



***Desert Springs*, 2005-2009**

Steel downspouts, gutter extensions, gutter corners, enamel  
Multiple parts, dimensions variable.

**Artist Statement**

This piece is constructed from downspouts turned upside-down in a mass that appears to grow out of the ground or to spurt from the desert floor like an unexpected spring of water. Some are mounted on the small, galvanized steel parts used to attach sections of a gutter. The steel spouts are painted in Dunn Edwards' five most popular colors for tract housing in oil-based enamel; the sculpture's title points to a banal optimism associated with the names given to suburban developments. The inside of each spout is a flat black which can alternately be associated with an empty mouth, longing for a drink in a parched land, or with a curious eye, peering like a periscope at its alienated surroundings.

**Installation Instructions**

If installed outdoors, small, hidden aluminum bases allow attachment of individual "spouts" to a concrete slab. The arrangement can vary according to the eye of the installer. Each spout is then screwed in two places to the uprights on the small base. If installed indoors, the very lightweight spouts are each lowered over a hidden, lead-weighted base -- no attachment is necessary. Sometimes small wood shims are needed to make a spout perfectly straight.