

# SPACEWORKS TACOMA

HOME ABOUT PROJECTS PARTNERS PRESS EVENTS DONATE APPLY [RSS](#)

6  
SEP

## Color Wave Glows on Broadway

*"Color Wave"* an installation by Elizabeth Gahan, Sept. 1- Dec 19, 2013, Woolworth Windows



"Color Wave" by Elizabeth Gahan

From Elizabeth Gahan's artist statement, "Using corrugated plastic, print advertising, colorful vinyl and found materials, I create seductive and provocative installations inspired by both natural and urban environments. I use ordinary materials to create elaborate "synthetic growths" in which, like flora, fauna, or crystals, they morph and adapt to their site-specific locations."



Color Wave flows through the space, playing off of its dips, turns, eccentricities.

### ABOUT SPACEWORKS

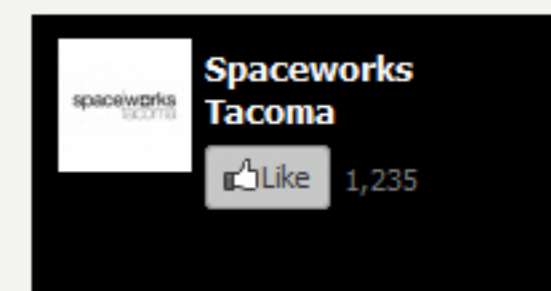
Spaceworks Tacoma is a joint initiative of the City of Tacoma and the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce designed to activate empty storefronts and vacant space. The initiative makes no- and low-cost temporary space, training, and technical assistance available to artists, creative entrepreneurs, organizations, and community groups in order to nurture successful projects that transform Tacoma into a stronger, more active city.

space|works  
tacoma

### RECENT POSTS

- [Spaceworks Announces Round 10 Artscapes Installations](#)
- [Last Call for Arts Activities](#)
- [Finely Crafted, Automated, and Mesmerizing](#)
- [Color Wave Glows on Broadway](#)
- [Last Chance to See FILM FORWARD](#)
- [Special Delivery: New Art at the Historic Post Office](#)
- [Intersection of Ideas: Market and South 11th Street](#)
- [Steamroller Prints @ Ted Sanford Gallery](#)

### LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!





“Color Wave’ created for Tacoma Spaceworks Window #2 is constructed from common plastic yard signs woven together with twine and pins and enhanced at night with animated, colored lights. The advertising and political content is fractured and obscured allowing the beauty of color and graphic design to remain as waves of color flowing throughout the window space. Along with a strong sense of pattern and geometry, these materials are also arranged in subtle references to waves, mountains, horizon line, and greenery thus contrasting to the hard edge shapes they are made from. The line between what is “natural” and “unnatural” is blurred, while the displacement of organic materials by synthetic materials hints at a growing imbalance between the two.”



“Natural” vs. “Unnatural”

“The deliberate use of synthetic materials and advertisements points to a broader conversation of urban growth and consumer culture. The repetition of forms, vibrant colors and the prolific amount of reused materials implies the potential to multiply and expand out of control. Yet, the materials are disposable and held together with removable hinges, also implying the possibility of total collapse.”

## FOLLOW OUR BLOG

---

Click to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,399 other followers

Sign me up!





“Color Wave” also has a night life! Come dusk, the entire window transforms into a mini Dubai, or Vegas with a vibrant show of colored lights.

“My work strives to embrace beauty, innovation and cultural production alongside critical dialogue and consideration of our growing urban environments and the unintended consequences of human activity.”



The full spectrum of colors radiate out onto Broadway at night.

To see more work by Elizabeth Gahan visit her website [www.elizabethgahan.com](http://www.elizabethgahan.com)