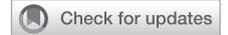


# *The Trumpet Smiled and the Night Played* by Richard Taylor



Recognizing the contribution art has had in the Mayo Clinic environment since the original Mayo Clinic Building was finished in 1914, *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* features some of the numerous works of art displayed throughout the buildings and grounds on Mayo Clinic campuses as interpreted by the author.

Wisconsin-based artist, Richard Taylor, received his BA in art history from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, in 1981; and his MFA from the same university in 1991. In between those years, he completed part-time fine arts studies at San Diego Mesa College in San Diego, California, and studied at the University of California San Diego from 1981 to 1984. Not only interested in visual arts, Taylor also was a saxophonist for the Jose Martinez Orchestra, from 1976 to 1978, and notes the majority of his sculptural themes reflect his love and interest in music<sup>1,2</sup>

It takes a keen eye and heart to visualize sound, but music has a texture and flare that Taylor grasps in his body of works and titles. *The Trumpet Smiled and the Night Played*, an aluminum, welded, and painted 45 × 147-inch structure, is one such example. Taylor uses geometric shapes, primary colors, and subtle patterns to reflect the sound of a

trumpet crooning to a midnight blue sky. Snatches of the brassy tones emanating out in yellow, orange, and green hues are muffled by the layers of light and dark blues.

Of his work, Taylor says, “I choose to work as a visual artist because successfully composed visual artwork has the ability to speak to an open-minded viewer in the most profound and lasting way ... you will find echoes of it [music] in my artwork. The rhythms, harmonies, syncopations, and dissonances of jazz and classical music are evident in the shapes, textures, and compositions of my work.”<sup>3</sup>

*The Trumpet Smiled and the Night Played*, sponsored by Jack and Leila Nessen, is located in the subway level of the lobby in the Jacobson Building, on the Mayo Clinic campus in Rochester, Minnesota.

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1. About Richard Taylor website. <http://www.taylorsculpt.com/blog>. Accessed October 2, 2019.
2. Sculpturesite gallery website. <https://www.sculpturesite.com/RICHARD-TAYLOR.cfm?ArtistsID=290>. Accessed October 2, 2019.
3. Torry Follard Gallery website. <https://toryfollard.com/artists/richard-taylor>. Accessed October 4, 2019.