



a natural state

Artist: Clemson Nature-based Sculpture

Video: Touch the Earth,

Part C: Artforms and Materials

[Maya Angelou, Narrator] The sculptures encompass a wide range of styles and materials. Some are architectural while others are spatial. Several will change slowly over the span of many decades. Others will fade and flower with the seasons. Despite differences, all of these artworks have two things in common. They are site specific and nature-based. In this context, the term nature-based refers to the fact that each sculpture is constructed from the resources of the earth. Site specific denotes that artists design and install pieces in response to their experience of a particular site in the garden.

[John Kelly, VP Public Service and Agriculture, Clemson University] Every single piece that's been built is site specific. The artist responds to the natural elements of that spot. And those may be quite different. It could be everything from a creek bank to a woodland area to a very natural retreat type spot. So the sculptor is really working with what the land gives that sculptor.

Touch the Earth is a series of videos that explore the inspirations and processes behind Clemson's Nature-based Sculpture Program. The videos are a valuable resource for understanding the art form and are available through Clemson University.

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