

# McCook Gazette

## Blues Wall art installation arrives

Tuesday, November 9, 2021



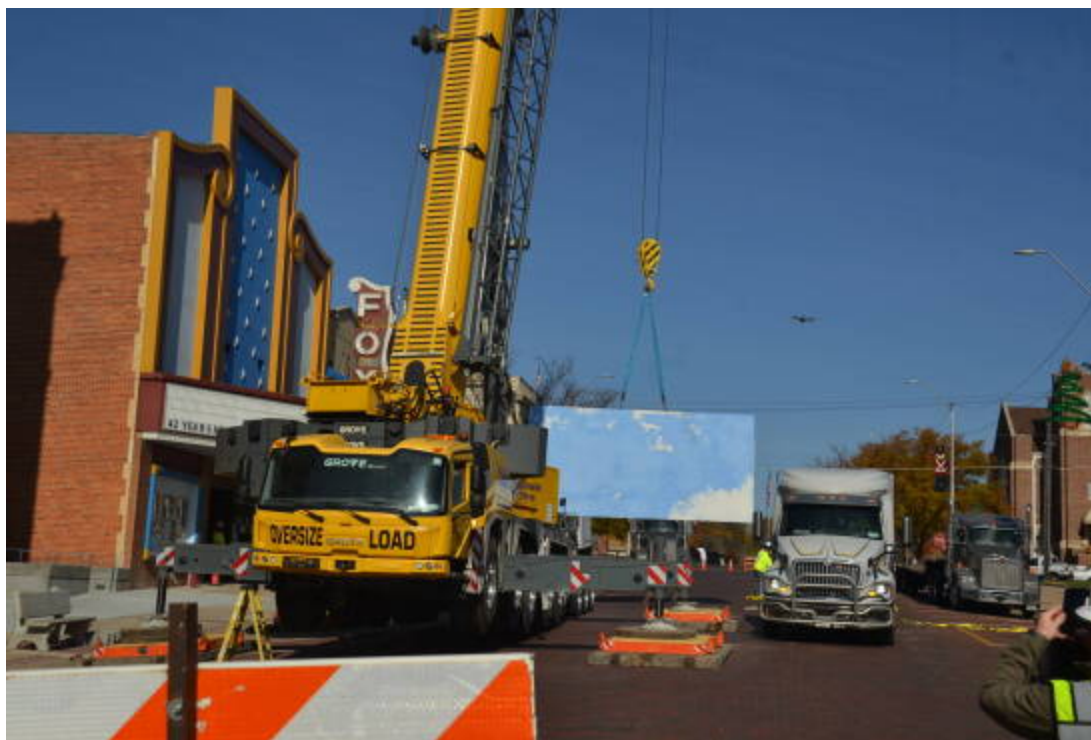
The Blues Wall arrives early Tuesday afternoon

Bruce Crosby/McCook Gazette

McCOOK, Neb. — A towering crane delivered a Los Angeles artist’s massive concrete blue-and-white tribute to the Nebraska landscape on display Tuesday afternoon.

“This work is about capturing this sublime landscape of the Midwest, which is the skies,” artist Mike Nesbit told the Gazette. “In Los Angeles, we don’t get skies like this, and I think ever since I started coming out here in 2017, I’ve been really struck by it ... and this was just such an incredible opportunity to be able to catch the landscape out of concrete, work with local manufactures and place it in such an incredible location as this.”

Purchased with Norris Institute funds, the Blues Wall is part of the Norris Alley public space under construction between the Fox Theatre and Keystone Business Center.



Lifting the art installation into place.

Bruce Crosby/McCook Gazette

Chad Graff, who recently established the 6th Floor Creative Space in the Keystone, said after a planned fountain proved to be impractical, he helped get Nesbit involved to help achieve a similar effect.

The art piece was fabricated at Nesbit's Enterprise Concrete in Omaha.

He previously created Blues pieces for installation in Ames, Iowa, but those were inadvertently destroyed, making the McCook piece the only one in existence.



The Blues Wall is lowered into its final display spot.

Bruce Crosby/McCook Gazette

Based in Los Angeles as well as Omaha, Nesbit holds a bachelor of architecture from the Southern California Institute of Architecture in Los Angeles and played four years of professional baseball with the Seattle Mariners.

"I came up through the minors, pretty much played on every team in the minor league organization. My first Low A, and I was able to play through the Midwest League, which was really my first taste of the Midwest."

With a background in architecture, Nesbit combines art and architecture with a focus on technique, repetition and representation.



Artist Mike Nesbit, left, poses with Shannon Vrbas of Enterprise Transport of Lincoln, who delivered the concrete artwork, and Chad Graff, who helped get the artist involved.

Bruce Crosby/McCook Gazette

More information about his about his work can be seen [here](#), [here](#) and a video [here](#).