ABOUT BIG CAR COLLABORATIVE

ig Car Collaborative is a flexible and adaptable nonprofit art and design organization and collective based in Indianapolis, Indiana. We facilitate peoplefocused placemaking and socially engaged art projects and programs in support of thoughtful and creative community development.



People gathering at Big Car's Tube Factory artspace in Indianapolis

OUR APPROACH

We help boost quality of life for people by utilizing the tools of art and culture to encourage us all to be more ...

CREATIVE

in low-pressure ways, we encourage people of all ages to make art, record or write stories, make music, and see that everyone can and should create

CURIOUS

encourage people to ask why and how things work and participate in joining others in finding answers

INFORMED

support understanding the context and history of communities and cultures so we can better connected to each other

ADVENTUROUS

offer opportunities to take chances and learn new things through experimentation (there's no wrong answer)

INCLUSIVE

provide experiences where people of different

backgrounds, races, and cultures collaborate, socialize, and learn from each other

CONNECTED

help people feel connected to their community and to others, as well as to art and cultural offerings in our city

HEALTHY

support healthier by offering physical aspects of life like relaxing, playing, walking and cycling

HAPPY

provide comfortable, social, positive, playful, and fun activities, brightening the lives of people in big and small ways

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JIM WALKER

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ABOUT JIM WALKER

Jim Walker, Big Car CEO and co-founder, is lead artist and designer on this project. For the past 15 years, Walker has traveled regularly to other cities to meet with peers working in placemaking and socially engaged art to gather information and share ideas. He also frequently presents to others at conferences around the world about our work. Walker who has taught art, placemaking, and writing at Indiana University and Butler University — is a member of the Project for Public Spaces Placemaking Council and the Congress for New Urbanism. Walker has also served as coorganizer of TEDxIndianapolis since 2012.















SELECTED BIG CAR PROJECTS

2017: Launched the Artists and Public Life Residency affordable land trust program offering affordable homes for community engaged artists in Indianapolis. The project — funded, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts — received coverage from The Washington Post, The Guardian, Fast Company, Next City, Curbed, and more.

2016: Designed and programmed Spark(et), a two-year project funded by a \$220,000 grant from Southwest Airlines to bring placemaking activation to City Market and connect it to Monument Circle in the heart of Downtown Indianapolis.

Opened Tube Factory artspace, a formerly vacant 12,000 square foot industrial building now the home and workshop for Big Car, a community art center, gallery, and public event space just south of Downtown Indianapolis. A \$1.5 million project.

2015: Completed Spark: Monument Circle, a \$400,000 placemaking activation and infrastructure testing project on

Monument Circle in the center of Indianapolis. Funded by the City of Indianapolis — our partner on the project — and the National Endowment for the Arts, this 11-week test reached 45,000 people with more than 200 programs led by 125 artists — all under Big Car's coordination.

2014: Brought 10 collaborative murals to 10 cities in partnership with Eli Lilly & Co. The Big Car crew facilitated the creation and installation of 10 collaboratively painted murals in Washington, DC, New York City, Los Angeles, Cleveland, San Juan, Dallas, Indianapolis, Tampa, Chicago, and Philadelphia. This \$500,000 paid partnership involved more than 3,000 people in making art.

2011-2014: Developed the pop-up art and public space, Service Center for Culture and Community, with a large raisedbed garden/park in a formerly vacant Firestone tire shop at Lafayette Square, a struggling first-ring suburban indoor mall.

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