

♪ music ♪
(laughter)
♪ music ♪

PATRICK DOUGHERTY: Those look great. These are good color, I'll tell you. Well this is a material that ancients and children alike have used for centuries. There's a kind of a deep reminiscence about the house building and simple shelter that's kind of built into all of our psyches.

You know for me, gathering close by has become part of the trade. In order to prepare the material, we've been trying to clean some of the leaves off. You know basically, I'm using them as lines with which to draw. There's an energetic quality implying that there's the kind of motion that you might think of with wind or water.

See how there's little white spots there? If you just work those.

STUDENT 1: It's really great, the opportunity to work with Patrick to learn how to do with this material because no one is showing that you in school.

PATRICK DOUGHERTY: If we can just cover some of the ends that look cut, it increases the illusion that this is not manmade, that it has a life of its own.

Student 2: I'm giving to Patrick last stick.

PATRICK DOUGHERTY: We've been waiting hard to see what the whole effect will be. You know, I was afraid to have something be so tall that it – that it seemed kind of up there in the atmosphere or the stratosphere, and we needed it to come down so that it could be approachable, so that you could almost reach up and touch it and have a sense that oh it's not really up there. It's down here with us.

I think that it looks amazingly free up there, in a building that's square and that's stark. I think it really humanizes it. It brings a little bit of the forest, a little bit of the environment to play.

The important part of art is the interplay with the public. With building something, when you're on the line and there's a constant interchange between the people who are viewing it and you the maker. And you have to dominate to some degree because you're - it's your idea, but you are informed by the public. You're informed by their space.

This kind of work really plays to the - what the Art in Embassy is - program is trying to do – it's to try to really reach out on a real human level to the – to people around the world and say we have a huge commonality with you, and please try to enjoy something about this sculpture that – that we both can appreciate.

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