

CASE STUDY · MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE · 2026

Monumental Bronze Eagle

4.88 m wingspan · Bridge installation

IN COLLABORATION WITH INSPIRED ARTISANS · MILWAUKEE, USA

SCOPE

Anatomical study + digital sculpture

SCALE

4.88 m / 16 ft wingspan

MATERIAL

Cast bronze

SETTING

Bridge installation, outdoors

TIMELINE

Approx. 2 months

TOOLS

Freehand drawing · ZBrush



STAGE 01 — ANATOMICAL STUDY, GRAPHITE ON PAPER

THE BRIEF

Inspired Artisans commissioned a bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) for a bronze monument to be installed on a bridge. At 4.88 m of wingspan the piece had to read as a living bird from every approach angle — while carrying the internal steel structure that outdoor installation at that scale demands.



STAGE 02 - DIGITAL SCULPTURE, ZBRUSH

Anatomy before software

The work began at the drawing board, not the screen. A full graphite study established the flight posture, the wing chord proportion and the layered order of primaries, secondaries and coverts. Getting the anatomy right on paper meant the digital stage was refinement, not correction.

Digital sculpture

The approved drawing was translated into a high-resolution ZBrush sculpture: individually articulated feather groups, the head and beak resolved at close-view detail, and the rock base built as a single sculptural mass with the talons gripping it.

Structure inside the form

The real problem of a monument is not the art — it is the steel. Working from the structural requirements provided by the fabricator, I positioned and shaped sculptural elements so that every structural member fell inside the volume of the bird and its base. The engineering disappears into the sculpture instead of fighting it.

Delivered: the anatomical study and the production-ready digital model. Casting and fabrication were carried out by the client's team — my role was to make sure the form they received was anatomically true, structurally accommodating and ready to be built.