

Labyrinth by Christopher Scott Brumfield



The octagon shaped Labyrinth, 35' feet in diameter made out of terracotta chimney flues, is patterned after a Classical 3 Circuit labyrinth that first appeared on Cretan coins of circa 300 to 70 BCE. According to The Labyrinth Society; "A labyrinth is a single path or unicursal tool for personal, psychological and spiritual transformation."

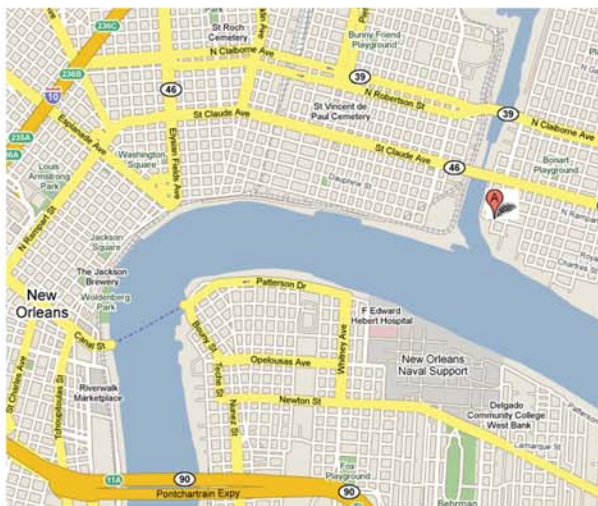
I am interested in making a sculpture for people to contemplate memories of their lives, of the city, of anything they think is important. Every six feet along the walls of the sculpture one of the flues is upright with a medicinal herb or Succulent planted in it. The 45 plants are arranged so that they will bloom in patterns and at different times during the sculpture's installation. The sculpture does have not a concrete footprint and therefore will not have a lasting environmental impact on the site. The piece is a temporary garden and I will fill in the holes when it is done, leaving only grass and sunshine. I believe in the power of beauty to transform a space and hope that there will be opportunities for contemplation, reflection, and healing.

I choose the site on the industrial canal in the lower ninth ward of New Orleans because it is one of my favorite places in the world. Less than a mile from my house, I come here to reflect on my own growth and the transformations of the neighborhood and City at large. The area is beautiful and quiet, qualities I tried to embody with my work. I am honored to put my sculpture here. Please take the time to walk the Labyrinth and reflect on your own memories and transformations while engaging in a unique experience with the landscape.

At Sunset on Sunday, December 21st I plan to walk the labyrinth in honor of the Solstice. I welcome others to join in.

Peace - Christopher Scott Brumfield, November 2008

Dauphine St. @ Jourdan Ave.:
Holy Cross Industrial Canal Levee



Labyrinth is one of twenty new 'Art in Public Places' projects commissioned by the Arts Council of New Orleans in collaboration with the Joan Mitchell Foundation. The commissions provide the opportunity for local and regional artists to showcase their work parallel to the international exhibits: Prospect.1 Biennial and Sculpture for New Orleans. Projects will last up to two years and have the option to become permanently donated to the City of New Orleans. For more information and a map of all the projects please visit: www.artscouncilofneworleans.org.