

The Arbor Animé | 2018

Town of Cary, NC

The Arbor Animé is an installation of sculptural tutus worn by diverse mature trees along a half mile stretch of Academy Street. The tutus emphasize the slow and stately dance of living trees: branches move in the breeze and each tree trunk gently sways in slow cadence.





ABOVE LEFT: Tree professionals install tutus 40' above the ground on loblolly pines in Downtown Park.

ABOVE RIGHT: Detail of work among the Dawn Redwoods at Cary Town Center.

OPPOSITE: Organza tutu installed on green ash tree overlooking a commuter rail line. Each fabric sculpture was made for the specific tree trunks, from 4" to 84" in diameter.

Using the metaphor of dance and music to explore the living environment, the work pays homage to 'Le Jardin Anime' the second act of *Le Corsaire*, a ballet based on a Lord Byron poem. *Arbor Animé* debuted with cellist Marc Moskowitz playing *A Song of our Warming Planet* by scientist/artist Daniel Crawford. The ephemeral dance started in June 2018 and continues as long as the trees play their music.

RIGHT: Cellist Marc Moskowitz performs the East Coast premiere of *A Song of our Warming Planet* by scientist/composer Daniel Crawford. The work is based on climate change data that he, Dr. Scott St. George and their team, found in their study of 130 years of tree rings. Crawford assigned notes to ring thickness in a process he calls 'sonification'.





CAST OF TREE DANCERS

Loblolly Pines... *Pinus Taeda*

Dawn Redwood... *Metasequoia Glyptostroboides*

Green Ash... *Fraxinus Pennsylvanica*

Red Maple... *Acer Rubrum*

Red Oaks... *Quercus Nutallii*

Willow Oak... *Quercus Phellos*

Crepe Myrtles... *Lagerstroemia*