

Inspired by Theresa Rogers' award winning poem

# the stone artist



BRANDYN CHEW ERIN CHOI GRACE YANG JALENE PANG

the  
stone  
artist  
by Theresa Rogers

## Synopsis

### the stone artist [poetry video](#)

Sunlight glistens onto the waves as they slowly awaken the stones resting along the Stanley Park seawall. Surrounded by this quiet and curved seawall, the stone artist begins patiently stacking rocks on the stone beach. The jagged stones are given a new life as they pose and balance on the shore waiting to be noticed. As the city begins anew each morning, those living in the city awaken to the start of their busy day. Individuals on morning strolls gradually become swarms of preoccupied people. Bicycles and cars whip past, portraying the hectic nature of life in the city. Unstirred, however, the stone artist continues tending to his cairn, gently stacking the stones one by one. Even if he fails to balance a stone, another is found and eventually poised on the one below it. When an entire cairn tumbles, he continues the next morning, determined to produce a different topology each day.

### theresa rogers: cairns by the seawall [response](#)

Experience the story behind the stone sculptures along the Stanley Park seawall as a poet delves into the inner workings of her award-winning poem “the stone artist.” Theresa Rogers, an established poet, describes her journey of coming to Canada from the US and recounts what she finds so appealing about the Stanley Park area. She dives into her poem and explores the beauty of a stone sculpture’s cycle of life, discussing her connection with these sculptures by the seawall. Through this, she also mentions her personal experiences with the Stanley Park seawall and how these cairns spark her interest. The film further explores some of Theresa’s inspirations and influences towards creating the poem and shed some light on what the poem means to her.

### birds of stone [unified response and poetry video](#)

The overall project, combining both the poetry video and poet interview, serves to illustrate the original intent of the poem whilst incorporating a new, alternative interpretation of it at the same time. The poetry video showcases the beauty and peacefulness of the art of stacking stones, contrasting it with the busyness and chaos of everyday life in the city. The poet interview highlights the inspirations and meaning behind the poem, reinforcing the juxtaposition of two vastly differing aspects of life and how this comparison ties back to the original poem.

# Fact Sheet

## location

- The poetry video was filmed at the Stanley Park Seawall, mainly at beach, and in downtown Vancouver around Waterfront station
- The interview was shot at our chosen poet, Theresa Roger's home with supporting footage at the Seawall near her home at beach Avenue
- The poetry video is a total of 3 minutes 15 seconds and the response is 3 minutes 43 seconds.

## duration and process

- The production took around 8 weeks in total with 2 interview sessions and 7 sessions at the Seawall.
- The film pivoted during production to adjust the flow and to focus on the abstract and gestural aspect of creating stone art as opposed to the actor himself.
- The cairns in the film were stacked by the team with Grace and Jalene testing each stack beforehand, then Brandyn practicing the stack before rolling the camera.
- The team got to experience filming at different times of day and experimenting with natural lighting for the film.
- Brandyn was our one and only "stone artist", serving as our actor for the film while working as a sound designer for the main film and directing the interview film while supporting the producer.
- Grace had the vision of the film as the producer. She was director of photography, editor, and effect artist for the main film and supporting cameraman for the interview. She was inspired by the stone artist's art of stacking without being sighted by the people around but the nature around him/her until they are seen when the day goes on (based on her poem); the contrast between zen/serenity to busy/disturbed lifecycle.
- Jalene was the director working to convey the producer's vision, editor, director of photography, sound designer and effects artist for the poetry video. She was also the director of photography, supporting sound and grip for the interview film as well.
- Erin was the lighting and sound designer who recorded all the audio during the interview while working as the editor for the interview film and supported the director with filming for the video poetry as a camera operator.

## Contact Info

Team UWU : teamuwu.fall2022@gmail.com



# Publicity Stills <sub>1/4</sub>



## Publicity Stills <sup>2/4</sup>



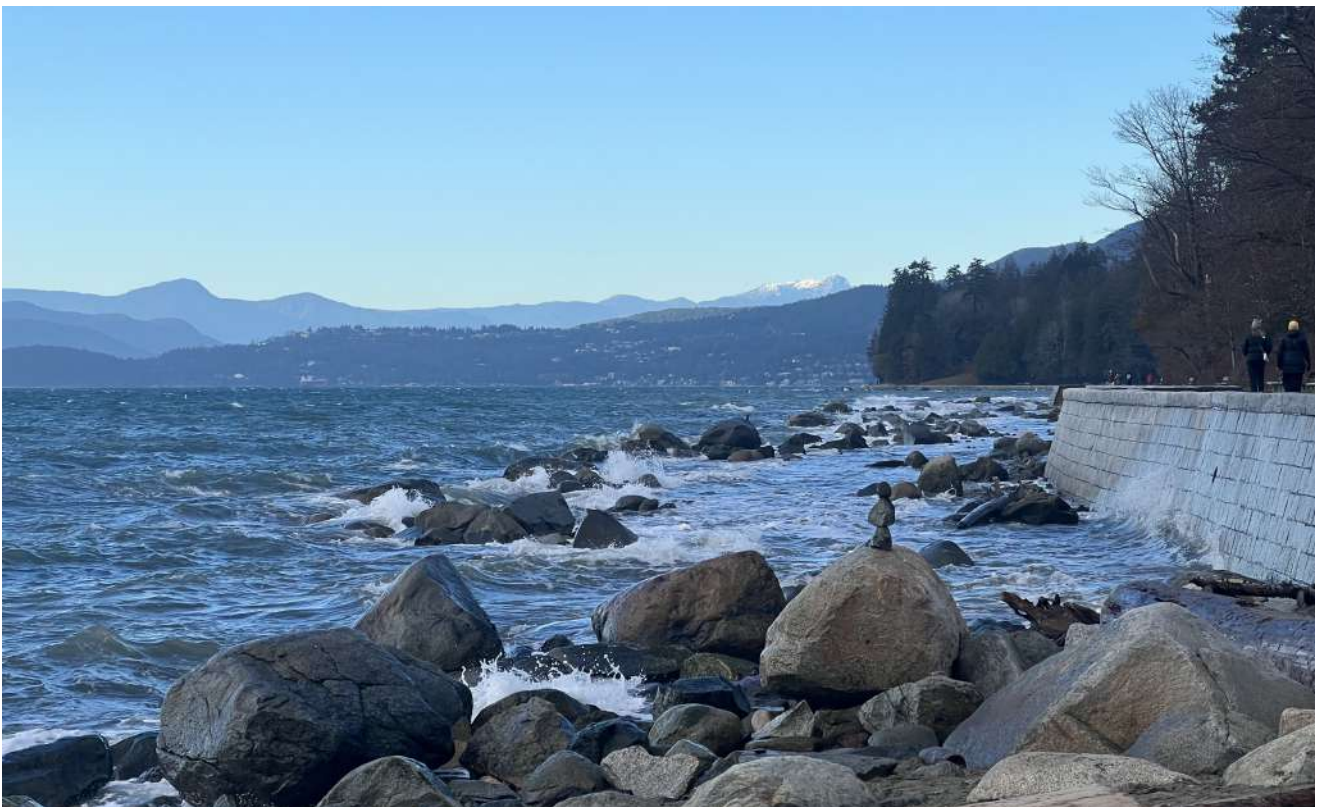
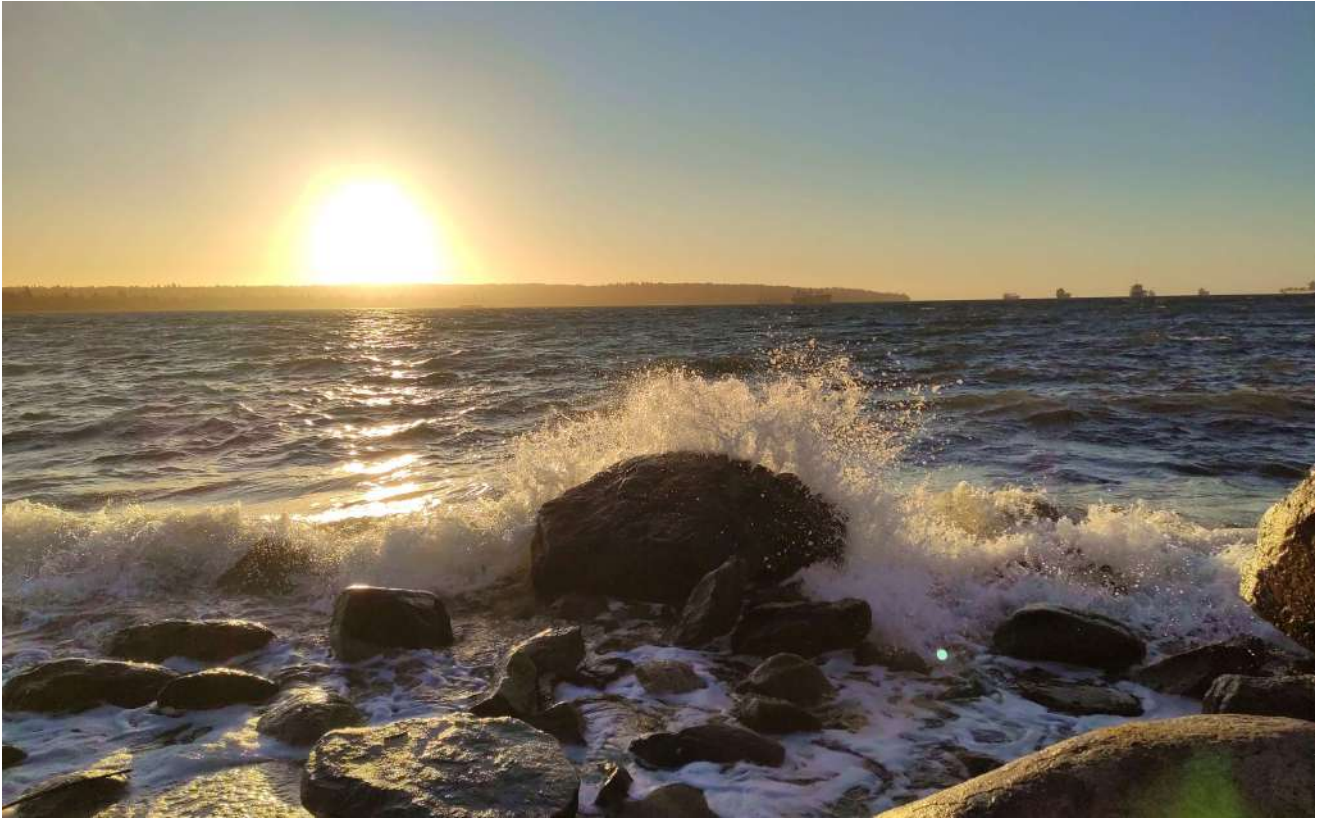


## Publicity Stills <sup>3/4</sup>





# Publicity Stills <sub>4/4</sub>



## Creator Profiles The Team

### **grace yang** Producer, Director, Director of Photography, Editor, Effect Artist

Grace is a SIAT student at SFU focusing on a concentration in design along with a minor in print and digital publishing. With her interest in film & post production and wanting to pursue a career in the field, this course caught her attention to learn more about filming and video editing to develop her skills. For this project, she worked as the producer, screenwriter, director of photography, editor, and effects artist. Grace is very proud of the team and working together to craft the final video together. The vision she had for the poetry video has come out close to what she has imagined, conveying the story inspired by the poem written by Theresa Rogers.

### **jalene pang** Director, Director of Photography, Editor, Sound Designer, Effects Artist

Jalene is a School of Interactive Arts and Technology student at SFU who has previously worked in a similar team setting to create a short film for a previous course. Her role as the special effects artist earned her and her team a class award of best special effects. In this project, she worked as the director, director of photography, and editor. Jalene was also the effects artist and sound designer, mixing music along with video effects to develop the final style and pacing of the poetry video. Taking on new and various roles in this project has brought new interests to her attention; she is grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside her team and, poet, Theresa Rogers.

### **brandyn chew** Director, Post Production Producer, Light & Sound, Sound Designer/Foley Artist

Brandyn is a 3D Designer with a passion for game design. He is also interested in both film and animation where he has experience with the post-production side of things, doing editing, visual effects and sound design. For this project, he served as the actor in the film, playing the role of the "stone artist." He worked as the foley artist for the poetry video, recording sounds, mixing the physical location sounds together, and mastering the overall audio of the film. He was also the director for the interview film which he planned out and conducted the interview for.

### **erin choi** Producer, Editor, Light & Sound Designer, Sound Mixer, Camera Operator

Erin Choi is a 4th-year School of Interactive Arts and Technology (SIAT) student at SFU, pursuing IAT with a concentration in Design. With her interest in visual and experience design, she is currently working as a web development coordinator at SFU. Her interest also extends to videography and photography. Previously, she worked as a sound designer for a short film for an academic project and won an award for best sound in class. In this project, she worked as a camera operator for the poetry video and producer, editor, lighting & sound producer, and sound mixer for the poet interview documentary.



# Thumbnails

the stone poetry video



theresa rogers: cairns by the seawall response



birds of stone unified response and poetry video

