty forklift.

A thick Stainless Steel Pin will be used to firmly attach sculpture and base through previously center-aligned drilled holes in each. Constructed concrete base will include raised concrete pads with 6" spaces along the bottom to enable access to forklift tongs for ease of moving base and installing sculpture. The sculpture is already located at my home property nearby Sebastopol and ready for placement during January 2024 according to your stated requirements.

Look forward to your committee response. If necessary my Bio/CV are readily available for review along with my online catalogue raisonne at: <https://rms-art.com/>

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RMS', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Robert Michael Smith  
Sculptor

## Description of "Diploidal Pas de Deux" by Robert Michael Smith

Within this black marble sculpture are dual exoskeletal forms mirrored and conjoined while seemingly splitting through a diploid cellular cloning process. Diploid is a term that refers to the presence of two complete sets of chromosomes in an organism's cells, with each parent contributing a chromosome to each pair. Humans are diploid.

The title also refers to a ballet movement between partners as they mirror each other in a physically conjoined "pas de deux". In ballet, a "pas de deux" (French, literally "step of two") is a dance duet in which two dancers, typically a male and a female, perform ballet steps together.

The meaning of Form and Title in this artwork refer to a synthetic yet Universal Life Form birthed into Being through the metaphoric Dance of Life between algorithmic doppelgangers.

As we move rapidly towards the Singularity, the post-human fusion of Human and Machine, we are already engaged in this precariously tiptoed balancing act of Cosmic Yin and Yang forces in which our other half is now synthetic.

Whoever doubts this dystopian projection can analyze how anxiously disruptive the angst from simply misplacing their smartphone. It is a relatively short next step to link our thoughts directly from a Chip to an encompassing AI Cloud.

We are simultaneously fusing and splitting with our Machines to give birth to a new sentient Lifeform that will ultimately be a new Us to function far beyond all our current biological limitations.

Liability Waiver:



**City of Sebastopol  
General Agreement, Waiver, and Release**

**Activity description (describe in detail the type of event/activity and the tools that may be used to perform the activity):**  
~~Move heavy black marble sculpture and constructed concrete base to site by small truck. At site will use heavy duty forklift to place black marble sculpture on top of constructed concrete base centered in place by forklift on cement pads at site. Heavy Steel Pin will be used to firmly attach sculpture and base through previously center-aligned drilled holes in each. Constructed concrete base will include raised concrete pads with spaces along the bottom to enable access to forklift tongs for ease of moving base and sculpture.~~

In consideration of the acceptance of my application as a volunteer for the City of Sebastopol, I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims for damages for death, personal injury, or property damage which I may have, or which hereafter accrue to me, against the City of Sebastopol as a result of my participation as a volunteer for the City of Sebastopol. This release is intended to discharge the City of Sebastopol, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers, any other involved municipalities or public agencies from and against any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation as a volunteer for the City of Sebastopol, even though that liability may arise out of the negligence or carelessness on the part of persons or Entities mentioned above. I further understand that accidents and injuries can arise out of participation as a volunteer; knowing the risks, nevertheless, I hereby agree to assume those risks and to release and to hold harmless all of the persons or agencies mentioned above who (through negligence or carelessness) might otherwise be liable to me (or my heirs or assigns) for damages. It is further understood and agreed that this waiver, release, and assumption of risk is to be binding on my heirs and assigns.

I further agree to indemnify and to hold the above City of Sebastopol, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers free and harmless from any loss, liability, damage, cost or expense which they may incur as a result of any injury and/or property damage that I may sustain while participating in said activity.

**I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, WAIVER, AND RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE ABOVE CITY, AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.**

**(Each participant must personally sign.)**

<u>Robert Michael Smith</u> Signature	<u>Robert Michael Smith</u> Print Name of Signer/Participant	<u>12/4/2023</u> Date
<u>redacted</u> Street Address, City, Zip Code		<u>redacted</u> Phone Number

**Parental Consent: (if applicable)**  
If applicant is under age 18, parent/guardian must complete the following: As parent/guardian of this minor, I have reviewed the General Agreement, Waiver, and Release form and give my consent for:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

To participate in the said activity description listed above subject to the terms and conditions expressed herein and above.

_____ Signature of Parent/Guardian	_____ Print Name of Parent/Guardian	_____ Date
_____ Street Address, City, Zip Code		_____ Phone Number





