

Over The River (project for Arkansas River, State of Colorado)

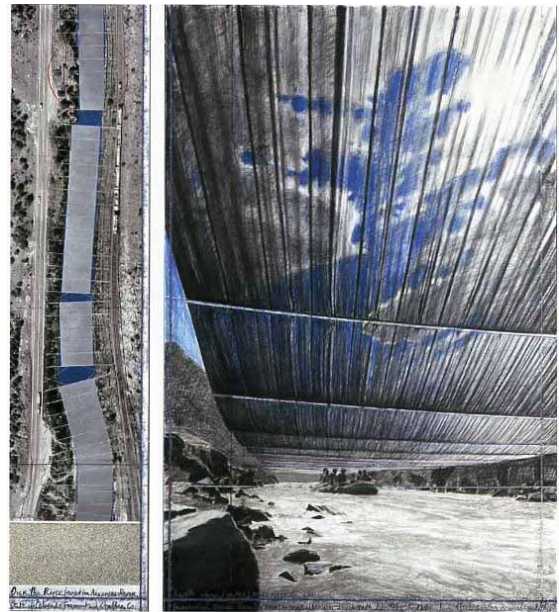
Fact Sheet

Over The River is a two-week temporary work of art to be created by internationally acclaimed artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude, whose recent work, *The Gates, Central Park, New York City*, garnered worldwide praise. For *Over The River*, the artists will suspend horizontally a total of 5.9 miles of silvery, luminous fabric panels high above the Arkansas River along a 40-mile stretch of the river between Salida and Cañon City in south-central Colorado. Fabric panels will be suspended at eight distinct areas of the river that have been selected by the artists for their aesthetic merits and technical viability. Christo and Jeanne-Claude are currently working to obtain the necessary permits so they can begin the installation process. Assuming the approval process runs as planned, *Over The River* will be exhibited for two weeks in summer 2013, at the earliest.

The Over The River Experience

For *Over The River*, there will be eight separate areas of fabric panels that highlight the contours of the banks of the river. Seen from underneath, the translucent fabric will enhance the contrast of the clouds, mountains and vegetation. These waves of fabric will play off the natural lighting throughout the day, transitioning from shimmering pink in the morning light, to shiny silver in the mid-day sun, to golden as the sun sets.

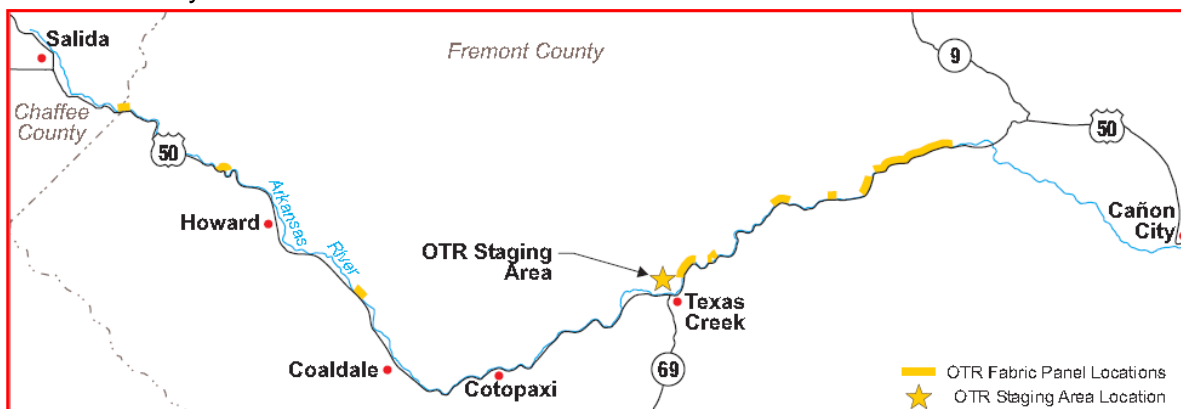
From the water level, rafters, kayakers and canoeists on the Arkansas River will view blue sky, white cloud formations and the undulating mountain skyline through the fabric. Cars and buses on US-50 will also get a unique view of *Over The River* from the roadway, where the fabric will reflect the colors of the sky. The eight distinct areas will total 5.9 miles of fabric panels, varying in length from 0.3 to 2.5 miles. They will be suspended 8 to 25 feet above the water, depending on the height of the banks. Between the waves of fabric panels, there will be a total of 34.1 miles of interruptions, leaving the river and natural landscape untouched. Each pause between fabric panel sections will vary in length from 0.7 to 15.5 miles.



© Christo 2006
Photo: Wolfgang Volz

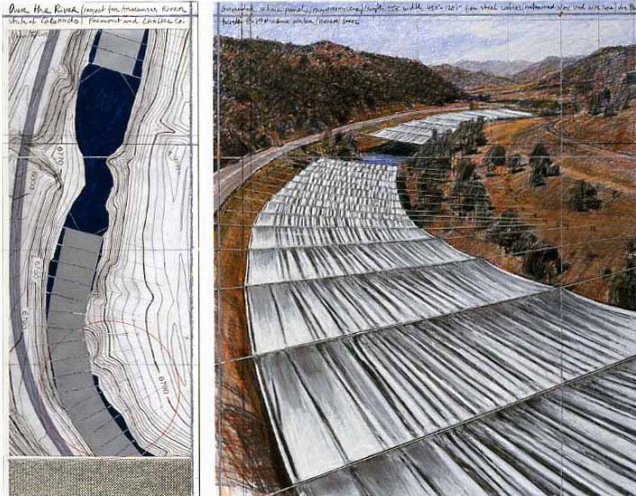
Paying for Over The River

Through the sale of Christo's original works of art, the artists fund 100 percent of costs associated with the permitting process, manufacturing, installation and removal of *Over The River*. The artists pay all direct costs to create the temporary work of art and all costs that result from it (e.g. traffic control, trash removal and sanitation). The temporary work of art will be created without public subsidy or taxpayer support, and the artists do not accept viewing fees, sponsorships or outside investments of any kind.



A Gift to Colorado

The artists' previous works have drawn art lovers from across the globe, and *Over The River* will be no exception. Viewers from across Colorado and the rest of the country are expected to come enjoy this once in a lifetime event. Along with the new Hamilton wing of the Denver Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art's new building, the major expansion of the Fine Arts Center in Colorado Springs and the coming Clyfford Still Museum, *Over The River* will enhance Colorado's growing prominence in the art world. It will provide a gift that all Coloradans can enjoy.



© Christo 2007
Photo: Wolfgang Volz

before fabric panel installation, cables will be connected to the ATFs. Fabric panels will then be attached to the cables with specially designed carabiners. In the final week of installation, *Over The River* will "blossom" as crews begin pulling fabric panels into position above the river. The temporary work of art will be on display for two consecutive weeks. After the viewing period, the fabric panels will be removed within two weeks. The complete removal of the hardware will take only a few months, weather permitting.

About the Artists

Christo and Jeanne-Claude are a married couple who have created highly celebrated works of art across the globe for more than 40 years. They have a son, Cyril, born in 1960, married to Marie Wilkinson, and a grandson, Lysander, born in 2005. Christo and Jeanne-Claude are a unique, dynamic, creative team who together have changed the concept of "public art" by creating works that are truly transitory by design. The artists' goal is to create works of art of joy and beauty without charging any viewing fees. Their previous works include *Valley Curtain* in Rifle, CO (1972), *Wrapped Reichstag* in Berlin (1995), and their highly acclaimed installation *The Gates, Central Park, New York City* (2005).



© Christo and Jeanne-Claude 2005
Photo: Wolfgang Volz

Installing *Over The River*

As with previous works of art in urban or rural environments, Christo and Jeanne-Claude will continue their unprecedented commitment to respecting and protecting the environment for *Over The River*. The installation team will work closely with nearby communities, local governments, the Bureau of Land Management, the Colorado Department of Transportation and other agencies to avoid or minimize impacts associated with traffic, recreation, wildlife and the environment.

Over The River will be installed in several phases over two years. Professional crews will first identify pre-determined anchor points and will then install the anchors and the anchor transition frames (ATFs). About two months