About the Art

- Stacey Kirby specifically chose bronze as a medium because she notes that works in bronze by women artists are rarely found in art collections, unless the artist is depicting the likeness of a male.

- In response to North Carolina’s ban on same-sex marriage and the 2016 NC House Bill 2 (known as the “bathroom bill”), Kirby developed performances in which a Civil Validation Officer performs acts of validation.

- This sculpture is cast by Carolina Bronze Sculpture from an enlarged three-dimensional scan of the VALID stamp that Kirby has utilized for engaging thousands of participants in her performances.

About the Artist

1976: Born on June 21 in Erie, Pennsylvania
1999: Graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a B.A. in Studio Art and Journalism
2012: Began VALIDnation, a series of performative interactions in which she used the stamp from which Bronzed VALIDity is modeled
2016: Received the Juried Grand Prize of ArtPrize 8 (Grand Rapids, Michigan) and was a finalist for the 1858 Prize (Charleston, South Carolina)
2018: Installed a billboard on NC-147 as part of the nationwide For Freedoms public art project
2019: installed The Department of Reflection in the Ackland’s ART& space; made Bronzed VALIDity