



002houston

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may 2012 | volume 14

ISSUE 161 | 002MAG.COM

The
WATCH
KEEPERS

LOCAL
FLICKS

Inside the
ART CAR
PARADE

ARTS +
ENTERTAINMENT
issue

for art's
sake

Photography by Sofia van der Dys

INSIDE the ART CAR PARADE

MARK "SCRAPDADDY" BRADFORD

Years involved in Art Car Parade: 24 years.
How did you get into this? My great-grandfather was an inventor, and I have always wanted to invent cool contraptions...the parade has always provided the forum for me to do this. I love to perform with my latest creations each year in the parade.

Hours on average spent on car? Minimally 1000 hours on most every car I've built...I have several.

Car model and year? 1988 Honda Helix 250cc motorcycle, 1987 Honda Elite 80cc, combined to power the three-wheel car.

Do you dress to match your car? My wife Nicole has a spot on each of my cars, and I normally build a costume for her to wear and perform with the car, while I drive it.

What's the strangest question you've ever been asked about your car? Regarding Mr. Green, "Is that the Grinch?"

What will your next car be decorated

with/as? My next car will more than likely be decorated with stainless steel scales, a trademark of mine.

How much is your car worth? Priceless...I love it too much!

Does your car have a nickname? Mr. Green pretty much covers it...no need for a nickname! I guess I've heard children call it "Monster Man."

What movie could your car have had a role in? Probably *The Grinch*. Mr. Green does look kind of like him. Many of my other cars could be in *Jurassic Park*, as they look like some form of mutant dinosaur.

If your car could talk, who would it sound like? He does talk...he sounds like Tarzan. He has 50 Tarzan car alarms that make the "Tarzan yell" because he's king of the concrete jungle.

Which car, other than your own, do you admire most? Faith by David Best. David has always been a mentor to me. I also have to really admire Iron Maiden by Kenny Browning.

If 002 had a car, what should it look like?

One that I built...take your pick!



MAY ALWAYS BRING MY TWO FAVORITE THINGS: MOTHER'S DAY AND THE HOUSTON ART CAR PARADE! THIS YEAR IS THE TWENTY-FREAKING-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THAT WONDER ON WHEELS AND THE ORANGE SHOW CENTER FOR VISIONARY ART (WWW.ORANGESHOW.ORG) IS CELEBRATING WITH, OF COURSE, **THE PARADE ON MAY 12.** -Sarah Gish

ROBYNN SANDERS

Years involved in Art Car Parade:

21 dog years.

How did you get into this?

I was hatched into it from a 20-foot tall metal chicken.

Hours on average spent on car? 200 hrs.

Car model and year? 1963 Porsche 365B.

Do you dress to match your car?

Hippies don't wear clothes...

What's the strangest question you've ever been asked about your car?

Why the hell did I copy Janis Joplin's Karmann Ghia.

What will your next car be decorated with?

It will be my boyfriend's 250Z or David's Bugatti... both are top secret, think unicorn feathers...

How much is your car worth? 60 cents.

Does your car have a nickname?

Does your mom?

What movie could your car have had a role in?

Pulp Fiction - DICK DALE!!!

If your car could talk, who would it sound like?

Cheech Marin or Bobcat Goldthwait.

Which car, other than your own, do you admire most?

Stupid Deloreans and the '87 Chevy Celebrity that parks at the end of my block.

If 002 had a car, what should it look like?
A 1982 AMC Gremlin.

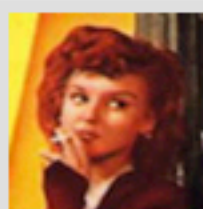
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Art Space

This Sculpture Is a Piece of Garbage -- Intentionally

By Meredith Deliso Fri., Apr. 6 2012 at 4:00 PM

Categories: [Art Space](#)

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Meet Nomo, Discovery Green's newest "resident."

Call it "Finding NOMO."

There's a new sculpture at Discovery Green, but you won't find it on land.

For the park's Earth Day festivities this weekend, the Air Alliance has recruited Houston Art Car artist Mark Bradford to make an educational sculpture that represents bottle pollution in our waterways.

It's called NOMO the Eco-Fish. It's entirely made of garbage -- recycled materials including scrap metal that Bradford, a.k.a. "Scrapdaddy," has collected from the Houston Ship Channel, and a belly full of plastic bottles collected from the Buffalo Bayou. "NOMO" stands for "No more trash," and he's surrounded by signs in the water that say "Live animal" and "Do not feed."

"This fish is filled with all these used plastic and glass bottles to illustrate what happens to fish with our junk that's floating in lakes, rivers, streams, bayous," said Suzanne Theis, programming director for Discovery Green.

Terri Thomas, vice president of Air Alliance, which organizes the Earth Day festivities each year at Discovery Green, recruited Bradford to make the fish in an effort to raise awareness about the [Texas Bottle Bill](#), a ballot initiative similar to practices in ten other states that would require a refund on all beverage bottles sold here. The hope is that with an incentive to recycle, the bottles won't end up in the trash and make their way into our water system, where the plastic may be eaten by fish, which, thanks to the circle of life, are caught and then wind up on our dinner table.

"We need to waken up society because we're the ones paying for it in the end," said Thomas. "NOMO the Eco-Fish is an ecologically minded sculpture to hopefully help bring about that awareness."

And with a face only a mother could love -- big red lips, brown teeth and pointy nose over what looks like a mustache, as well as sharp scales down its back, it definitely gets your attention.

"I claim NOMO the Eco-Fish is so darn ugly he's cute," said Thomas. "He's definitely an eye-catcher."

NOMO first debuted at Deborah Colton Gallery earlier this year during an exhibition of Bradford's work. It was installed yesterday in the park's lake, just in time for the Earth Day festivals at the park this Saturday. He will be in the water through April 10, at which point he'll become a fish out of water -- literally. On April 12, NOMO will make an appearance at the mayor's Earth Day breakfast, followed by the Houston Arboretum's Earth Day festival on April 14. On May 2, Thomas will host the sculpture during the Bayou Preservation Association's annual meeting. Then on May 12, it'll ride in the Art Car Parade before finding a permanent home at the new Memorial Silver Triangle Park at Sawyer and Memorial, which has a ribbon cutting on May 31.

For now, he's gaining some fans at Discovery Green.

"It's very animated," said Discovery Green site manager William Flowers. "It's great when we have something different in the lake."

Waste Management Earth Day Houston Festival is scheduled for Discovery Green, 1500 McKinney, April 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. For more information, visit [Discovery Green's Web site](#). Those interested in learning more about the Texas Bottle Bill and to sign its petition can visit its [Web site](#).



Do not feed the animal.

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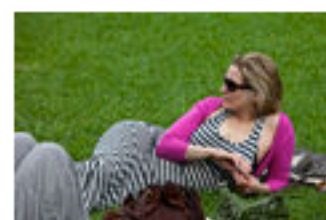
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