

## **Title: The Orb, Marc Fornes / Theverymany, 2022**

Standing inside the Gradient Canopy Plaza, located in the northwestern corner of the crossing of N. Shoreline Boulevard and E. Charleston Road in Mountain View, The Orb is a huge public art sculpture created by Marc Fornes / Theverymany, “an art and architecture studio based in NYC, specializing in computational design and digital fabrication” (“Marc Fornes / THEVERYMANY.”) in 2022. It is a giant white ball composed of “6,441 individual flat pieces and 217,847 rivets” (Fig. 5). The art was created by “cutting-edge computational methods” and made by “ultra-thin, self-supporting aluminum” (Fig. 5). It is 10 meters in diameter and 26,820 meters in linear cut distance (“The Orb, Google Campus”). It was commissioned by Google Inc. to be placed in front of one of their newest buildings in the Shoreline industrial park. Viewers can walk into the base of this public art sculpture to see the work inside and look up to enjoy the “worm view” (Fig 2) or from a distance (Fig. 1 & 3). It is great to view it in both the daytime and night time since Google projects great lighting toward it during the night time. The surface of the structure has many small holes to allow the air flow through during windy storms. These holes and lines also form a pattern on the surface and create a dynamic flow. The surfaces are curved to create an organic form. The shadow casted from the light to the structure allow the viewers to interface with the art while they stand between the light source and the sculpture. It is an amazing experience to visit. Parking nearby is not easy since all the parking lots belong to Google for private usage. There are also several other Public Art objects exhibit next to it in walking distance: Curious by Mr. & Mrs. Ferguson Art, 2022, Go, by Hou de Sousa, 2022, Halo, by SOFTlab, 2022, Quantum Meditation II by Julian Voss-Andreae, 2022, and Rockspinner, by Zachary Coffin, 2022.

### **Works Cited**

“Marc Fornes / THEVERYMANY.” MARC FORNES / THEVERYMANY, [theverymany.com/](http://theverymany.com/). Accessed 13 Feb. 2024.

“The Orb, Google Campus.” MARC FORNES / THEVERYMANY, [theverymany.com/google](http://theverymany.com/google). Accessed 13 Feb. 2024.

### **Illustrations**



Fig 1. The author playing with The Orb from distance

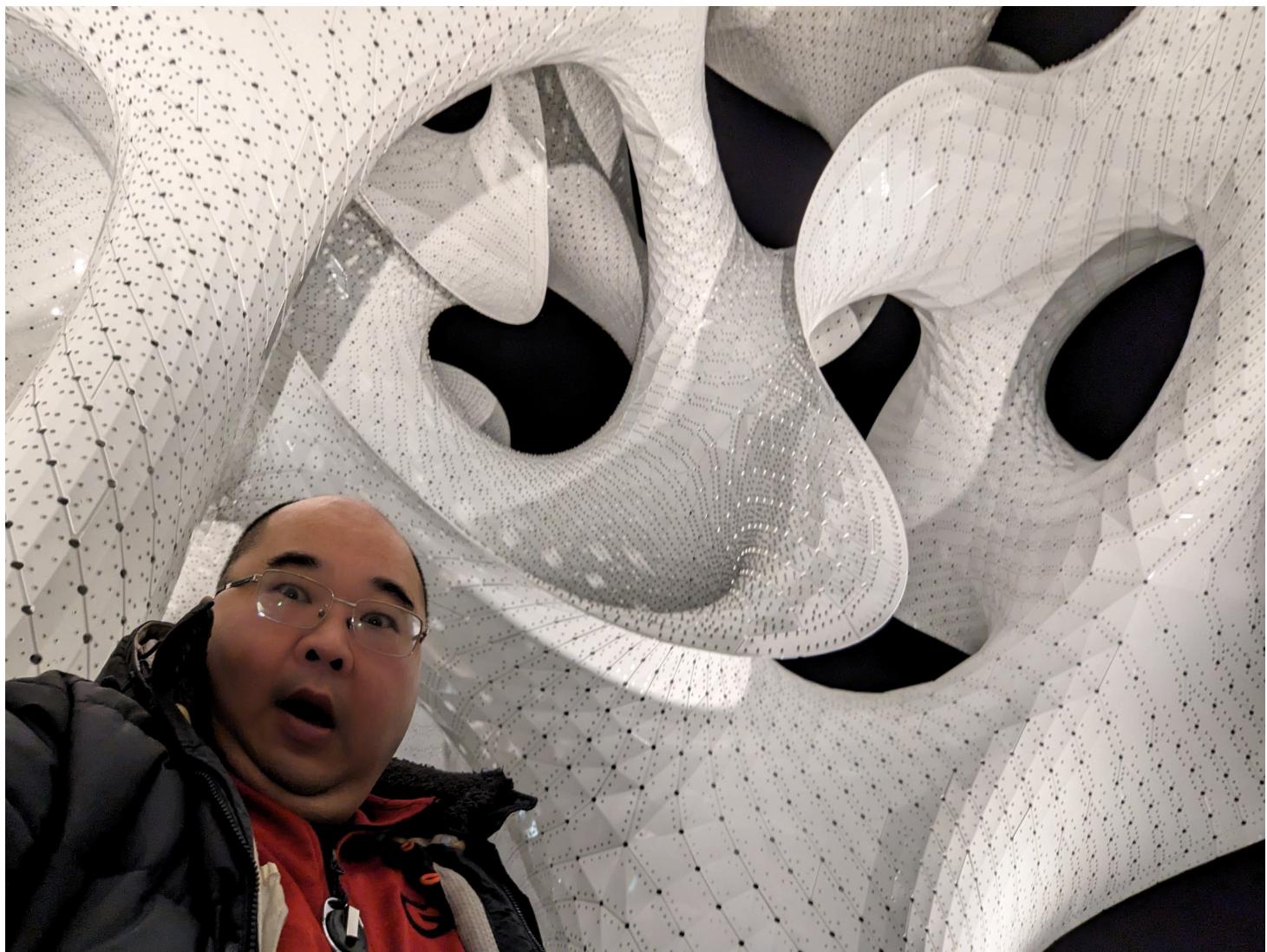


Fig. 2 The author inside The Orb, from a worm view

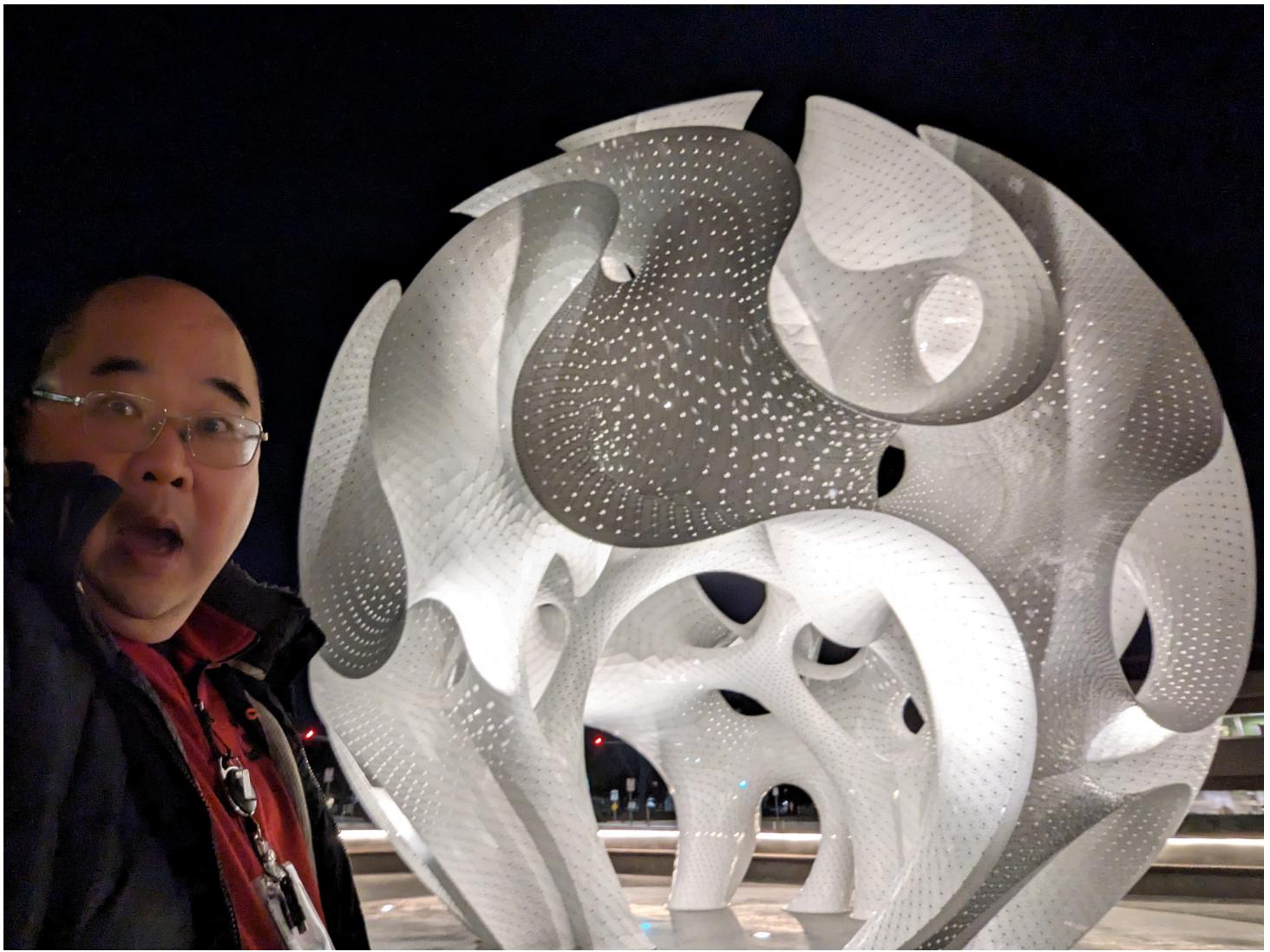


Fig3. The Orb



## The Orb

*Marc Fornes / Theverymany, LLC*

Developed using cutting-edge computational methods, this ultra-thin, self-supporting aluminum sculpture is made up of 6,441 individual flat pieces and 217,847 rivets, assembled by hand, piece by piece, from the ground up.



Left: Fig 4. The label of The Orb on the floor of the Gradient Canopy Plaza. Right: Fig 5. Description of the work on the display