

BEAUTIFUL LEGO® WILD!

MIKE DOYLE



BEAUTIFUL LEGO WILD!



San Francisco



FEATURED ON THE COVER

FRONT

Bumblebee, Thomas Poulson; *Chub-bee!*, Michaela Clites; *The First Bee*, Dario Minisini;
Rainbow Lorikeet, Gabriel Thomson; *Riccardo's Butterfly*, Dario Minisini
 Arranged by Mike Doyle

FLAPS

Life, Encoded, Pascal Schmidt; *Lotus Mosaic*, Kevin Fedde; *MTR: Appalachian Mountaintop Removal*, Mike Doyle; *Seahorse*, Bright Bricks, artist Joe Perez

BACK

Chihuahua, Matt Armstrong; *Monarch*, Sean Kenney; *Turkey*, Dave Kaleta

To my beautiful wife Stephanie,
and our two boys, Caeden and Ian



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The work from designers around the world continues to be of great inspiration to me. This book is a testament to their creativity and technical mastery. Many of the builders who participated in this book made the extra effort to rephotograph and even rebuild their models for this book. I can't thank you enough—you all have such talent!



SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to those who participated in the online call-to-entry contest. This book grew that much more robust as a result of your creativity.

Winning participants are as follows:

Matt Armstrong, Azur, James Bailey, Luc Byard, Aaron Van Cleave, Benjamin Costantin, Bojan rtovi , Geneva Durand, Tyler Halliwell, Benjamin Cheh Ming Hann, Bill Dennis Heriawan, Tim Inman, Bartosz Kacprzyk, Maciej Kocot, Dicky Laban, Pietro Lamonaca, Chris Maddison, Lionel Martin, Dario Minisini, Günther Möbius, Andrei Pacurar, Max Pointner, Kosmas Santosa, Pascal Schmidt, Dmitriy Selivanov, Frances Sky, Richard Young

Aaron Van Cleave
Symbiote City 2015 (~1500 pieces)



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Preface

In this third installment of the *Beautiful LEGO* series, we explore the natural world. I've arranged the book so it begins with the plant kingdom and ends with the animal kingdom, with a few surprises along the way. I believe that you'll find this new collection from the LEGO community continues to push the limits of creative expression with LEGO.

Among the models of plants, you'll see a wide variety of ways in which builders create all kinds of trees and bushes. But one LEGO element in particular is so commonly used as to call attention to itself. The so-called Plant Leaves 6 x 5 (seen in orange in David Hensel's *Sennecks's Reside* on the opposite page) is a favorite among builders. While other LEGO plant pieces sport a distinctly leafy look, this piece has an organic shape but is still fairly abstract. It can be manipulated to great effect, becoming scaling vines, tree branches, round sculpted trees, bushes, and more.

This flexibility is exactly what makes this piece so appealing, and to me, its abstract nature really captures the spirit of LEGO. One of the best things about looking at LEGO creations is the discovery that shapes are not what they seem to be at first glance. Seeing how simple shapes combine to give the illusion of a bigger picture is exciting.

Creating animals has its own challenges. Their forms need to be recognizable and specific, and the tight curves and appendages can be difficult to achieve with LEGO pieces. The range of styles is also intriguing within the animal theme. On one end of the spectrum, we have the pixel-like blending of blocks by designers like Sean Kenney and K. Amida Na, and at the other end, we have the nimbly articulated models from builders like Mike Nieves. Pietro Lamona's *Blue Shark* (page 175), is a particularly fascinating mix of exotic pieces.

Whether subjects are from the plant or animal kingdom, on land or under the sea, there is no end to the imagination of these builders. I hope that this volume continues to inspire and delight you!



Asia



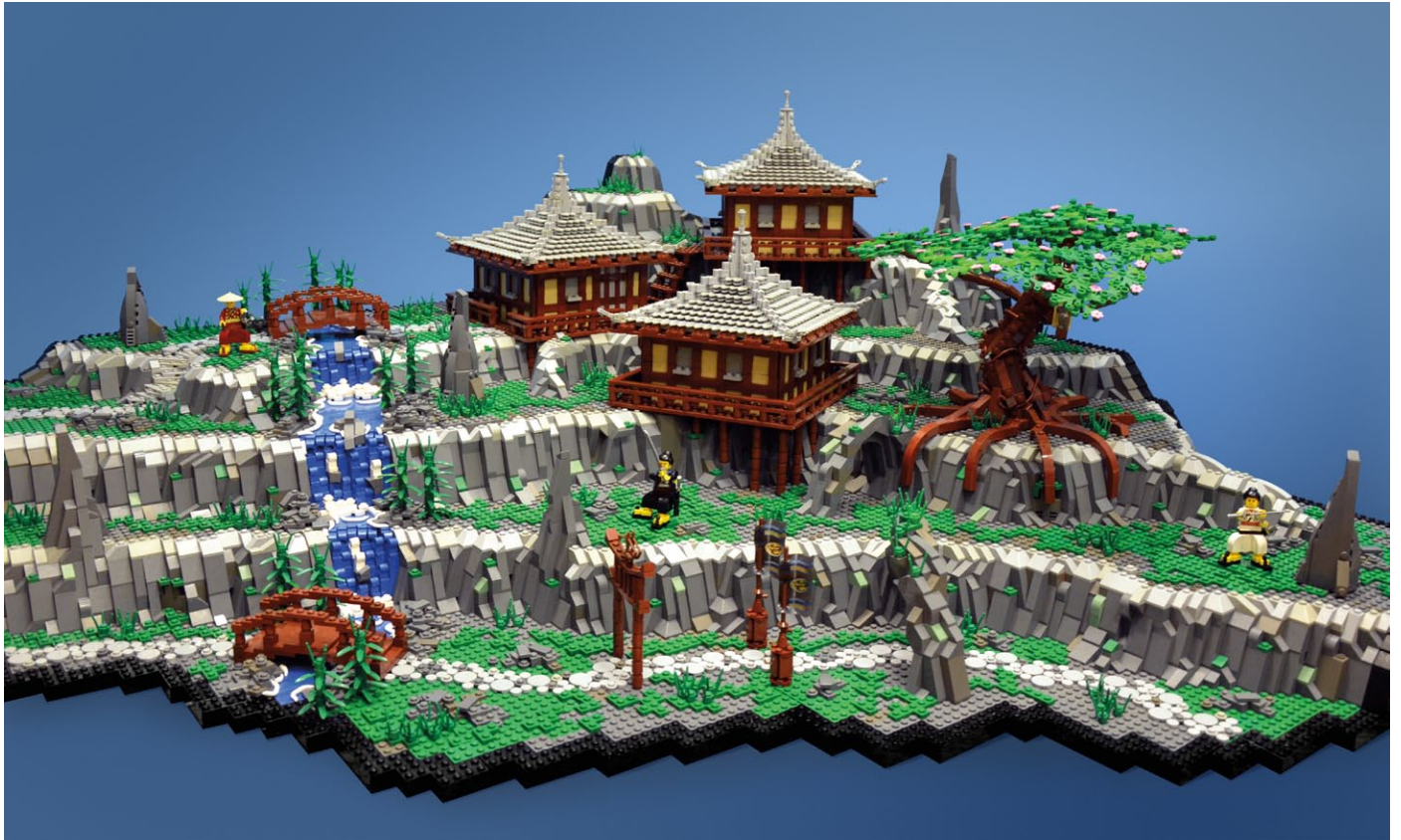
(above)
Kosmas Santosa
Senja (Sunset) 2015

(opposite top)
David Frank
To Whatever End 2014 (~15,000 pieces)

(opposite bottom)
Kovács Tamás
Emotions: Japan [digital render] 2013 (1020 pieces)





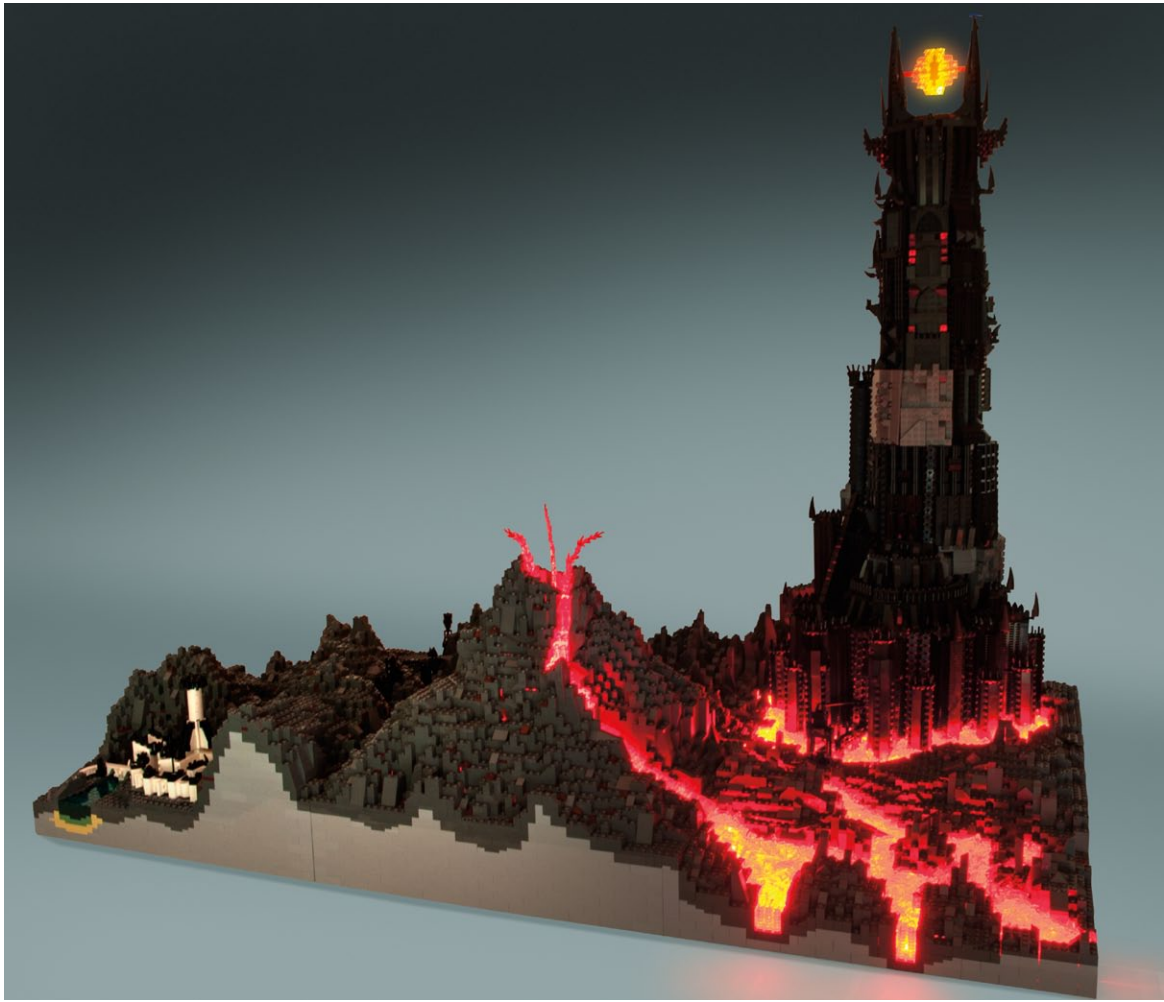


Living with Nature



César Soares
(top) Etheldreed Windmill 2014
(bottom) Gandalf's Retreat 2014

(opposite)
Chris Perron and Scott Semple
Mordor 2014 (~17,000 pieces)





Alice Finch and David Frank
Rivendell 2013 (~200,000 pieces)



Andrew Simonson
Ereg Durin 2014



Jonas Kramm
 (top) Rhosgobel - Radagast's House 2013
 (opposite bottom left) Weathertop 2013
 (opposite bottom right) Flooded Barrack 2013

(bottom)
 Kovács Tamás
 Emotions: Autumn [digital render] 2013 (3490 pieces)



(top)
Maciej Kocot
Ta Prohm Temple, Cambodia 2015 (~4000 pieces)



(top)
Alyssa Sargent
Forget Me 2015 (~8000 pieces)

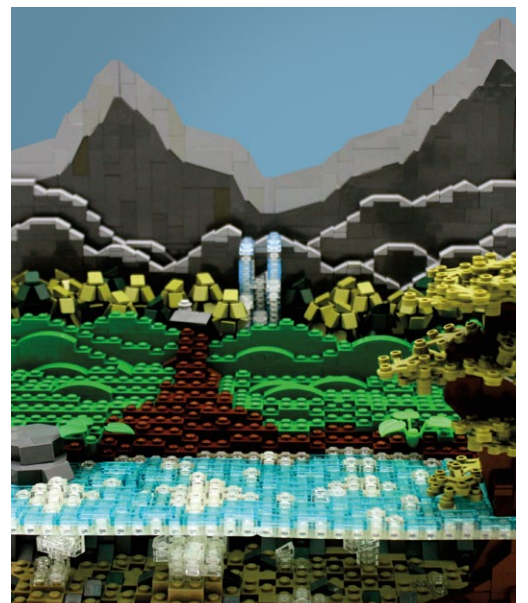
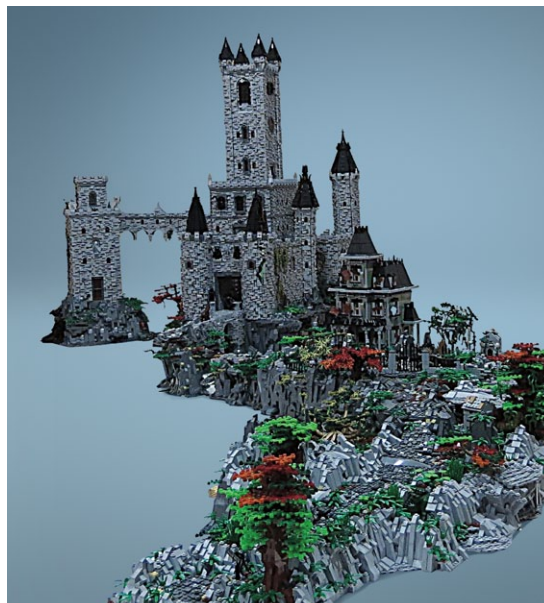
(middle)
Paul Tracg
Elven Vineyard 2014 (~2000 pieces)

(bottom)
César Soares
The Old Watermill 2014 (~4000 pieces)

(opposite top)
Samuel Pister
The Forgotten Village 2015

(opposite bottom left)
Lionel Martin
The Vampire Castle 2014 (~55,000 pieces)

(opposite bottom right)
Matthew Oh
Valley Beautiful 2015 (~1500 pieces)



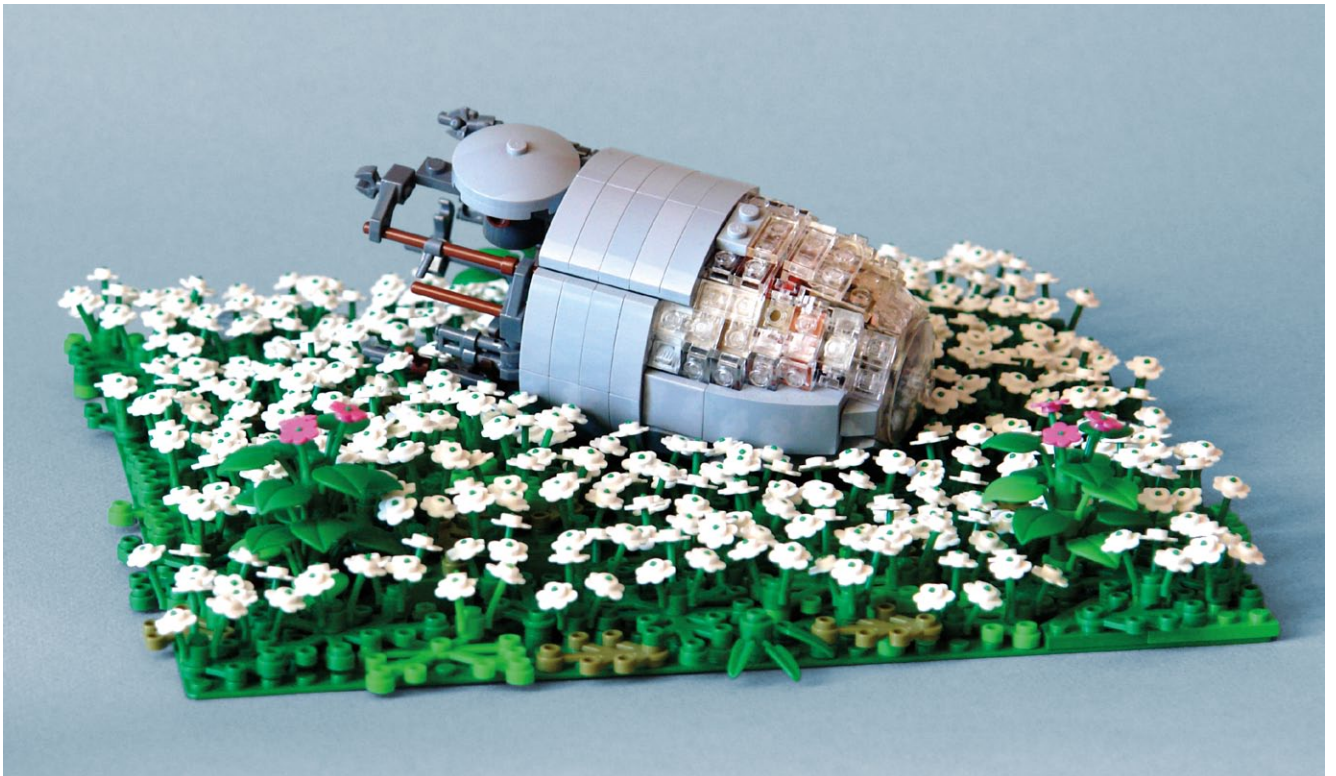


(top)
Kovács Tamás
Ancient Wonder:
The Hanging Gardens of Babylon
[digital render]
2013 (490 pieces)

(bottom)
Mark Erickson
Palace Arbor 2014

(opposite top)
Casper van Nimwegen
Monument 2011 (~4000 pieces)

(opposite bottom)
Pierre Lafont
Japan, September 1946 2013 (~800 pieces)



Trees



(left)
Thorsten Bonsch
The Lord of the Rings - Three Is Company 2012

(right)
César Soares
Barrenroot Tree 2014 (~1500 pieces)



(left)
Steven Erickson
A Walk in the Forest 2012



(right)
David Frank
Knights' Plea 2012 (~3500 pieces)





Mark Erickson
(opposite) The Temple of Twin Jaguars 2014
(above) The Hideout at Finder's Falls 2012





Stefan Hund
LEGO Dinorama 2014 (~2800 pieces)





(opposite)
 Mike Doyle
 MTR: Appalachian Mountaintop Removal 2015 (~10,000 pieces)

(above)
 Chris Maddison
 Wilderness Cabin 2015 (~700 pieces)





(opposite)
Peter Hale
Weirwood Tree 2013 (~500 pieces)

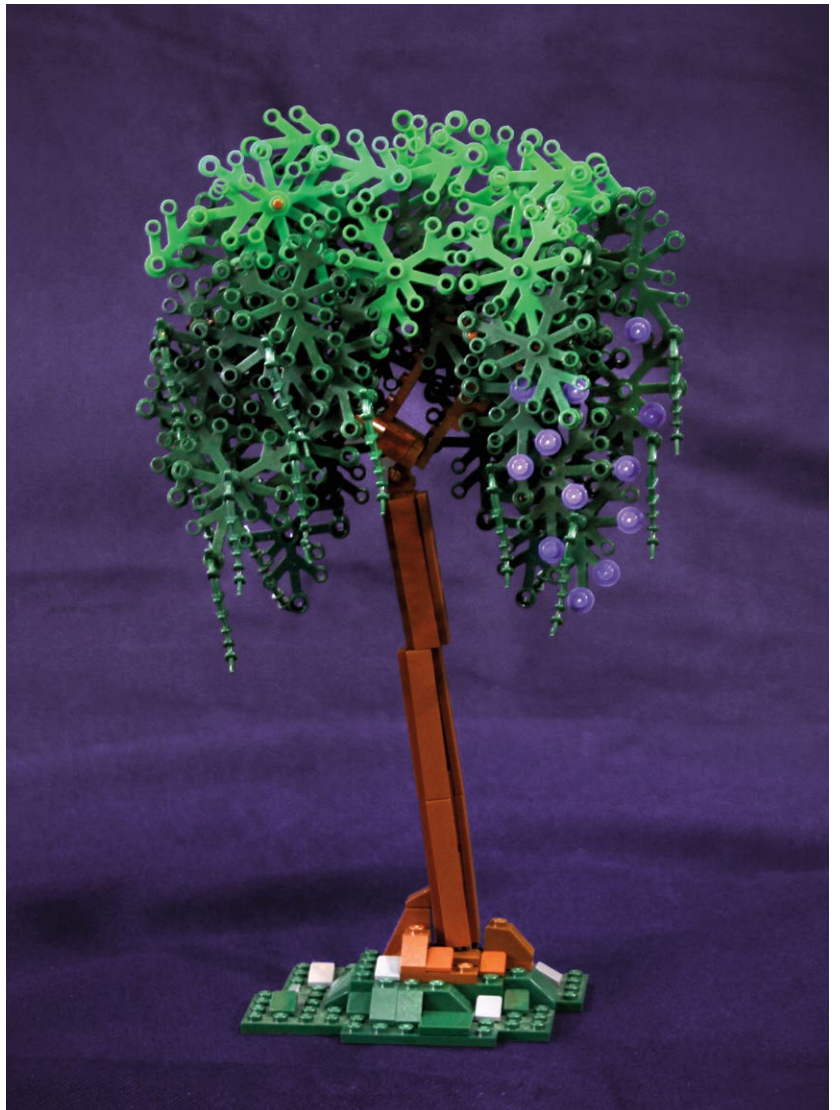
(above)
Mark Erickson
Northward Bound 2014



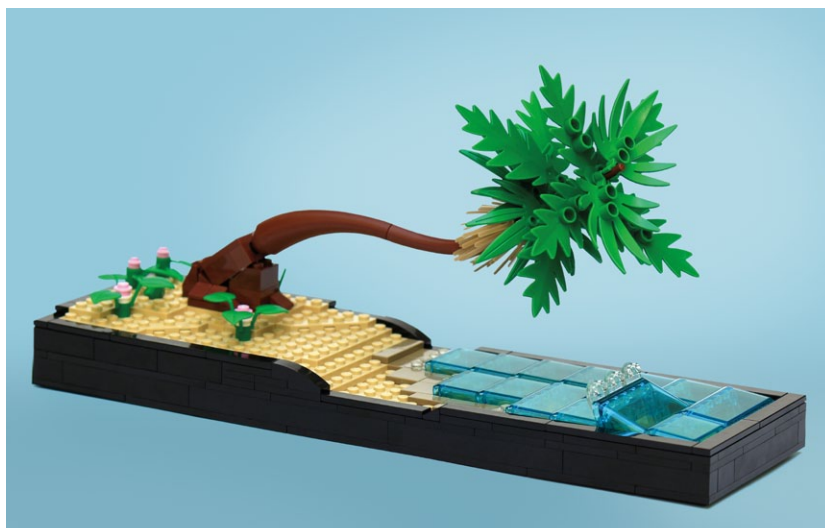
Lukasz Wiktorowicz
(top) Visit 2012
(bottom) Passing Sherwood 2012



(top)
Günther Möbius
Tree 2015 (~600 pieces)



(bottom)
Carson Hart
The Willow Tree 2012 (~300 pieces)



(top)
Carson Hart
Hawaiian Paradise
2012 (~400 pieces)

(bottom)
Paul Vermeesch
Parenthesis
2013 (~250 pieces)



(top)
Jordan Robert Schwartz
Bavarian Autumn Tree
2009 (~300 pieces)



(bottom)
Jonas Kramm
detail from Druid Meeting
2012

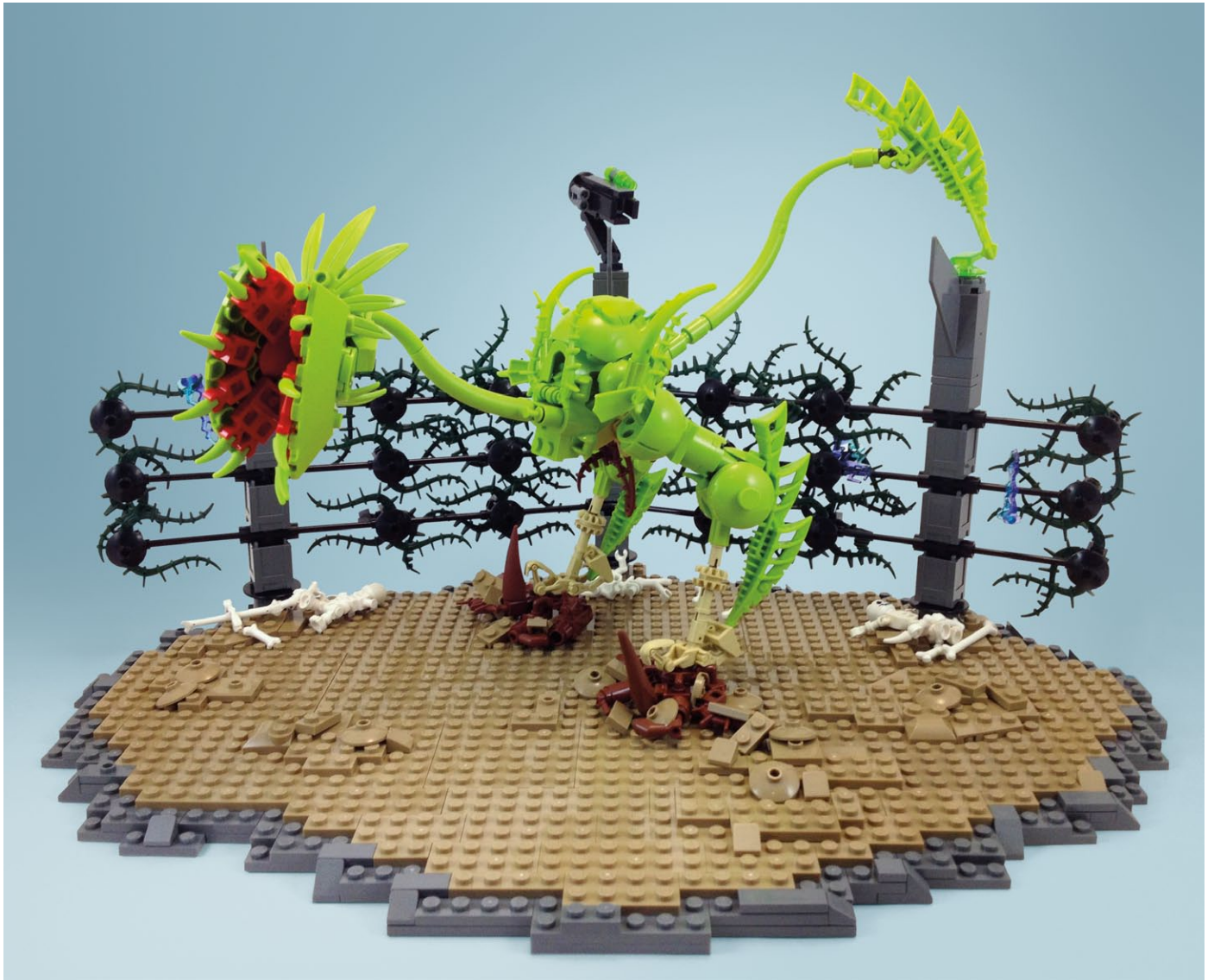




(opposite)
Barbara Werth
Reading Dreams 2014

(above)
Nicolaas Vás
Bonsai Tree 2014

Gregarious Greenery





(left)
Emma Courtney
Fimbrethil's Return 2014



(right)
Aaron Williams
Rock Golem 2014





(opposite)
Pietro Lamonaca
Ent 2013 (~600 pieces)

(top)
Bill Dennis Heriawan
Harimau Putih 2015 (317 pieces)

(bottom)
Nicolaas Vás
Kulgai - Master of Vine 2014





(opposite top)
 Tyler Clites
 I Am Groot 2014

(opposite bottom)
 Andrei Pacurar
 Myconid 2014

(above)
 Sachiko Akinaga
 Little Ida's Flowers (Hans Christian Anderson) 2007 (~5500 pieces)





Vibrant Vistas

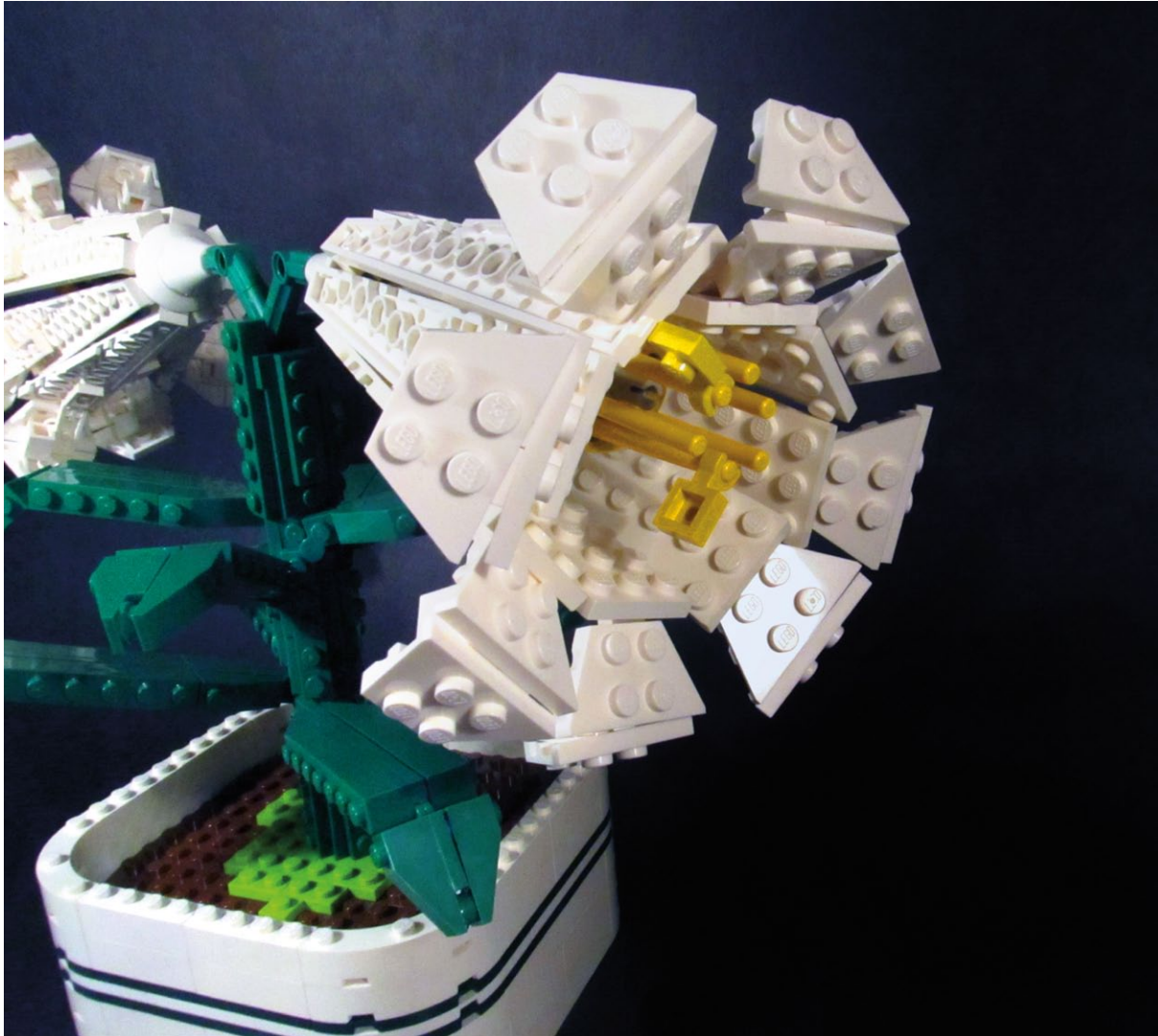
by Frances Sky





(opposite) The Lions Mountains 2014 (~1000 pieces)
 (top) North Island 2014 (~800 pieces)
 (bottom) Montague Channel 2013 (~4000 pieces)

In Bloom



(above)
Tim Inman
Lilies 2014 (~300 pieces)

(opposite)
Dylan Mievis
Flowah 2014







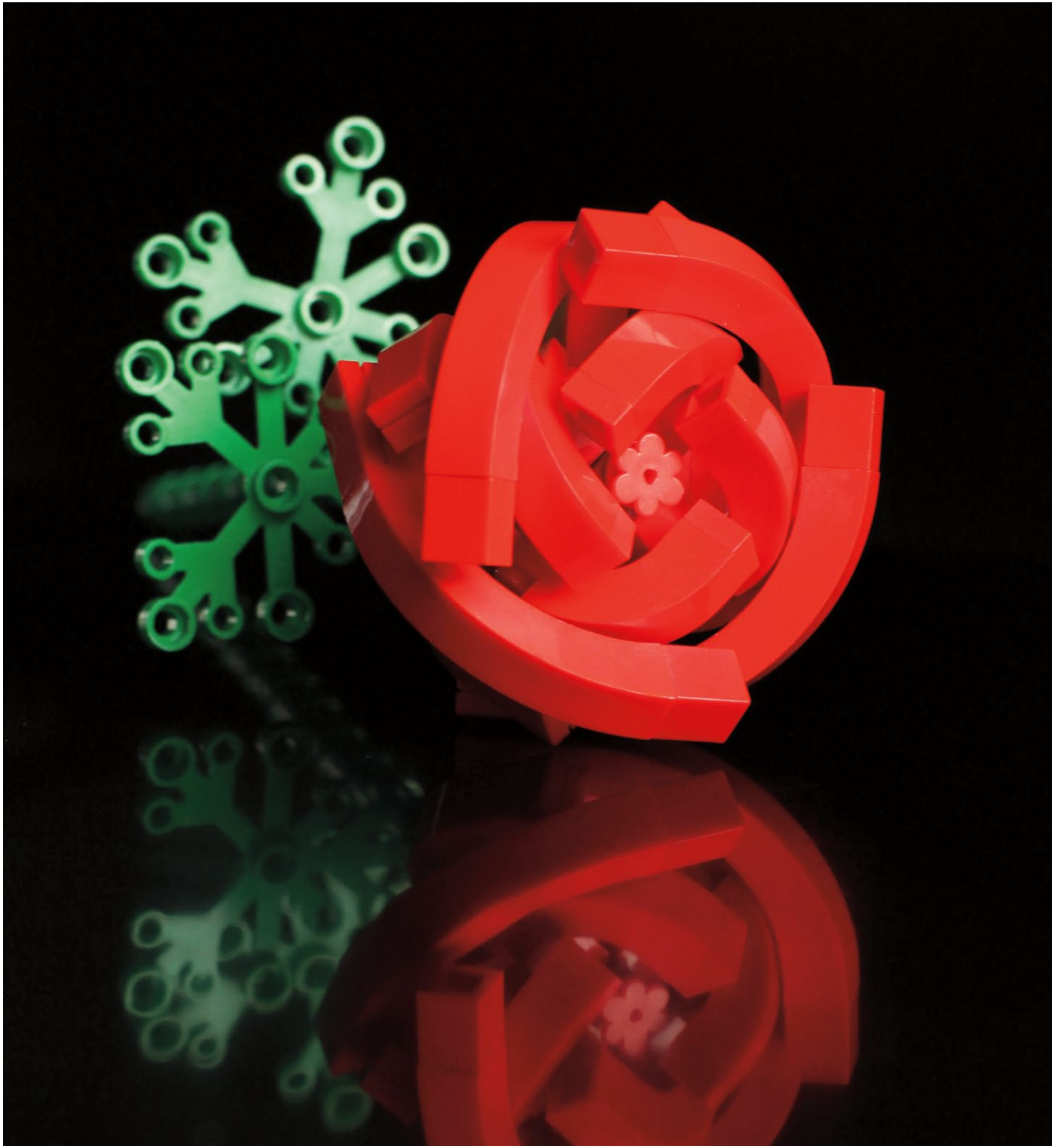
Bidea
Summer Fusion 2014 (~500 pieces)

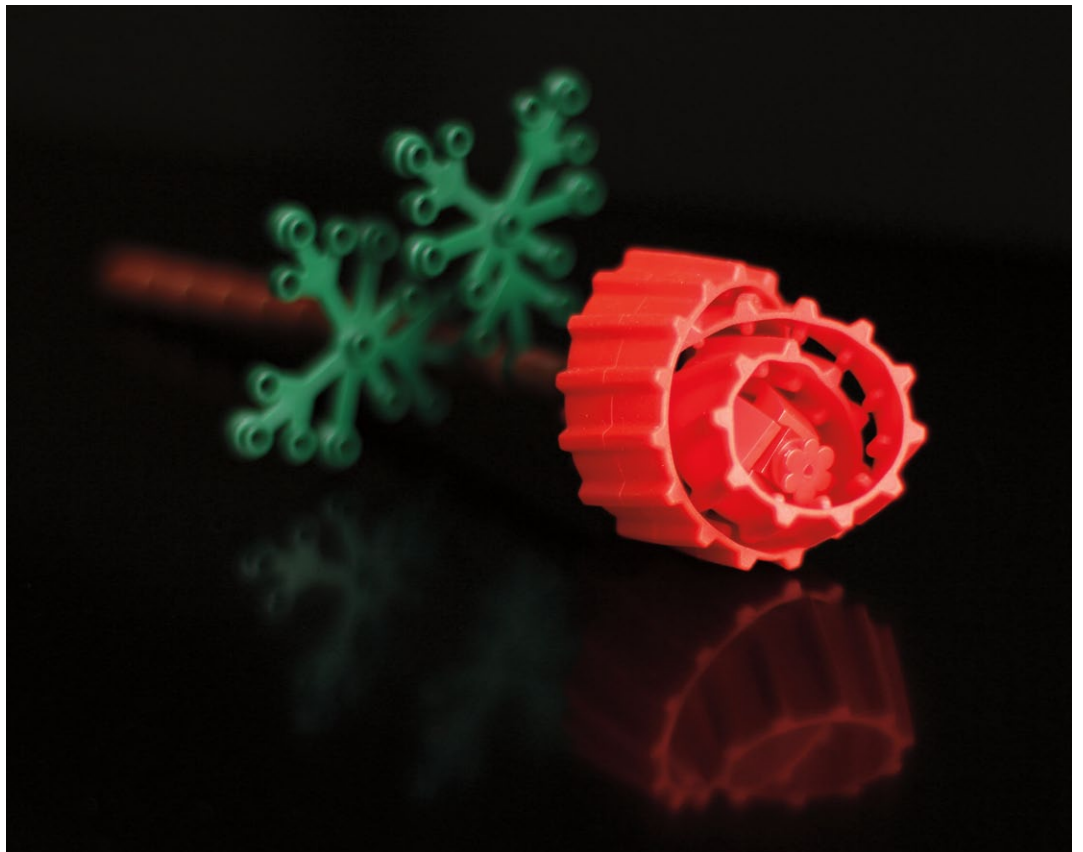


(above)
Azur
Chrysanthemum 2015 (364 pieces)

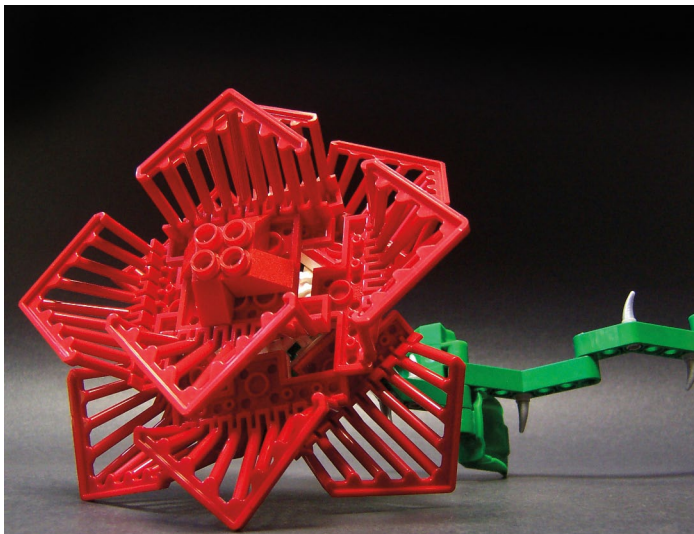
(opposite)
Tim Inman
Orchid 2013 (~250 pieces)







Chris Wunz
(opposite) Rose 2009 (65 pieces)
(above) Rose v.2 2014 (25 pieces)



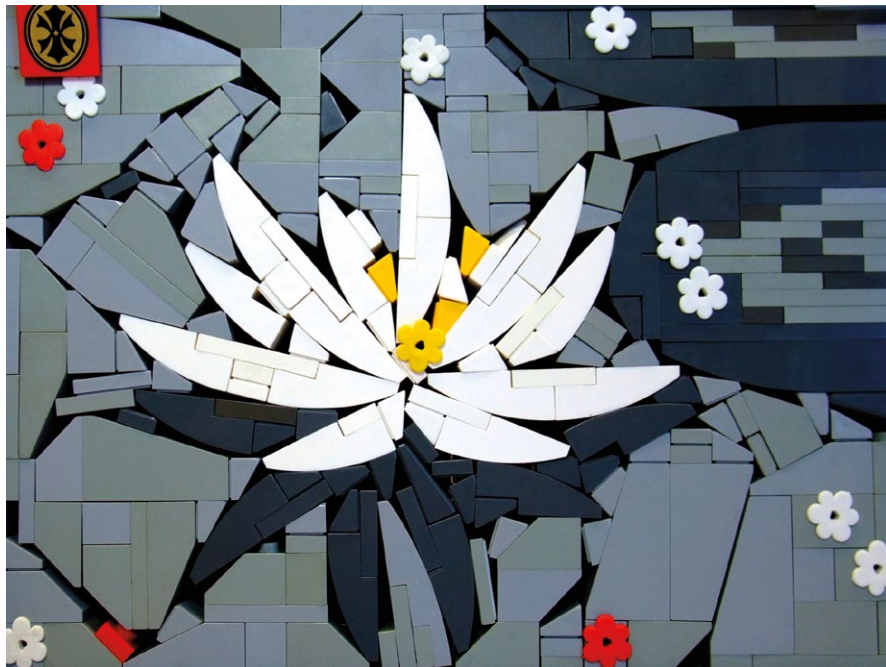
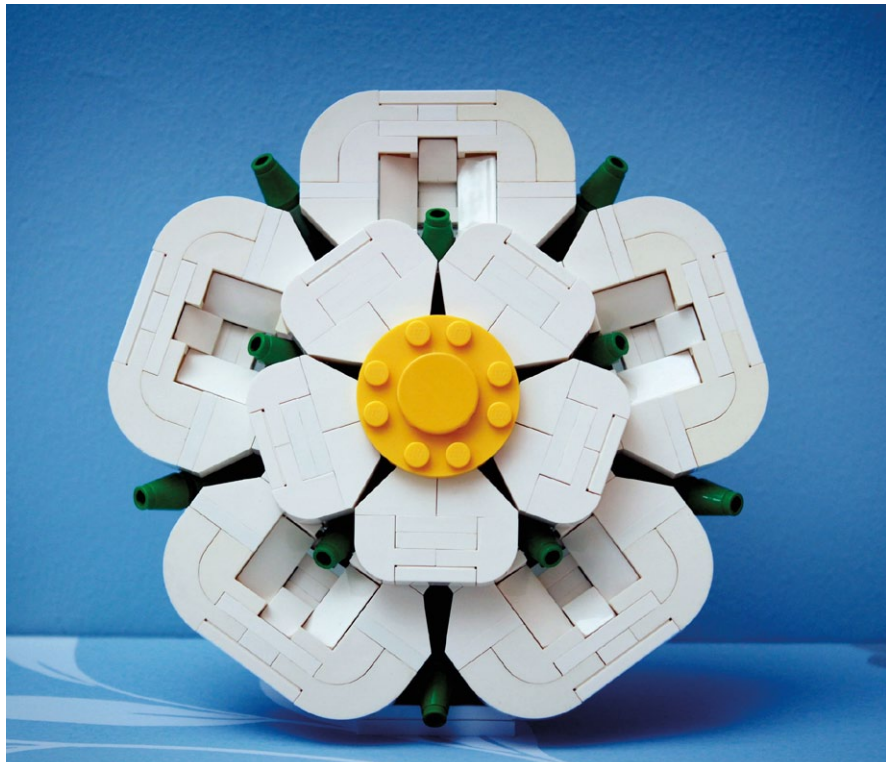


(opposite top)
 Barbara Werth
 La Vie en Rose 2012 (66 pieces)

Matt Armstrong
 (opposite bottom left) Genevieve's Rose 2010 (50 pieces)
 (opposite bottom right) Water Lotus 2015 (~200 pieces)

(above)
 Dario Minisini
 The First Bee 2014 (~440 pieces)





(top)
 Luc Byard
 White Rose 2013 (293 pieces)

(bottom)
 Kevin Fedde
 Lotus Mosaic 2009 (~200 pieces)



(left)
Taylor Baggs
The Whispering Death 2014 (522 pieces)

(right)
Mark Erickson
Venus Flytrap 2013



(left)
Dylan Mievis
Venus Flytrap 2013



(top right)
Kristi McWhorter
Audrey 2 2013 (11 pieces)



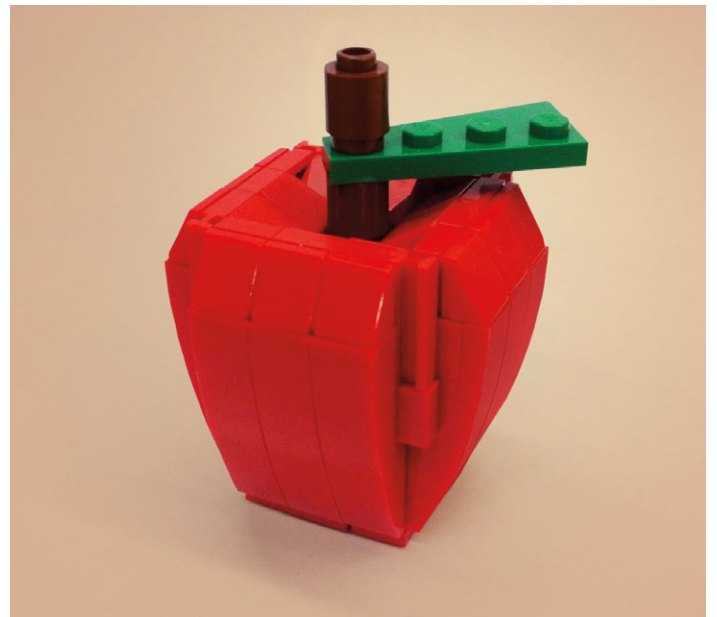
(bottom right)
Matt Armstrong
Sorry if I Offended You 2015 (~100 pieces)

Fruit Salad

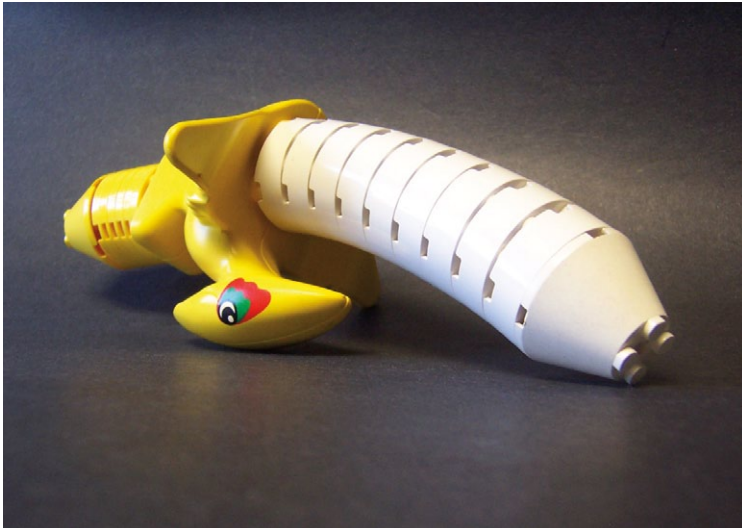




(top)
Josh Christenson
Half-Eaten Apple 2013 (~250 pieces)

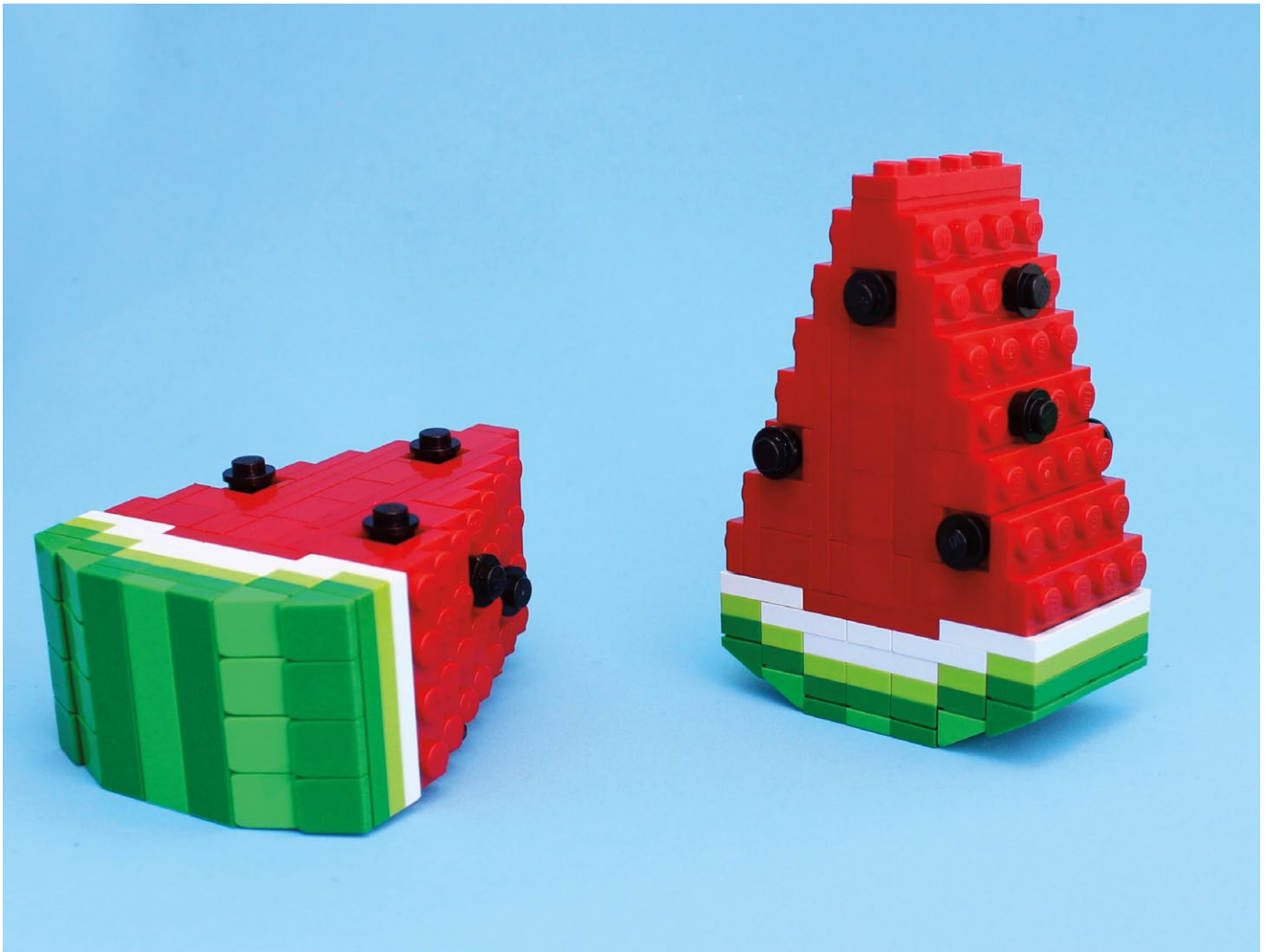


(bottom)
Joel Baker
Apple 2012 (88 pieces)



(top)
Matt Armstrong
Ptera-Banana 2013 (20 pieces)

(bottom)
Jason Allemann
Dancing Banana 2012 (124 pieces)



Bruce Lowell
Watermelon 2014 (88 pieces)

Sean Kenney

Much as LEGO pieces interconnect, all of nature is connected in an intricate balance. This is the overarching theme of my exhibit “Nature Connects,” which aims to showcase these connections and the beauty of nature by installing larger-than-life LEGO sculptures at arboretums and botanical gardens around the world.

Beyond the technical aspects of creating complex organic sculptures with little bricks, I always aim to capture the essence of my subject; it has to have that special something. It has to have life. I like to think that what I create is more than just a bunch of pieces pressed together the right way; my sculptures need to be rooted in personal expression and have some kind of educational or artistic value.

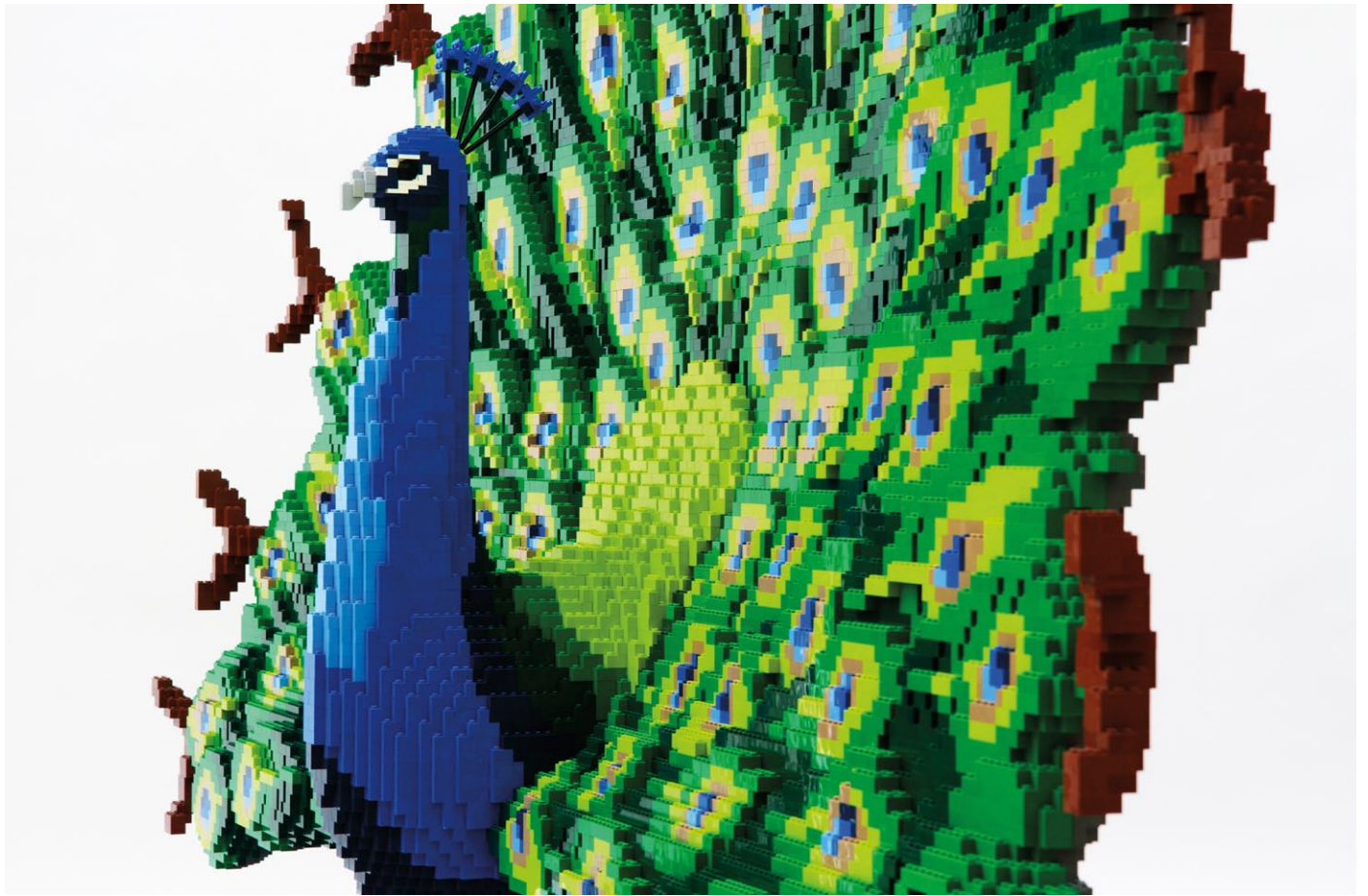
I am the kind of person who makes things. LEGO, as a medium for this, allows my work to be simultaneously orderly and whimsical, two things that I think describe me as a person very well.



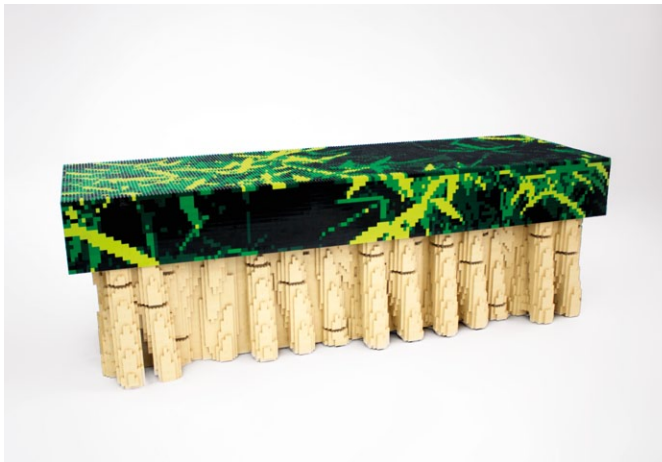








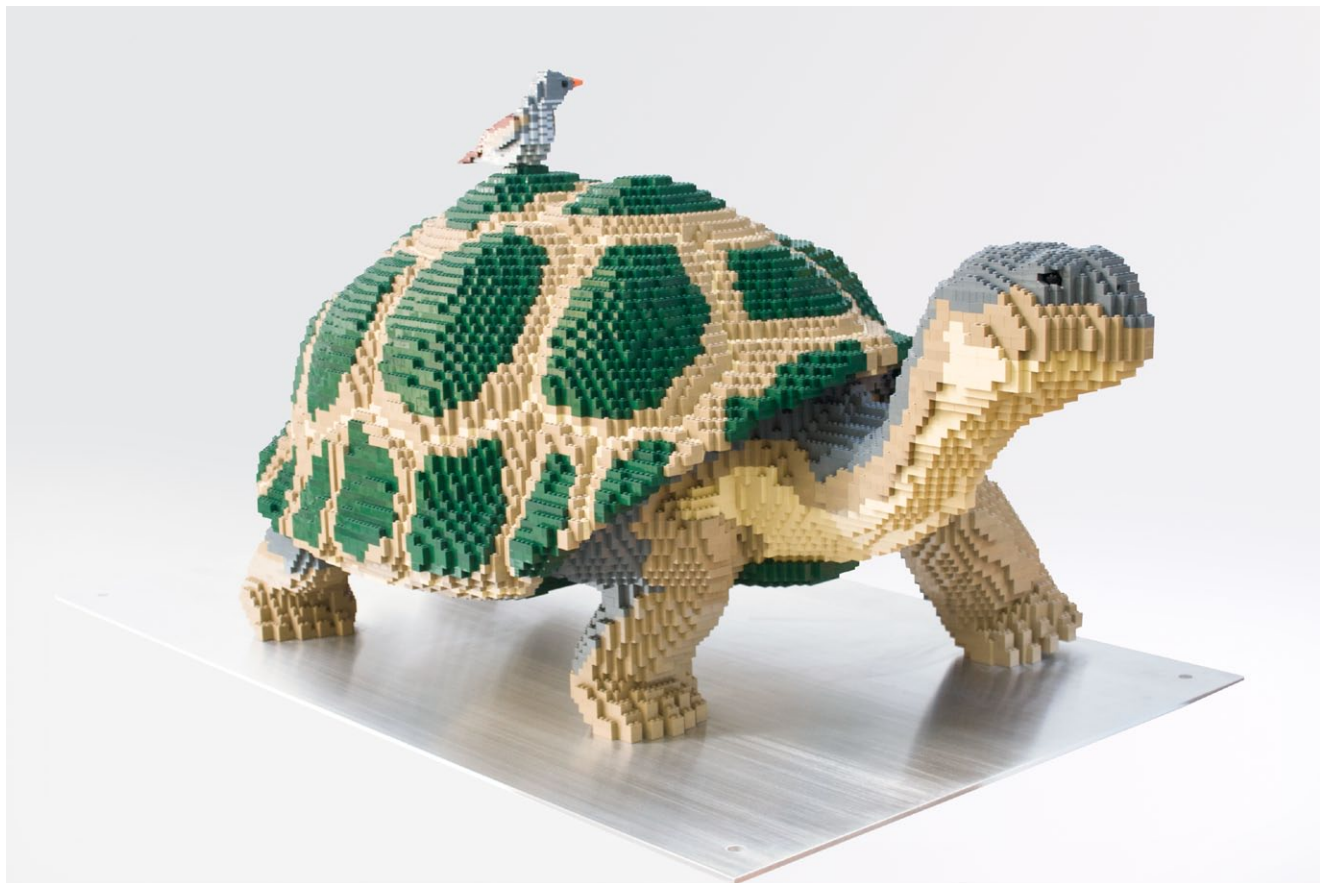
(top) Peacock 2015 (68,827 pieces)
(bottom) Orchid 2012 (2,300 pieces per orchid)



(top) Fox and Rabbit 2012 (fox: 17,547 pieces; rabbit: 1361 pieces)
 (bottom left) Bamboo Forest Bench 2013 (13,271 pieces)
 (bottom right) Rosebud Stools 2013 (5723 pieces)



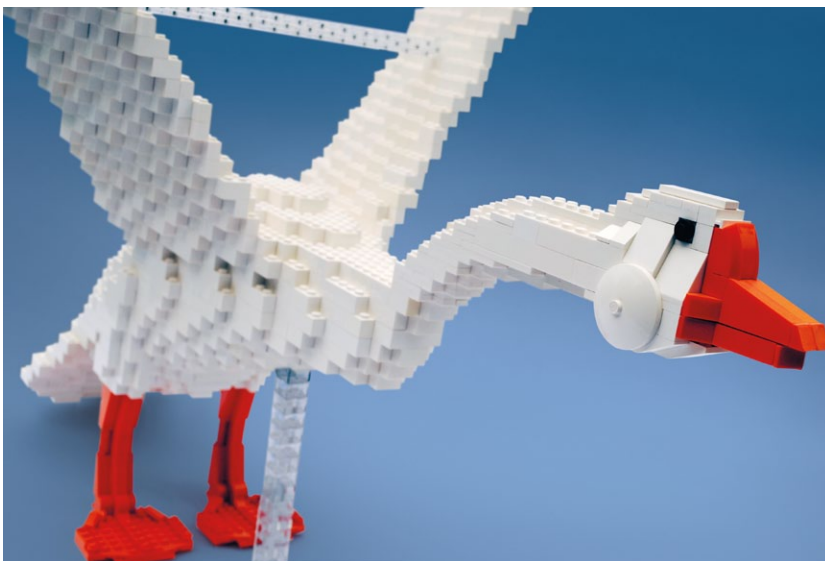
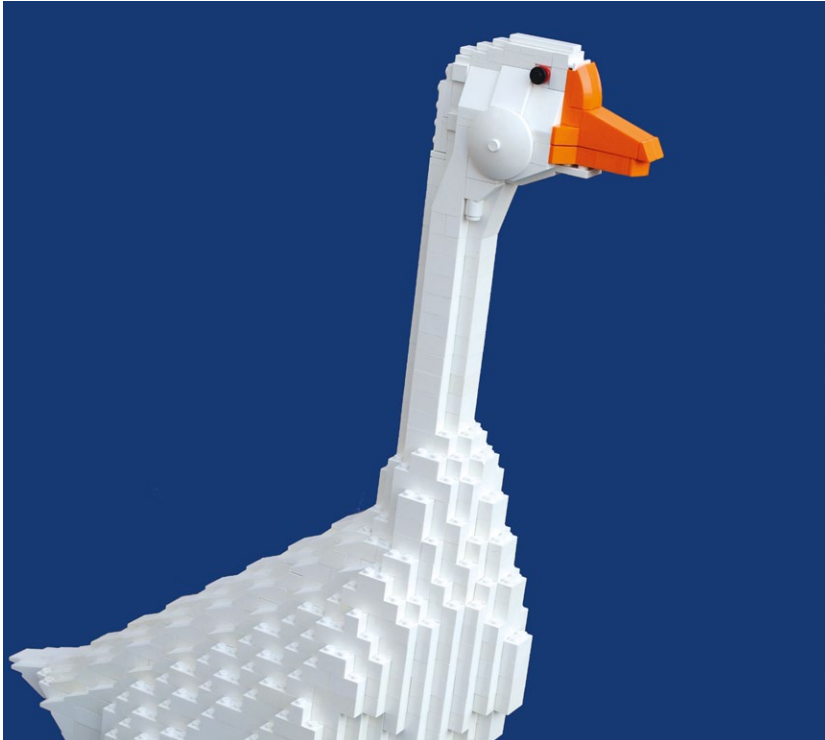
Bullseye the Target Dog 2015 (39,800 pieces)





(opposite top) Birdbath 2015 (14,802 pieces)
(opposite bottom) Galapagos Turtle and Finch 2015 (23,317 pieces)
(above) Fawn and Doe 2015 (37,879 pieces)

Birds of a Feather



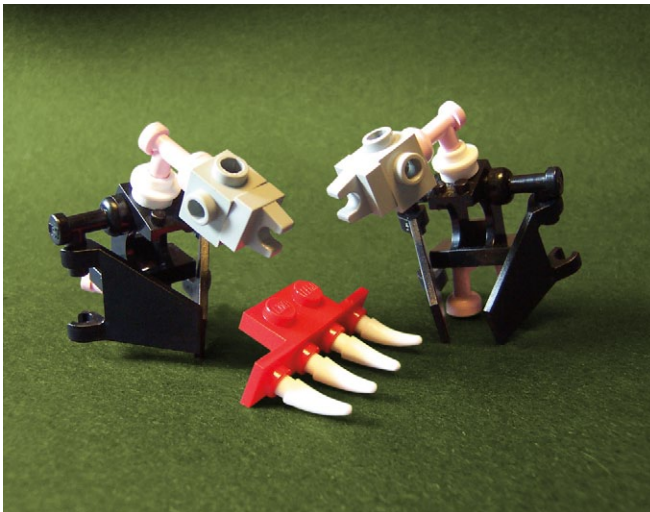
Josh Christenson
(top) Goose 2012 (~800 pieces)
(bottom) Swan 2014 (~1500 pieces)



(top)
Lino Martins
Penguin 2014 (~350 pieces)



(bottom)
Riccardo Zangelmi
White Swan 2014



(top)
Dave Kaleta
Turkey 2013

Matt Armstrong
(bottom left) Birds of Prey 2010 (~25 pieces)
(bottom right) Gobble Gobble 2012 (~25 pieces)



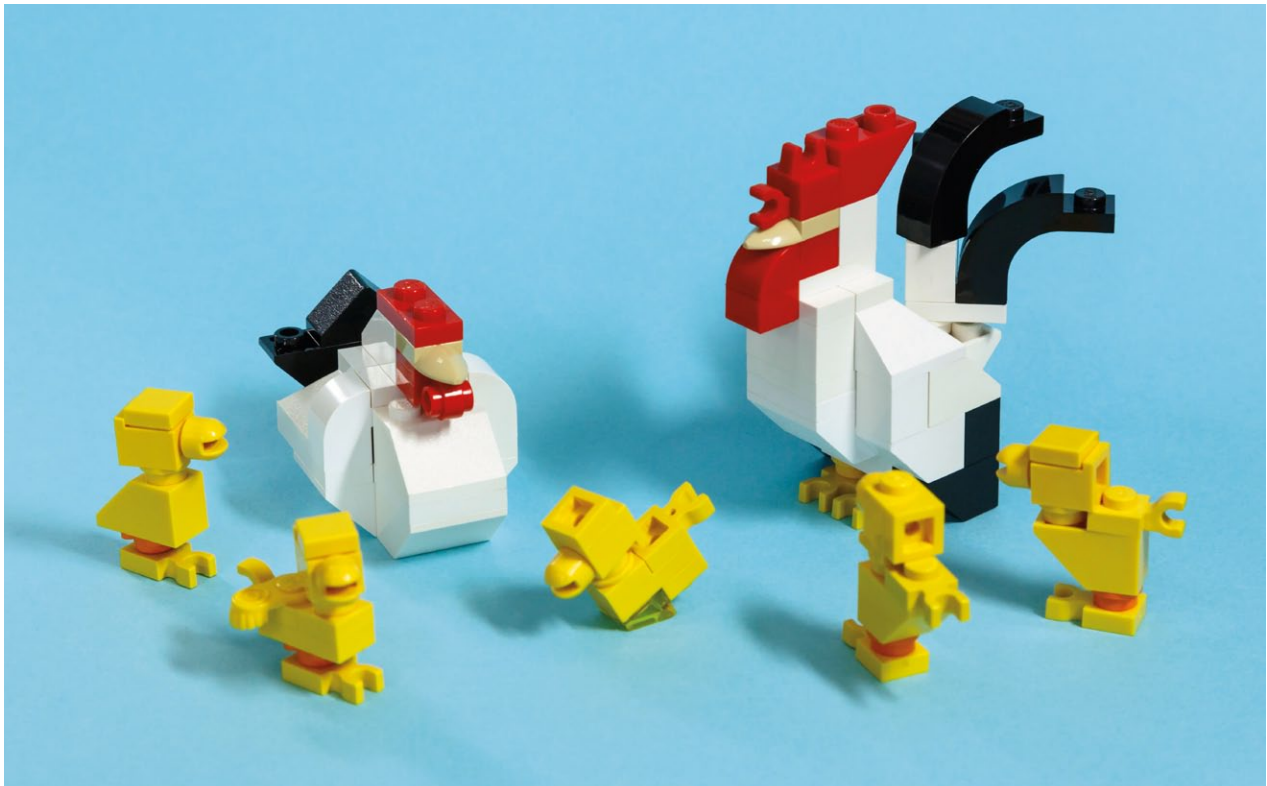
(top)
The Duke of Owl
Jimmy Fortel 2015 (~300 pieces)

(bottom)
Dmitriy Selivanov
Pelican 2015 (~20 pieces)

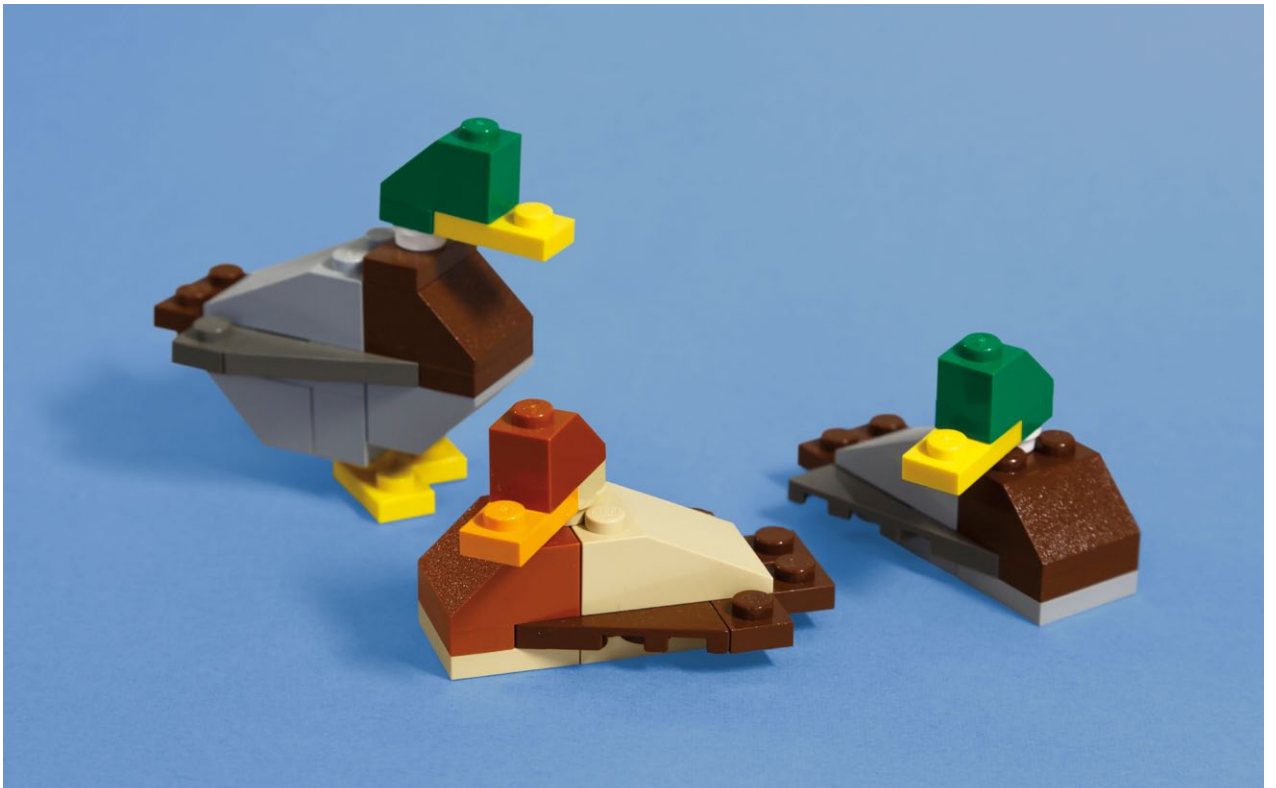




Paul Tracg
At the End of All Things 2013 (~2500 pieces)



MisaQa
 (top) Chicken 2005
 (bottom) Japanese Crane 2006
 (opposite top) Mallard 2005
 (opposite bottom) Peacock 2005







(opposite)
 Michaela Clites
 Lovebirds 2014 (~300 pieces)

(top)
 Carlos Méndez
 Macaw 2012 (~315 pieces)

(bottom)
 Dicky Laban
 Parrot 2015 (102 pieces)





Gabriel Thomson
 (top) Rainbow Lorikeet 2013
 (~750 pieces)
 (bottom) Red-tailed Black Cockatoo 2014
 (~1000 pieces)

(opposite)
 Vlad Lisin
 Ara Ararauna 2014







(opposite)
Moko
Fenix 2015

(above)
Thomas Poulsom
Sophie the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo 2013 (~325 pieces)

Tom Poulsom

LEGO was my favorite toy as a child. I have two older brothers, so I started playing with their collection at a very young age. The first set that I actually owned was LEGO Castle set #6080, and I reenacted many battle scenes with it.

To me, LEGO is the best puzzle in the world. There are infinite combinations, and it's possible to create pretty much anything your mind can imagine. I find building a great way to relax, and it allows my imagination and creativity to run wild.

I love to organize my bricks almost as much as I love to build with them. You might even say I have a touch of OCD, but it makes me happy to see all of my LEGO elements neatly organized. When I need a particular piece, I know exactly where to find it.

I have had many "dark ages" as a LEGO fan, but I decided to rescue my bricks from the loft for good about four years ago. I started by building replicas of some of my favorite cars and trucks and experimenting with bricks to see what I could create with them. I discovered that the possibilities were endless.

One day I was digging over a vegetable patch, and as I took a break to admire what I had done, a Robin Red Breast landed on my gardening fork handle. This was the eureka moment of my LEGO bird project. I built a replica of a robin that very evening, and I enjoyed that so much that for the next few evenings, I built another six of my favorite species of birds.

By the end of the week, I had a series of seven European birds, which I then posted to Flickr, one day at a time. I would never have thought that building these little creatures would draw so much attention. They went viral, and I was contacted left, right, and center by people wanting to feature them in some form of media. It was great, a really enjoyable experience.

Soon after, someone I'd never met suggested I submit them to LEGO Ideas, and what a great suggestion that was! After 18 months of hard work and determination, my LEGO Bird project gathered 10,000 supporters, the threshold for the LEGO Group's official review. Three months later, I was given some great news: the LEGO Group had decided to turn my birds into an official LEGO set, Birds (#21301)! It was incredible to see my work become a reality.

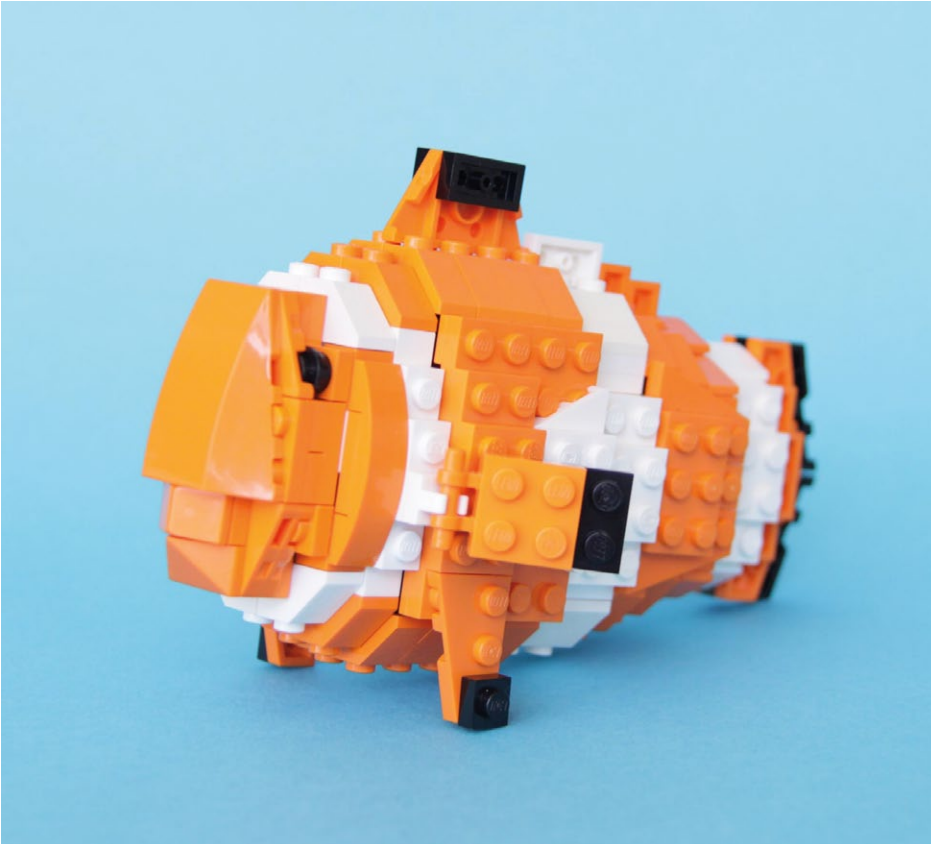
I've been asked by many fans when more birds will be available from LEGO. For this reason, I continue to build new bird models, and I've gone back to LEGO Ideas to present a new series of three more LEGO birds for the public and the LEGO Group's consideration. I hope that you will support this effort! But I plan to continue building birds, regardless of whether LEGO decides to make them official sets.

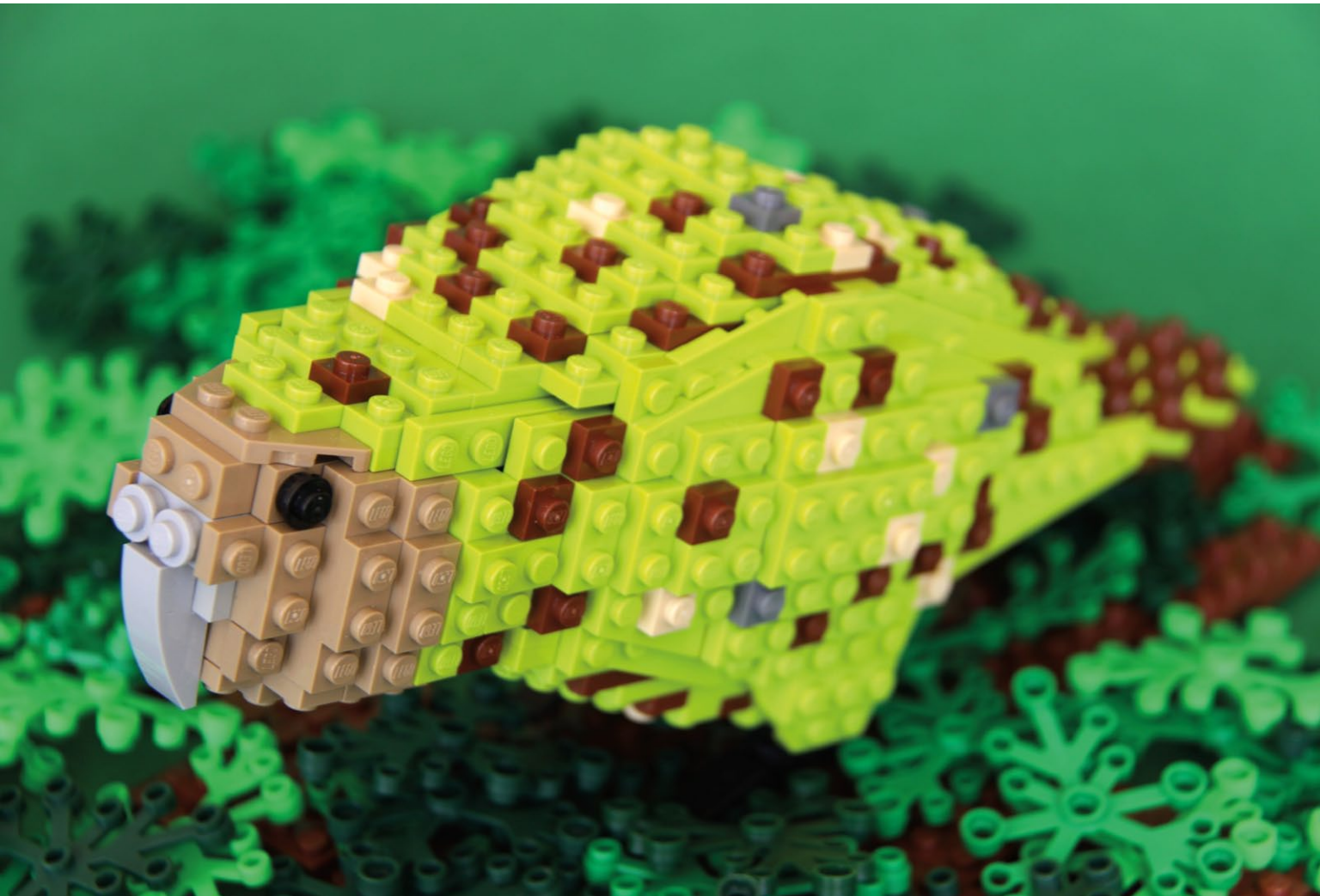




(above) Albert the Royal Albatross 2013 (~350 pieces)
(opposite) Percy the Pink Robin 2013 (~175 pieces)







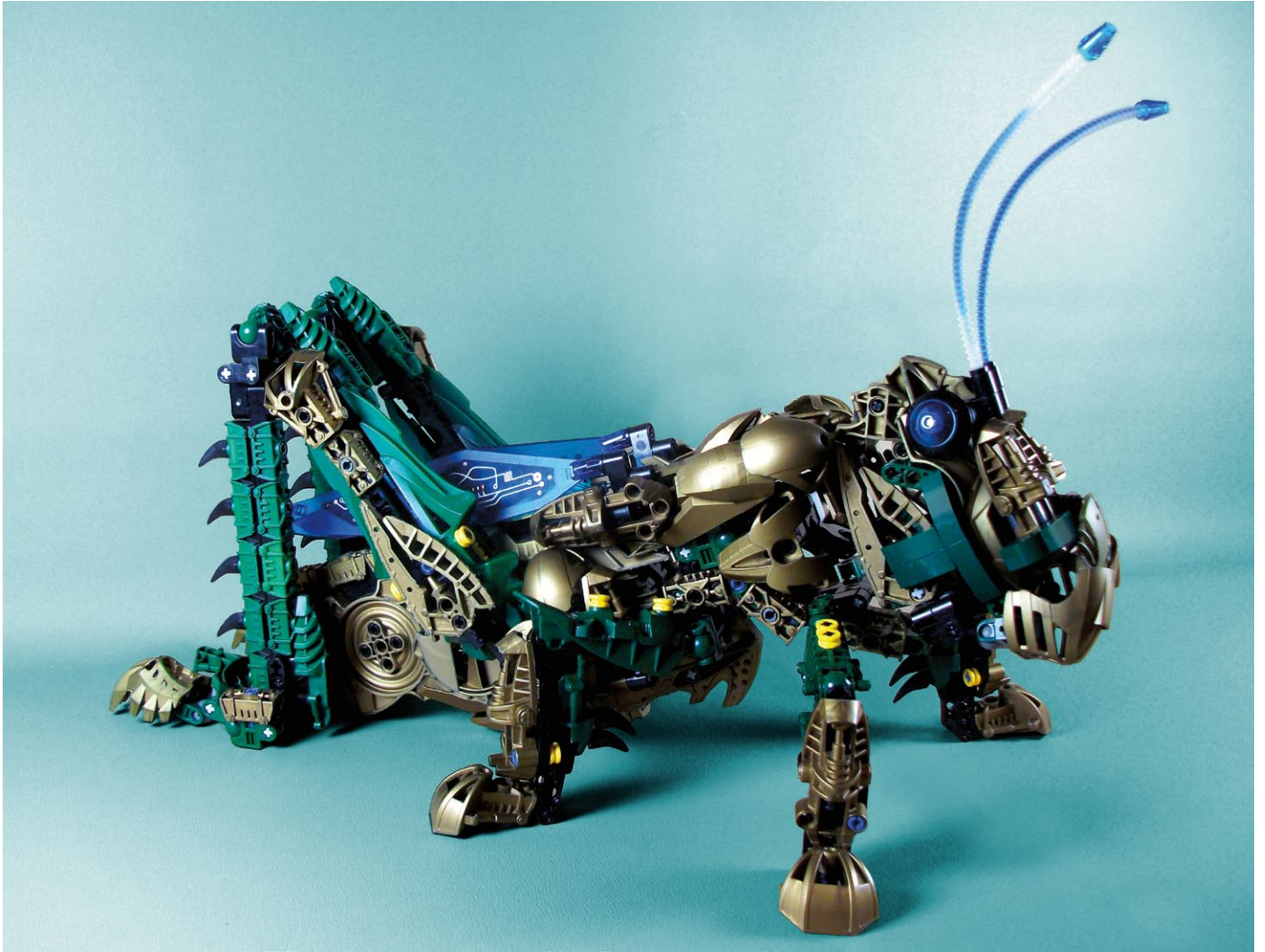




Artificial Life









Matthew and Daniel Goldberg
Hummaera 2013 (~100 pieces)





David Steeves

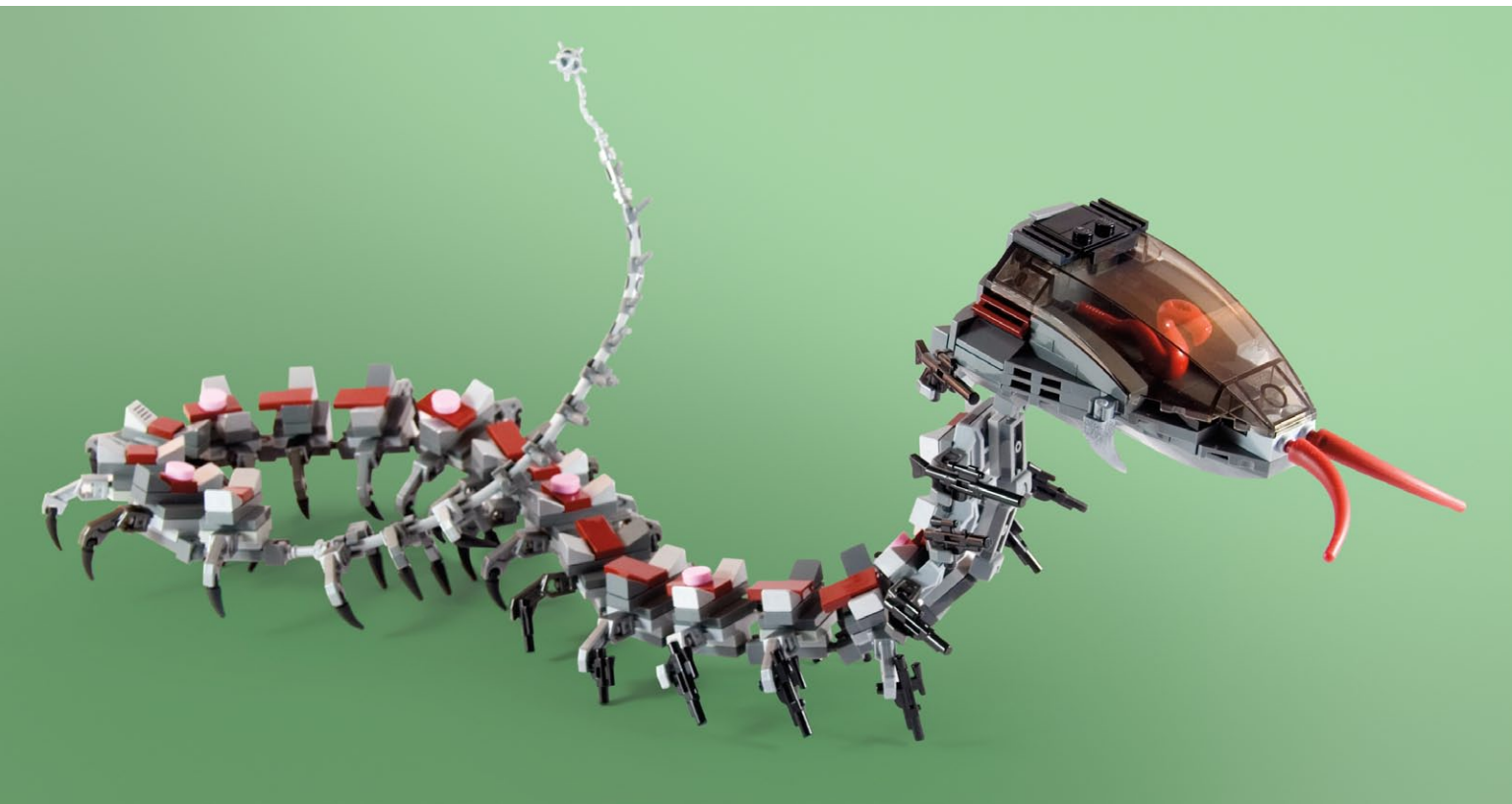
(opposite top) Dwarven Albino Scorpion 2011 (~30 pieces)

(opposite bottom) E-2 Extermination Drone 2012 (~90 pieces)

(above)

Joshua Cirinna

Glass Spider 2014



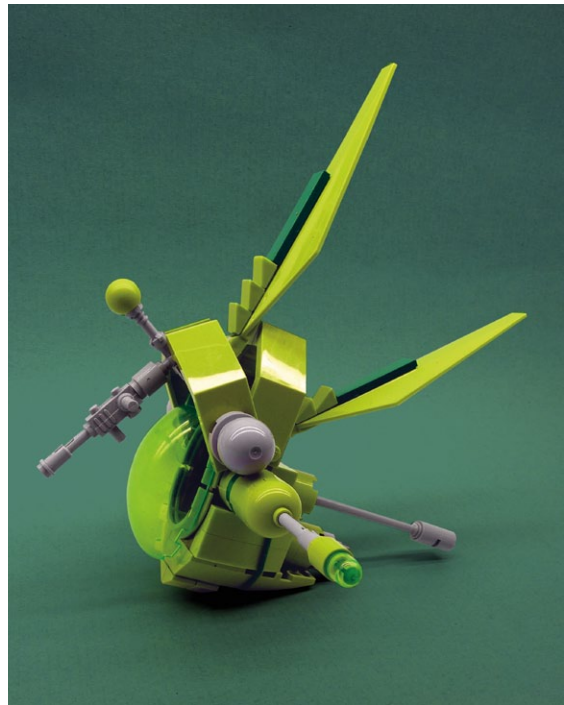
(above)
Laure Lebrave
Ssssnake 2014 (~300 pieces)

(opposite)
Tomoyuki Wakata
Amblynox 2014 (~300 pieces)





David Steeves
(above) Scuttlebug 2013 (~35 pieces)
(opposite right) L.E.A.F. - Light Enabled Assault Fighter 2012 (~75 pieces)



(top left)
Pascal Schmidt
The Thing that Should Not Be 2014 (~250 pieces)

(bottom left)
Lino Martins
Goldfish 2011 (~100 pieces)

Creatures with Character



(above)
Vlad Lisin
Rafiki 2014

(opposite)
Anton Fedin
Master Crane 2014 (~450 pieces)





Jack McKeen

(above) Master Oogway 2012 (~330 pieces)

(opposite top) Master Shifu 2012 (~60 pieces)

(opposite bottom left) Po 2012 (~100 pieces)

(opposite bottom right) Monkey 2012 (~90 pieces)





(above)
Moko
Frog 2013

(opposite)
Vlad Lisin
Master Oogway 2004





Jason Allemann
 (above top) Hockey Playing Beaver 2012 (~65 pieces)
 (above bottom) Polar Bear 2012 (~56 pieces)

(opposite)
 Sachiko Akinaga
 The Animal Musicians 2010 (~800 pieces)







Barney Main
The Three Bears 2013



(bottom)
 Arzlan Li hon man
 Wachifield 2015 (~2000 pieces)



Andy Hung Chi Kin
 (opposite top) LINE Characters: Brown and Cony 2013 (~600 pieces)
 (above) Rilakkuma 2013 (~400 pieces)





(opposite top)
 Peter Dornbach
 Penguins of Madagascar 2015 (~460 pieces)

Iain Heath
 (opposite bottom left) Fluttershy 2014
 (opposite bottom right) Fluttercord 2014

(above)
 Dmitriy Selivanov
 Mice 2014 (~300 pieces)









(top)
Tyler Clites
Who Are You Calling Chicken? 2011



(bottom)
Moko
Pig 2014



(top)
 Carson Hart
 Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
 2011 (~225 pieces)

(bottom)
 Adam Dodge
 Far Side Bears
 2015 (~180 pieces)

(opposite)
 Centuri Chan
 Ludo from Labyrinth
 2014 (~600 pieces)







Djordje Dobrosavljević
Jhee Marsun, The Lizard King 2014 (~50 pieces)





Tyler Clites
 (opposite) Grumpy Monkey 2011
 (top) Boxing Panda 2012

(bottom)
 Brittney Jernstrom
 White Rabbit 2010 (~140 pieces)





Martin the Warrior
Taylor Baggs 2014 (217 pieces)



(above)
Tyler Halliwell
The Monkey King 2014 (4000-5000 pieces)

(opposite)
Mike Nieves
Mushu 2014 (~120 pieces)





Mike Nieves
(above) Rapidash 2013 (~600 pieces)
(opposite top) Leafeon 2014 (~1000 pieces)



(middle)
 Carl Merriam
 LEGO Chocobo 2010 (~120 pieces)



(bottom)
 Taylor Baggs
 Gronckle 2014 (327 pieces)

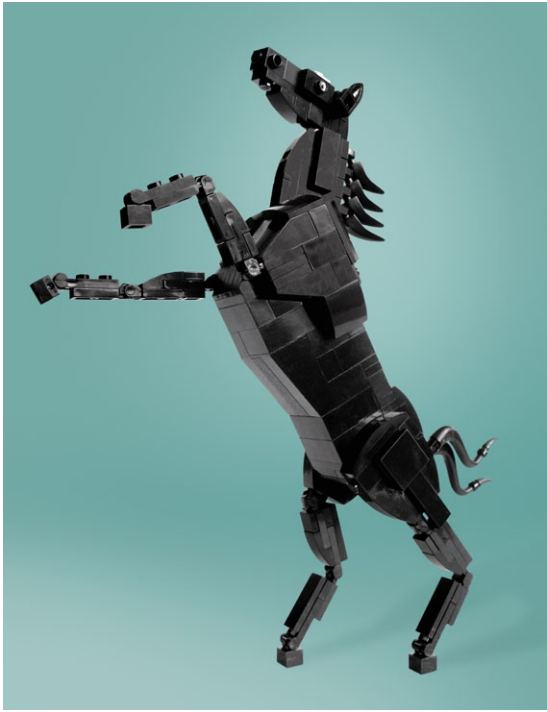
Horsing Around



(above)
Omar Ovalle
2014: Year of the Horse 2014 (~250 pieces)

(opposite)
Paul Vermeesch
Stallion 2013 (108 pieces)







(opposite)
Joe Perez
Black Stallion 2015 (~120 pieces)

(top)
Jason Allemann
Gallop in the Sky 2014 (~300 pieces)

(bottom)
MisaQa
Gallop in the Sky 2013

Wildlife



(left)
Dave Kaleta and Devon Wilkop
Woods 2014

(right)
Geneva Durand
Water of Life 2015 (~250 pieces)

(opposite)
Albert Kristóf
Heritage 2014

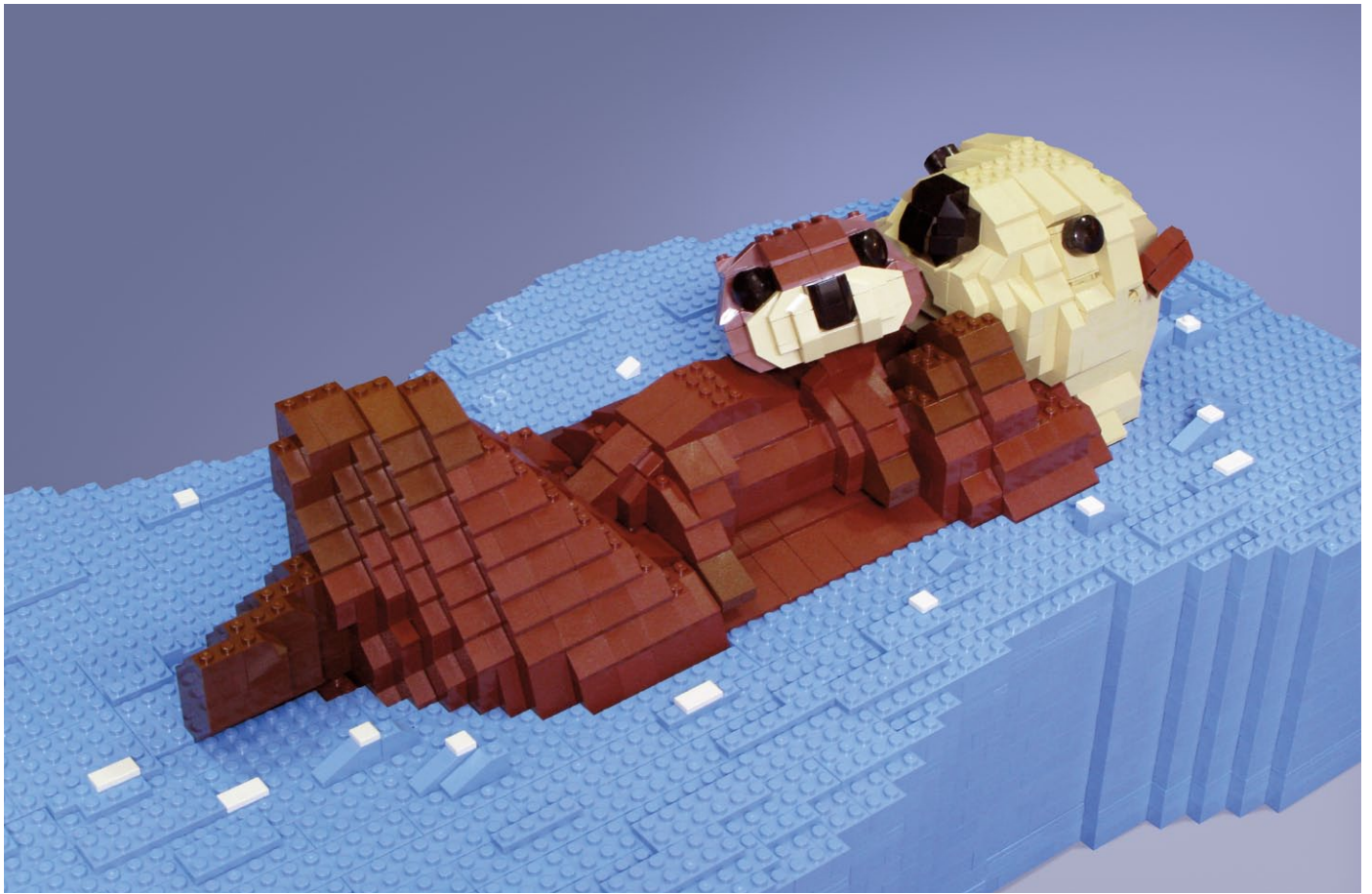




(above)
Dave Kaleta
Bat-Cow 2013

(opposite top)
Sachiko Akinaga
Sea Otter Mum & Pup 2011 (~3500 pieces)

Matt Armstrong
(opposite bottom left) 14kt Croc 2012 (7 pieces)
(opposite bottom right) Lucky Golden Elephant 2012 (10 pieces)





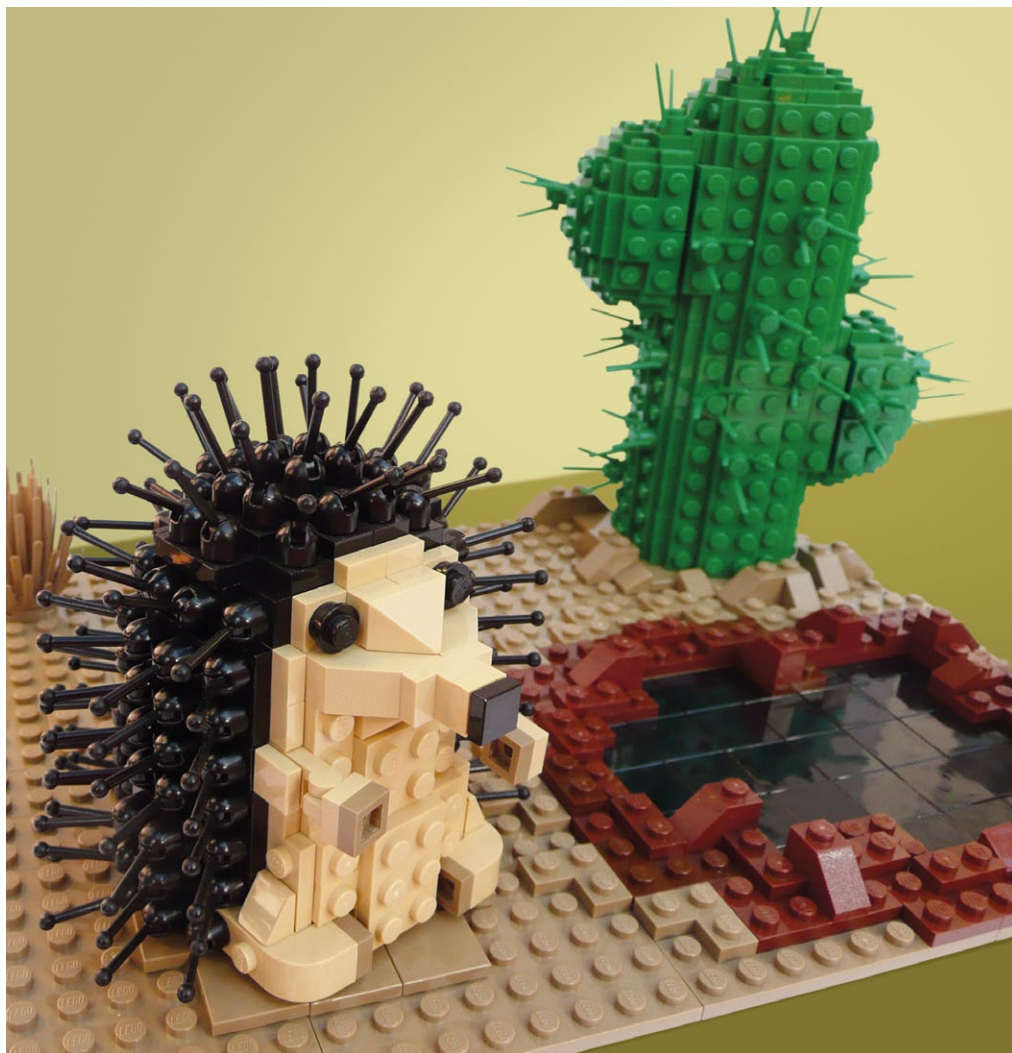


Tyler Clites
 (top) Iorek Byrnison 2012
 (bottom) Naga the Polar Bear Dog 2012





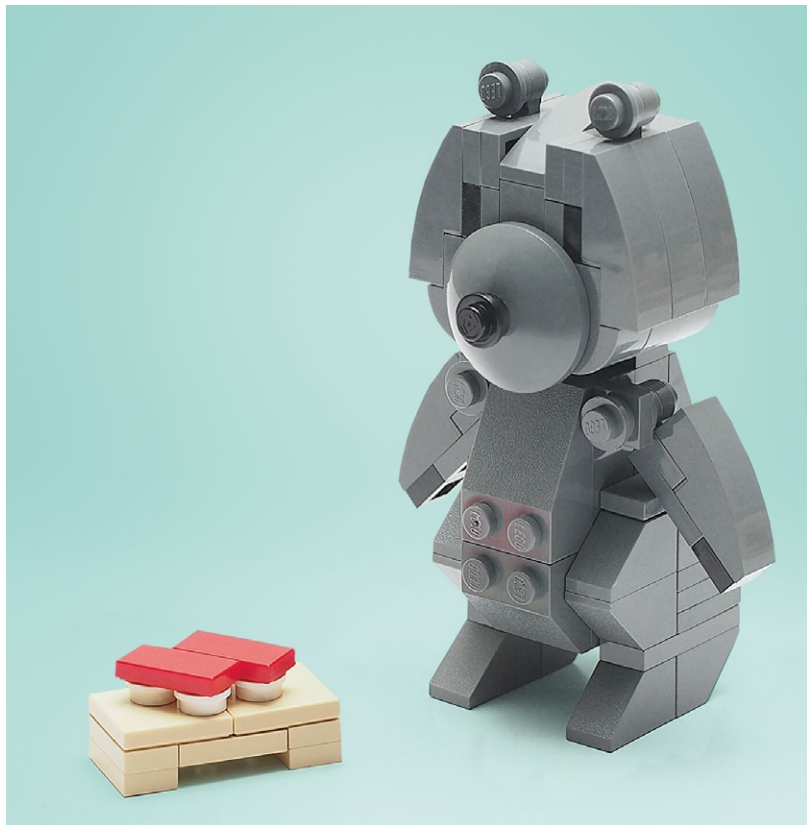
Brittney Jernstrom
Rocco Raccoon 2012 (~110 pieces)





Bright Bricks, artist Joe Perez
Pangolin 2013 (~150 pieces)





Nightsnake
 (top) Bunny 2014 (~90 pieces)
 (bottom) Gray Bear 2014 (~100 pieces)

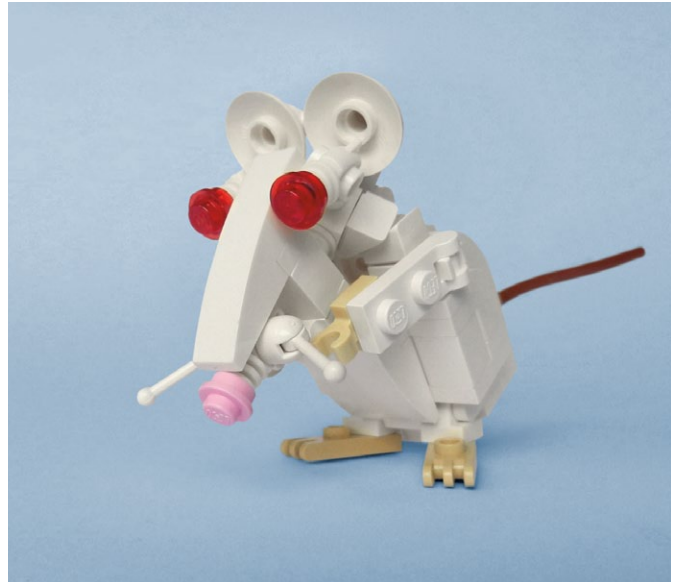
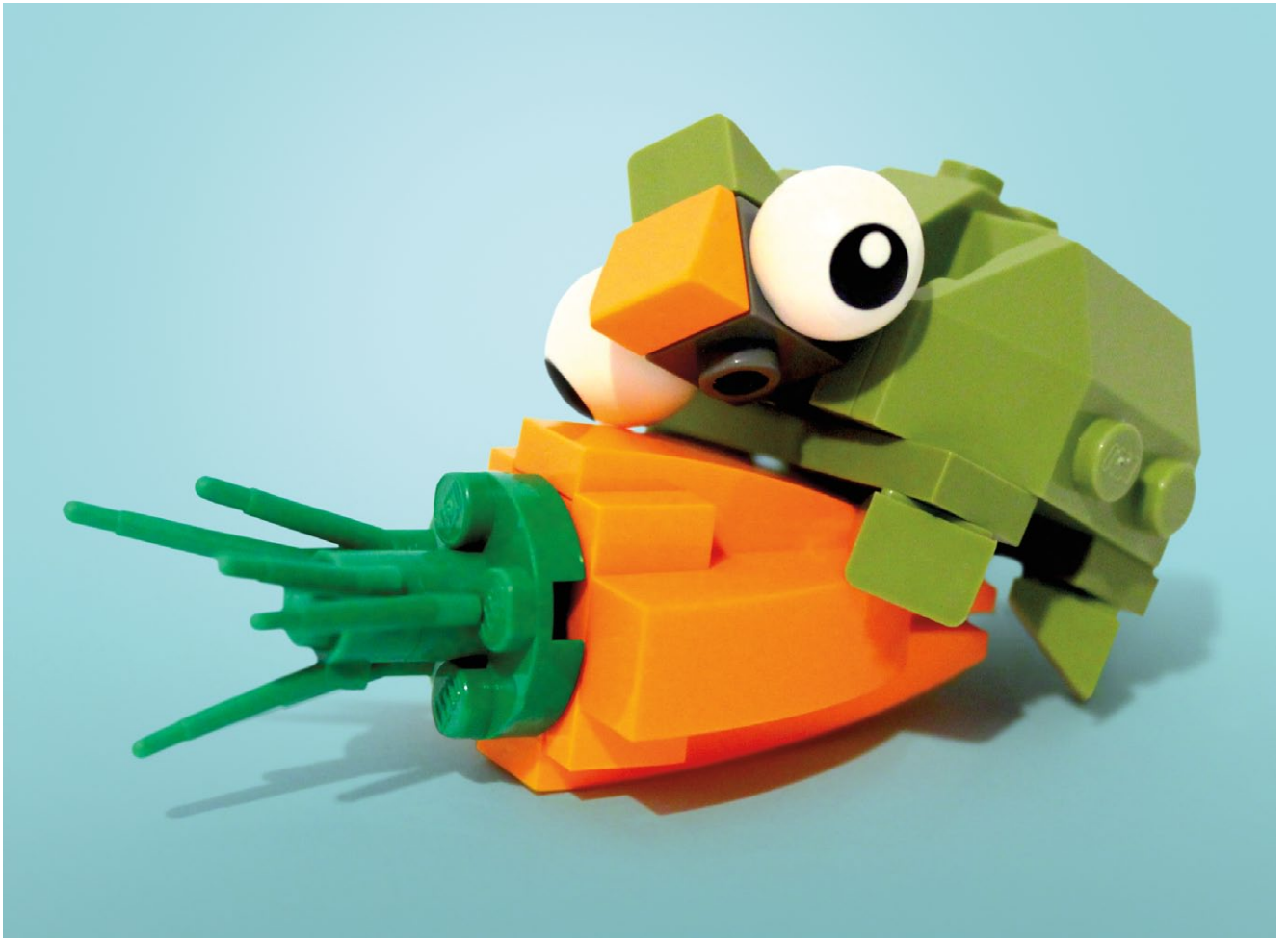


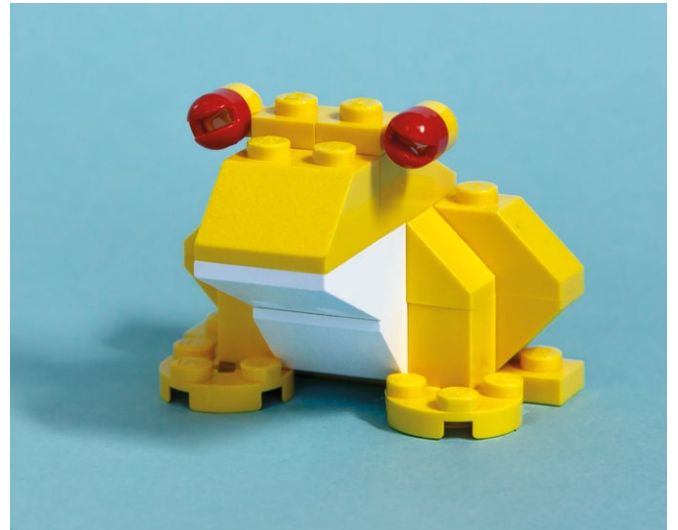
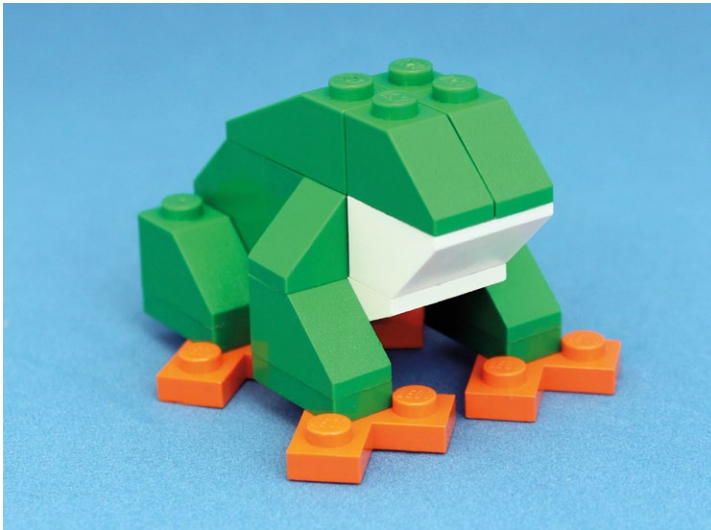
(above)
 Brittney Jernstrom
 Cheesers the Mouse 2009 (53 pieces)

(opposite top)
 Devid Leone
 Ooooh Pap!!! 2014 (~30 pieces)

(opposite bottom left)
 MisaQa
 Happiness White Mouse 2008

(opposite bottom right)
 Tim Goddard
 Mouse 2012 (~100 pieces)





Bruce Lowell
 (top) MMM, Dinner! 2012 (~120 pieces)
 (bottom left) Tree Frog 2013 (29 pieces)

(bottom right)
 MisaQa
 Frog 2003



(top)
Matthew De Lanoy
Red-eyed Tree Frog 2014 (~250 pieces)

(bottom)
Jimmy Fortel
Poisonous Froggy 2014 (~500 pieces)





Sylvain Amacher
Mini Chameleon 2014 (16 pieces)

Raining Cats and Dogs





(opposite top)
 Bill Dennis Heriawan
 Dewi Hutan 2014 (517 pieces)

(opposite bottom left)
 Jonas Kramm
 The Leo 2013

(opposite bottom right)
 Bojan xrtovix
 Miša the Cat 2014 (~2000 pieces)

(left)
 Cole Edmonson
 My Cat Cooper 2013

(top right)
 Tyler Clites
 LEGO Cat 2011

(bottom right)
 Iain Heath
 Grumpy Cat 2013

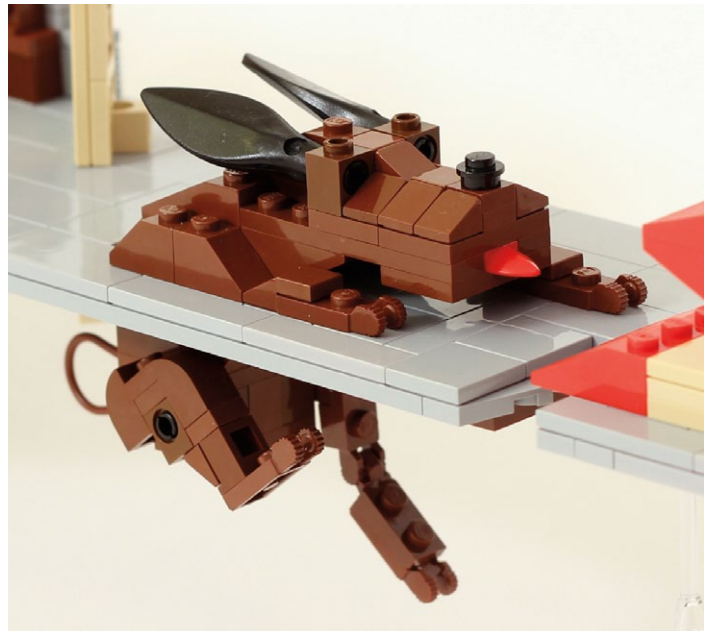






(top)
Mitch Phillips
Fazelynx 2012 (~400 pieces)

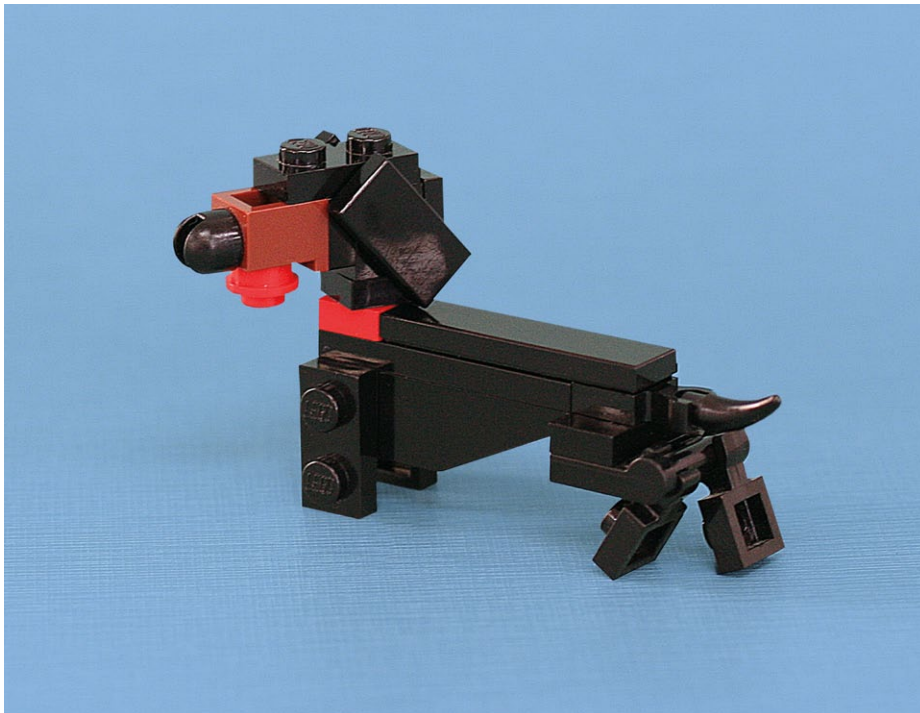
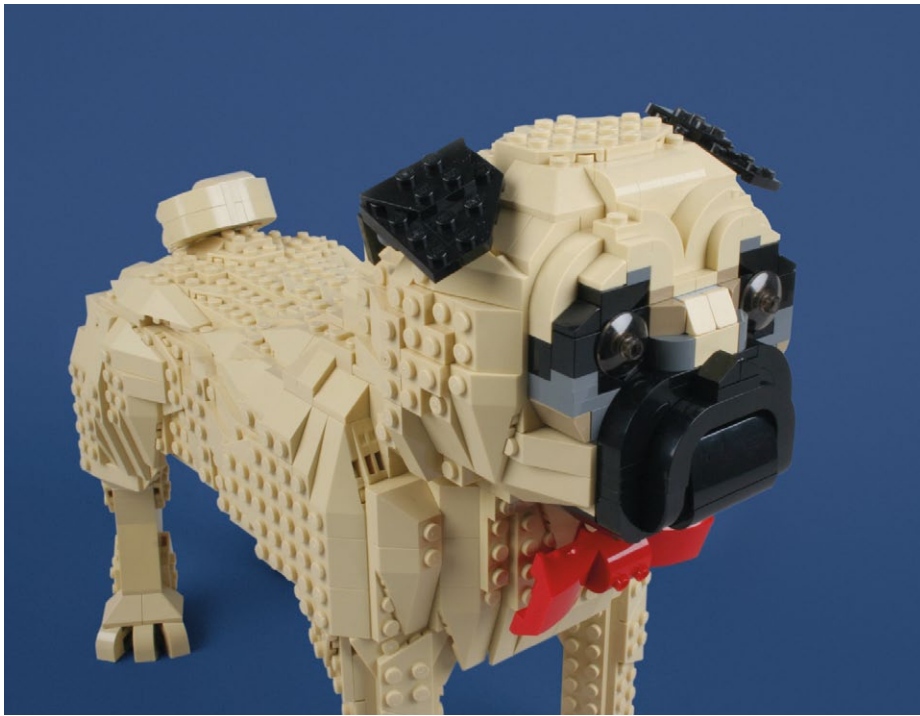




(top left)
Tyler Clites
Man's Best Friend 2013

(top right)
Jason Allemann
detail from Where the Sidewalk Ends 2013 (~500 pieces)

(bottom)
Joel Baker
Dachshund Sculpture 2009 (~875 pieces)



(top)
 Marcos Bessa
 Cool Puggie 2013 (~1150 pieces)

(bottom)
 Ken Ito
 Michael 2009 (23 pieces)



(top)
 Quy Chau
 Miniature Husky 2014 (~360 pieces)



(bottom)
 Dave Kaleta
 Balthazar 2014





MisaQa

(opposite top) Shih Tzu 2003

(opposite middle) Bulldog 2009

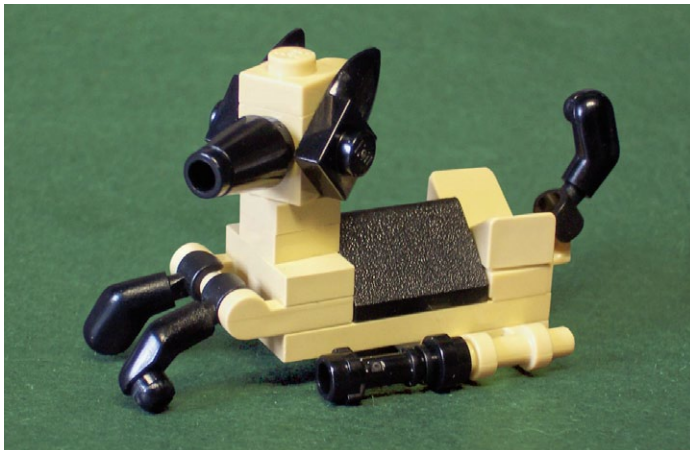
(opposite bottom) Welsh Corgi 2005

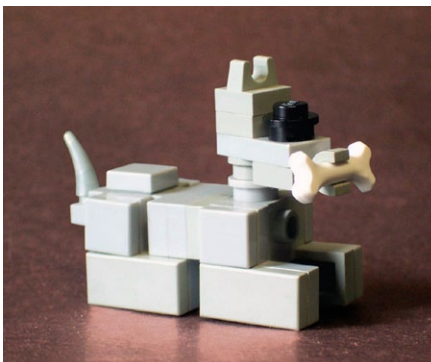
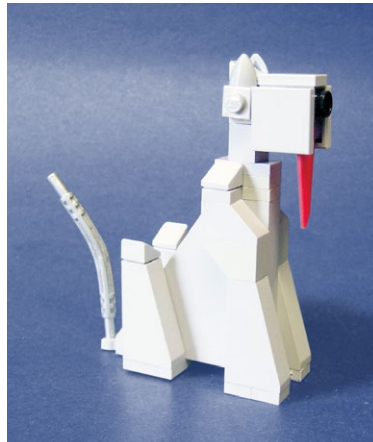
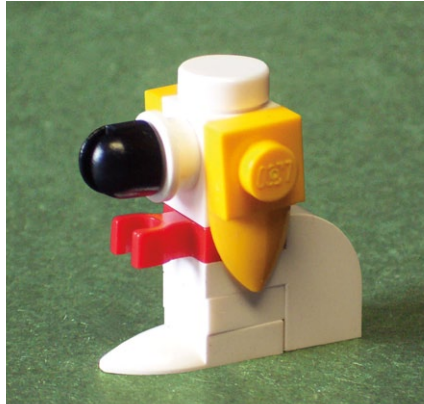
(top) A Good Day to Promenade 2009

(bottom) Miniature Schnauzer 2004

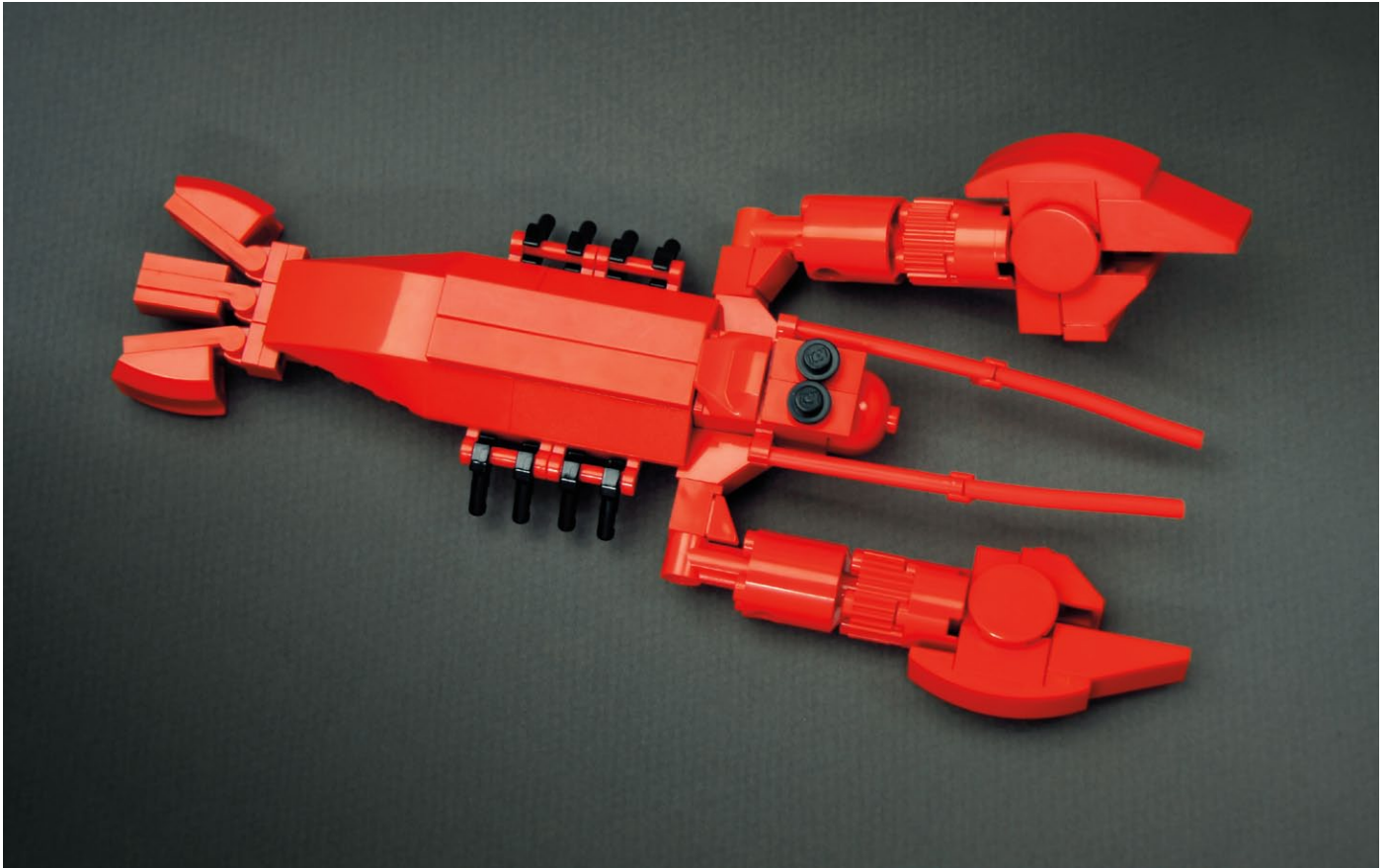
Best in Show

by Matt Armstrong





Ocean Motion





(top)
Bidea
Blue Ribbon Eel 2012 (~600 pieces)

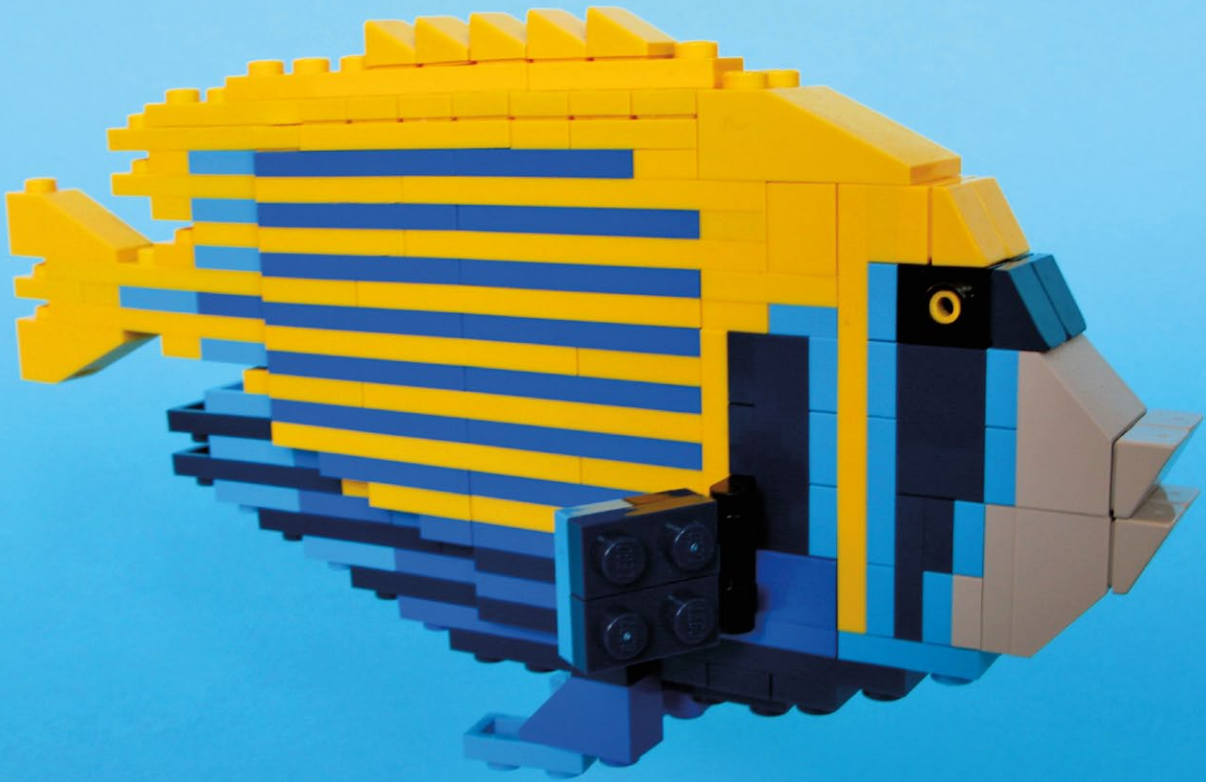


(bottom)
Mike Nieves
Seahorse 2010 (~100 pieces)



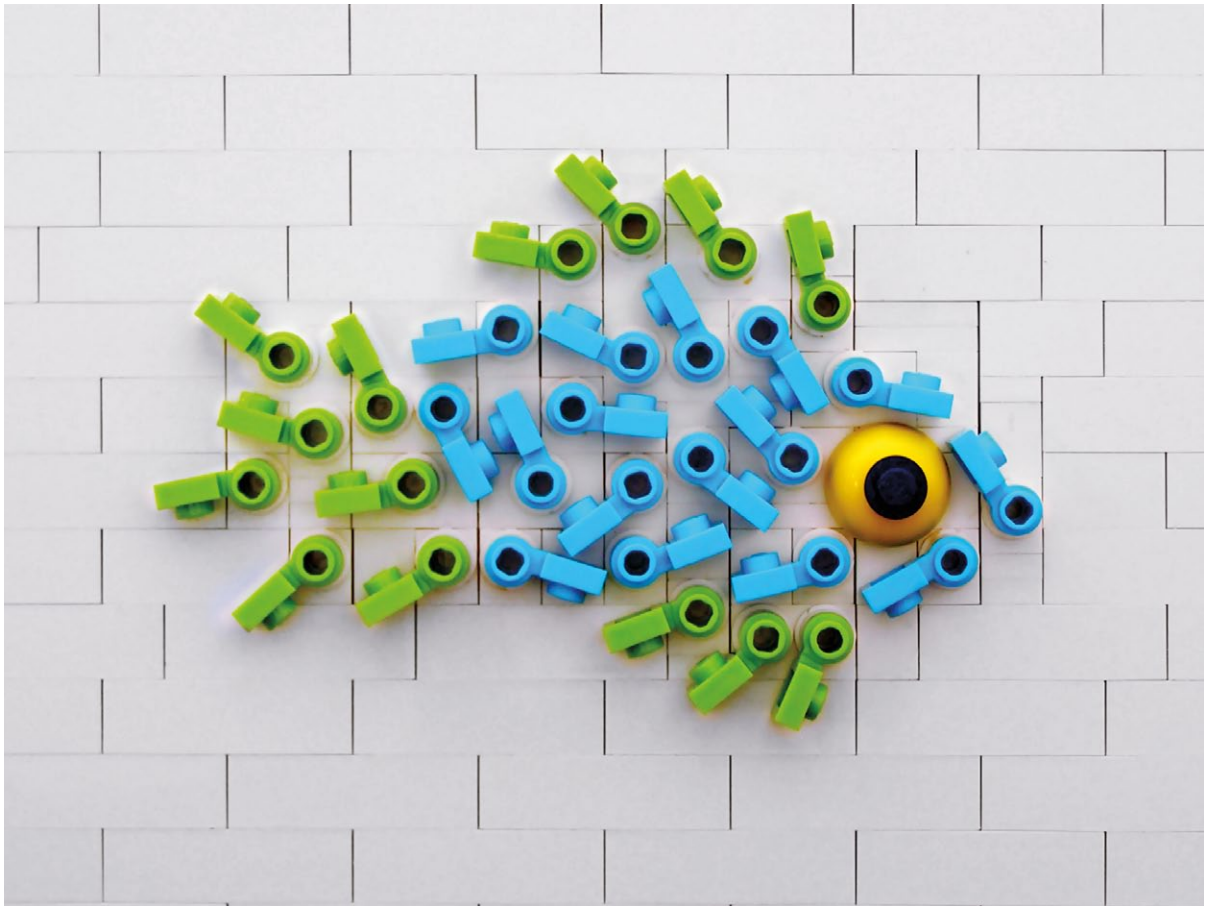


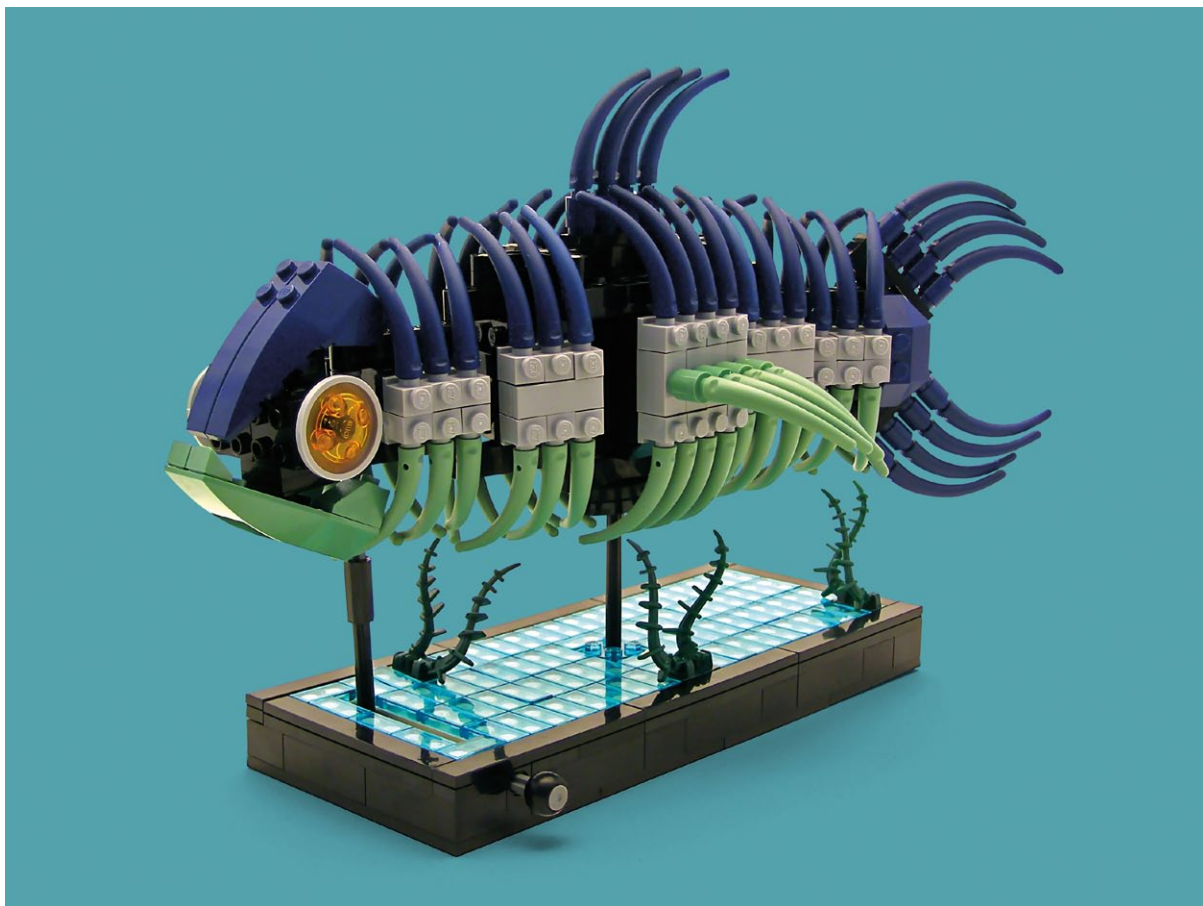
Andy Hung Chi Kin
Aquarium Tank 2014 (~8000 pieces)





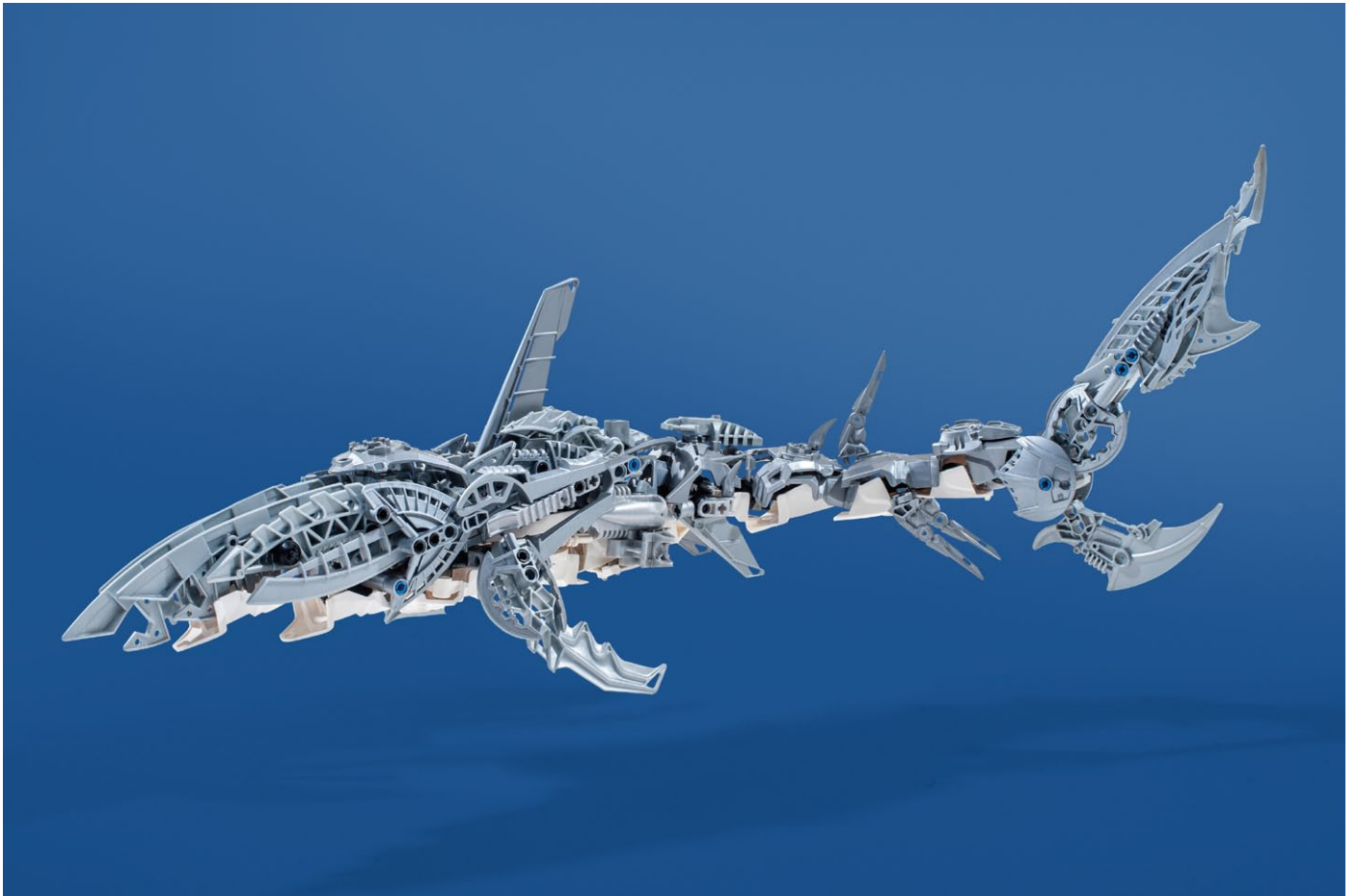
Bright Bricks, artist Joe Perez
 (opposite top) Emperor Angelfish 2014 (~100 pieces)
 (opposite bottom) Blue Tang 2014 (~85 pieces)
 (top) Regal Angelfish 2014 (~75 pieces)
 (bottom) Lionfish 2014 (~200 pieces)



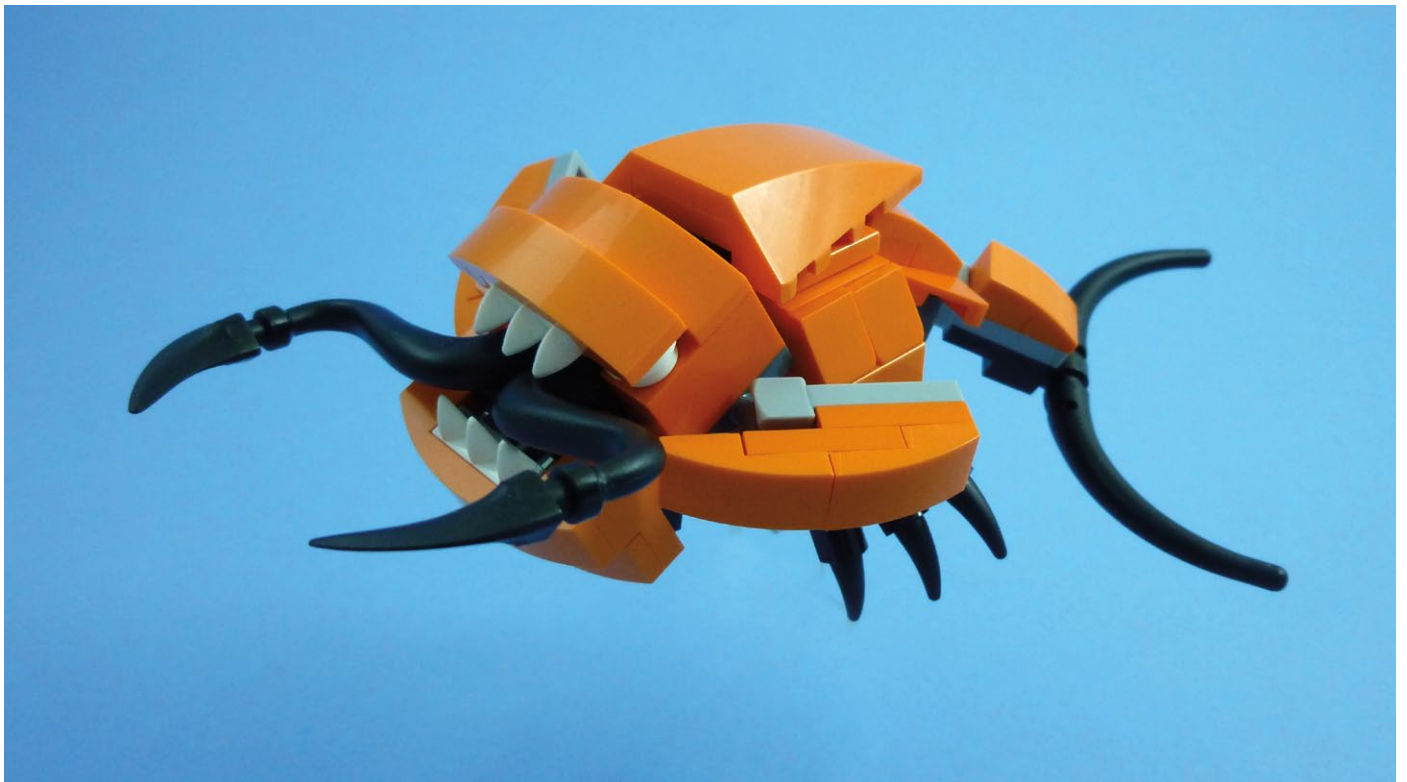
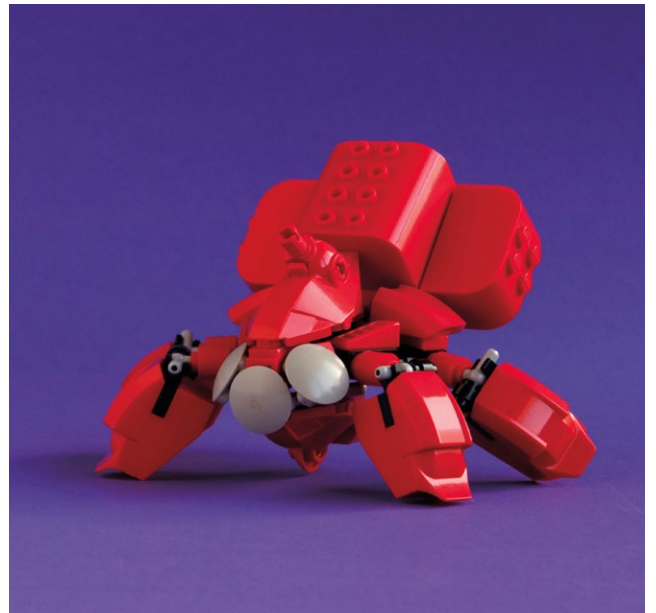
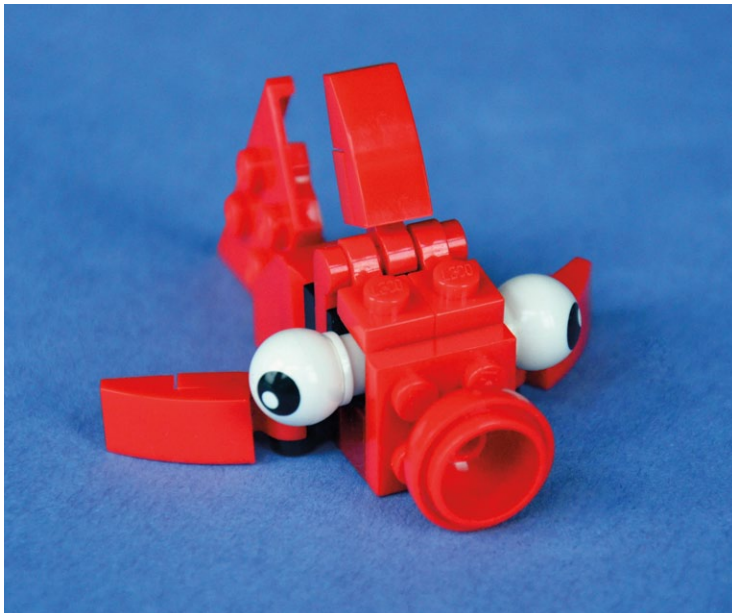


Tyler Clites
(opposite) Fish Mosaic 2012
(above) Fish 2012





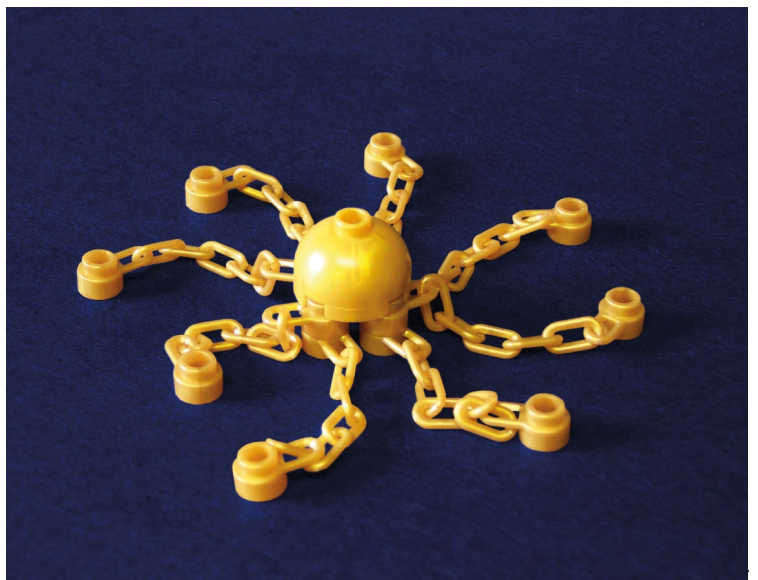
Pietro Lamonaca
Blue Shark 2015 (~250 pieces)



(top left)
Richard Young
Splashy 2015 (26 pieces)

(top right)
Vlad Lisin
Cuteicoma 2013

(bottom)
Curtis D. Collins
Prawn 2014 (~80 pieces)



Matt Armstrong
 (top) Gold Fish 2012 (9 pieces)
 (middle) Koi Are Very Expensive 2012 (4 pieces)
 (bottom) Or Octopus 2012 (9 pieces)





(top left)
Devid Leone
Run Crab, Run! 2015

(bottom left)
Bojan xrtovix
Coral Reef Seahorse 2013 (~750 pieces)

(right)
Bright Bricks, artist Joe Perez
Seahorse 2014 (~50 pieces)

Nature Lovers

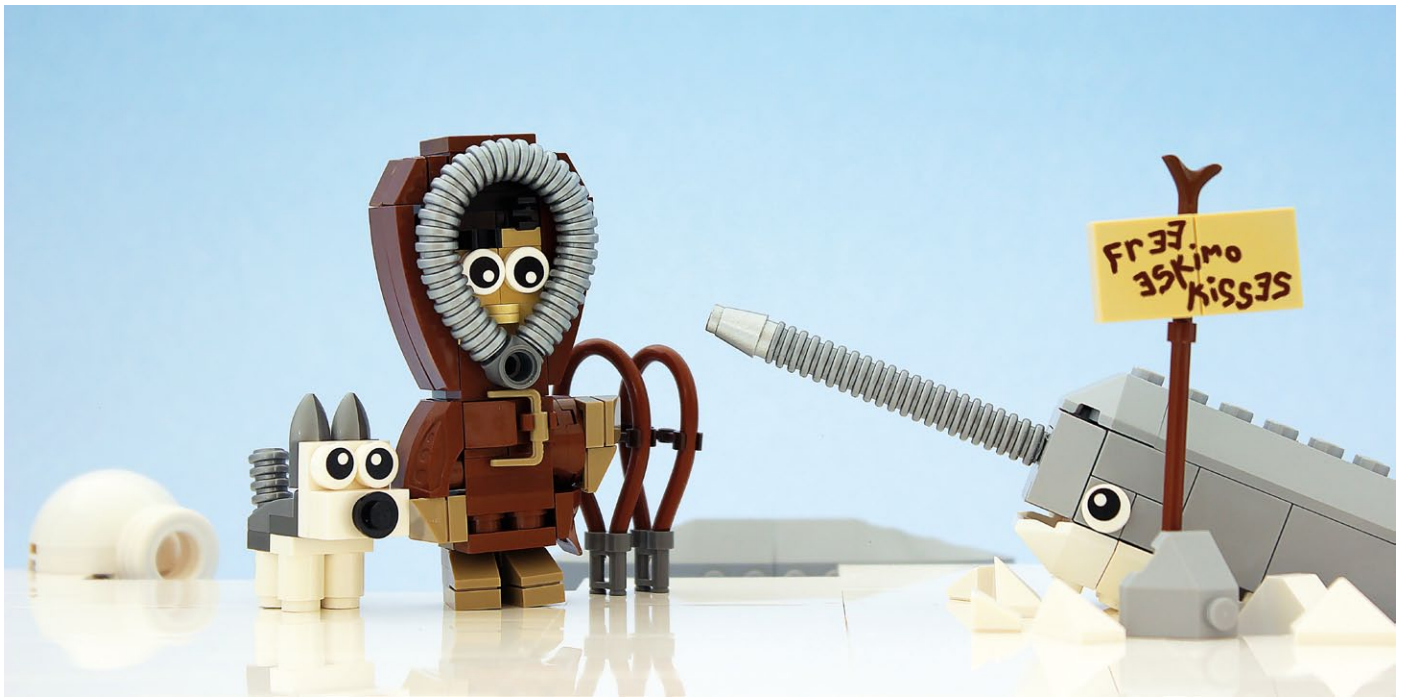


(above)
Benjamin Costantin
Sleepless 2014 (~850 pieces)

(opposite)
Evan Bordessa
Water Elf 2014 (~2500 pieces)







(opposite)
 Jimmy Fortel
 Gone Fishin' 2014 (~500 pieces)



(top)
 Tyler Clites
 Free Eskimo Kisses! 2015

(bottom)
 Andrei Pacurar
 When Animal Mimicry Breaks Down (The Far Side) 2015

Pascal Schmidt

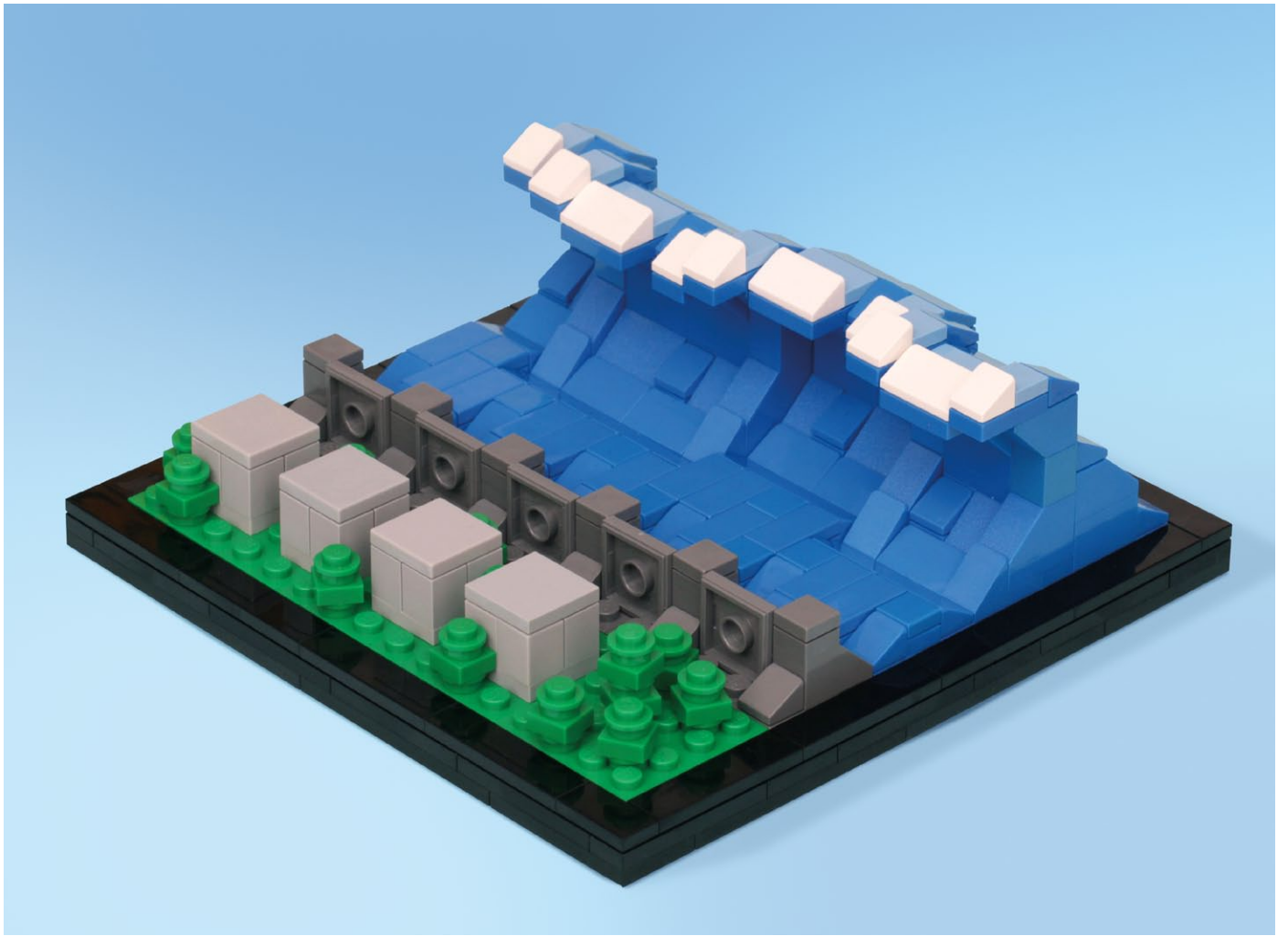
The aspect that drew me to LEGO as a medium is its accessibility. It's easy to get your hands on some bricks, and you need only basic motor skills to work with them. While there are techniques and even tricks to learn, of course, you don't need to know them to get started.

LEGO allows you to build anything you want, at any scale you like. I think it's this capability that makes LEGO as expressive as any other medium, at least from a technical standpoint. But LEGO bricks also have a property that is unusual outside of purely digital art: the ability to undo and redo changes at will. It's a tangible medium where no mistake is fatal. I also enjoy the engineering and puzzle aspects of LEGO, figuring out how to use available pieces and colors to achieve the look I want.

LEGO is a serious art form these days. Nudity, natural disasters, death camps—it's all been done in LEGO, and these works tend to stir up more discussion than controversial subjects created in more conventional media. The juxtaposition of a kid's toy with a very adult message can be a great way to grab people's attention and make them think about a subject deeply, with fresh insight.

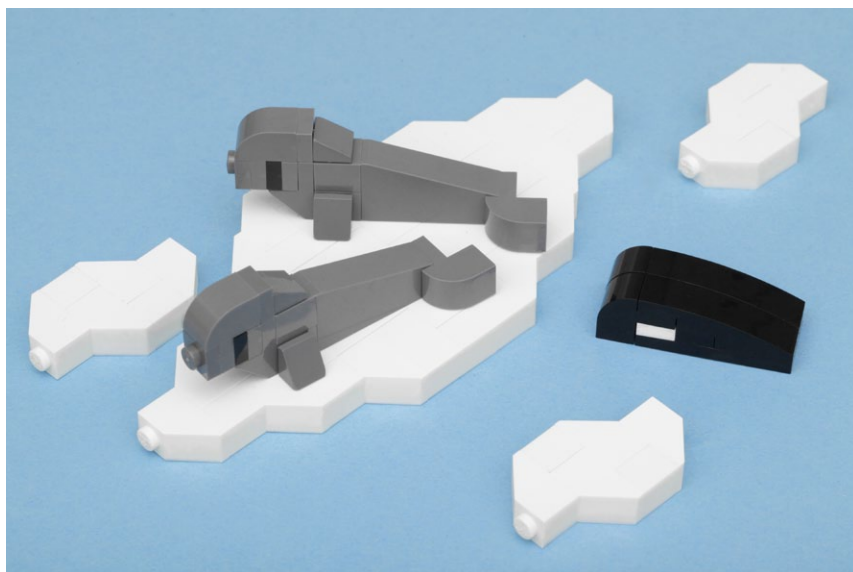
Last but not least, LEGO as a medium changes constantly. New pieces come out all the time, providing builders with new ways to combine pieces. This keeps things interesting, and it also helps to keep a level playing field between experienced builders and newcomers.





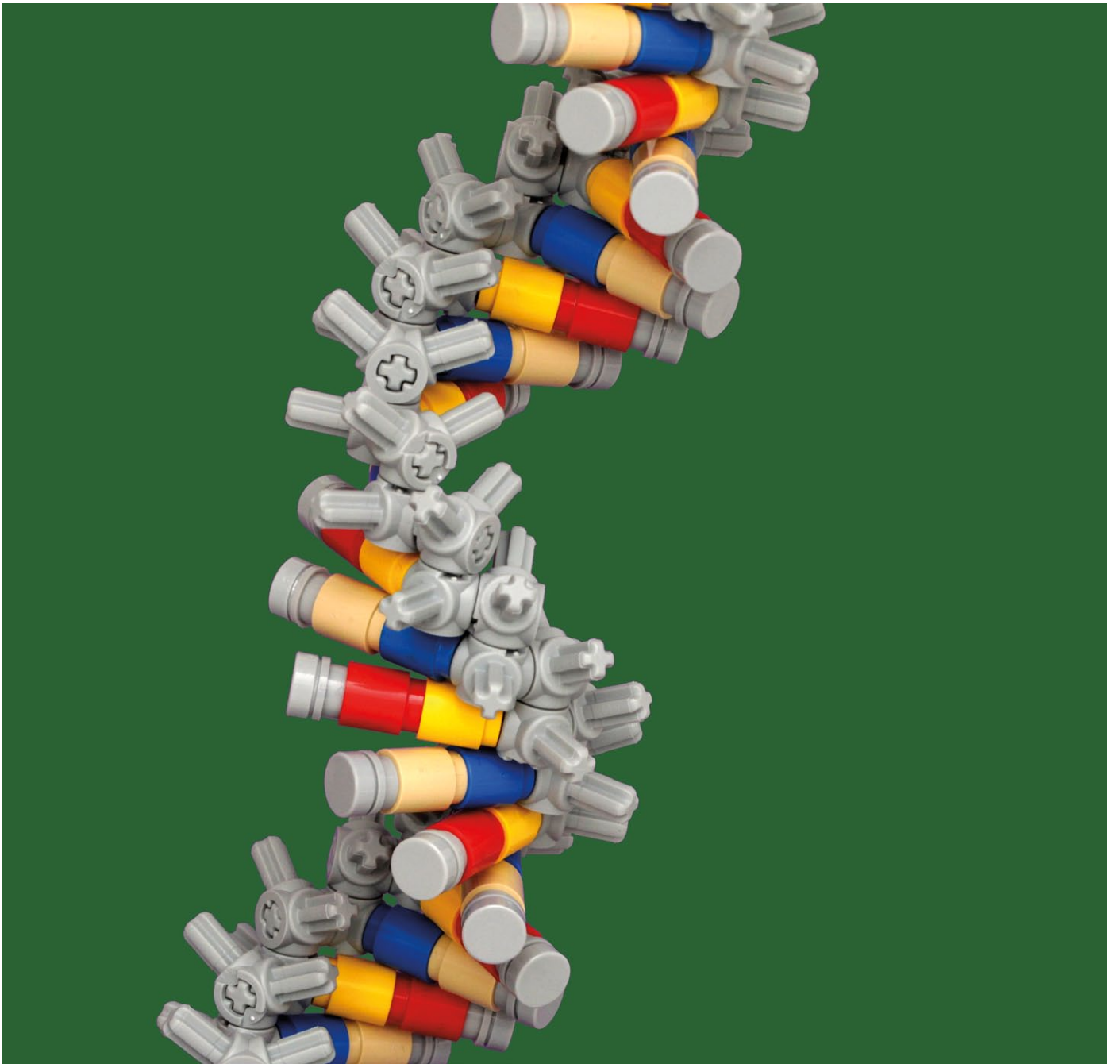


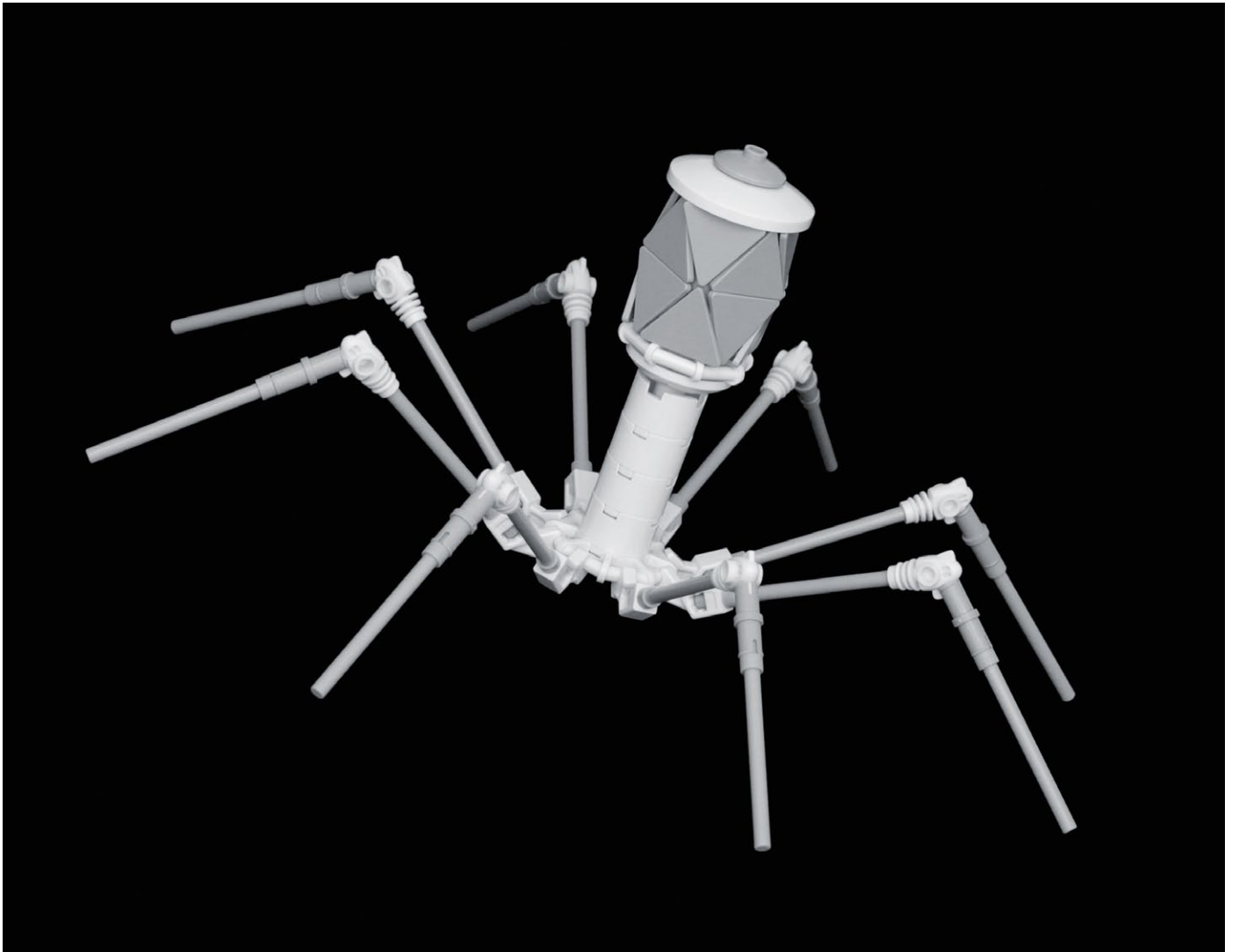
(opposite top) Fukushima 2015 (~300 pieces)
(opposite bottom) Fiddler Crab 2012 (~50 pieces)
(above) Autumn Tree 2012 (~100 pieces)





(opposite top) Penguins 2015 (~50 pieces)
 (opposite bottom) Impending Orca 2015 (~50 pieces)
 (top) Arachnid 2015 (~80 pieces)
 (bottom) Baby Panda 2015 (~80 pieces)





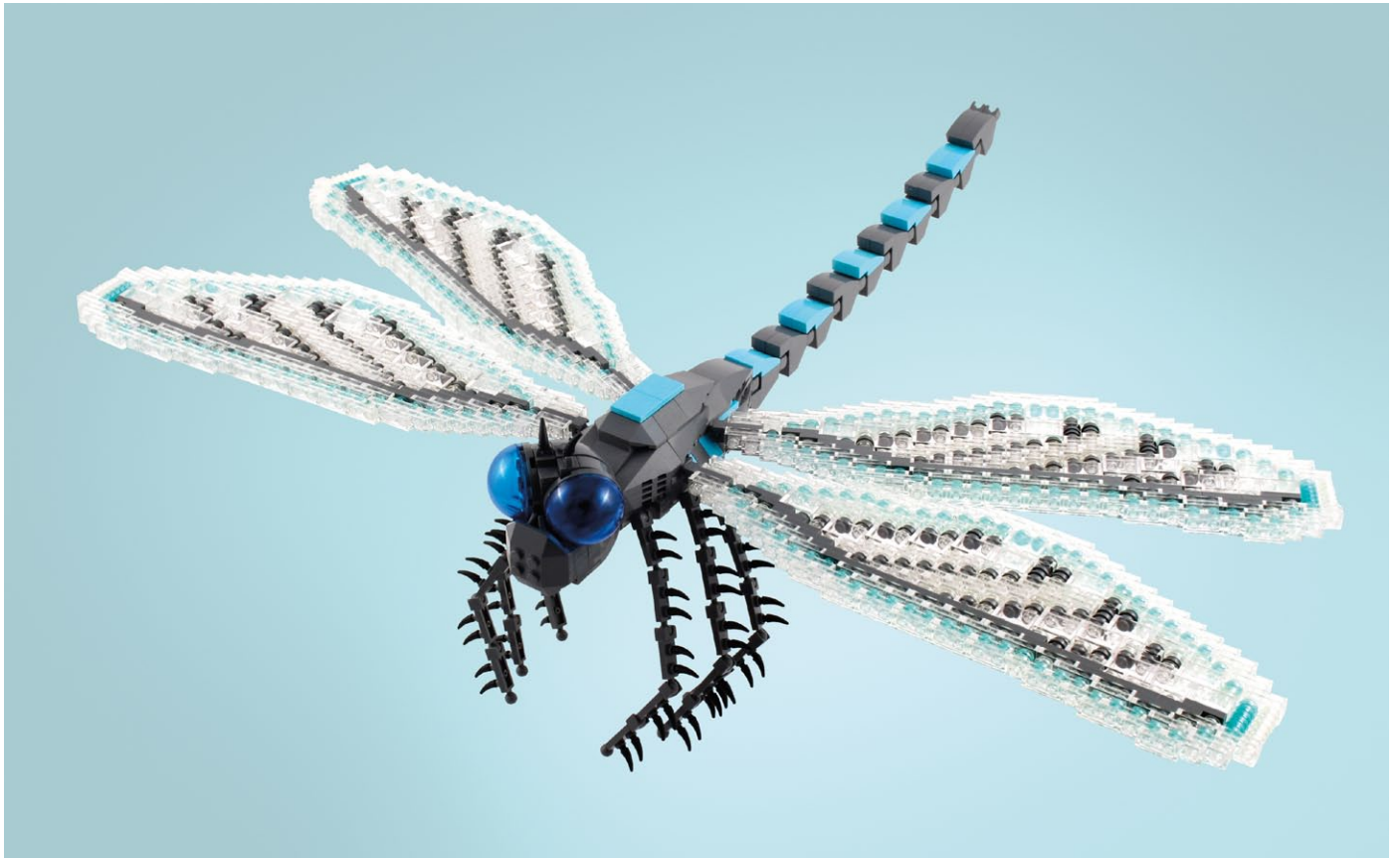
Bug Out



(above)
Tyler Clites
Dragonfly 2012

(opposite top)
Jimmy Fortel
Dragonfly 2014 (~400 pieces)

(opposite bottom)
Nicolaas Vás
Dragon Spy 2014



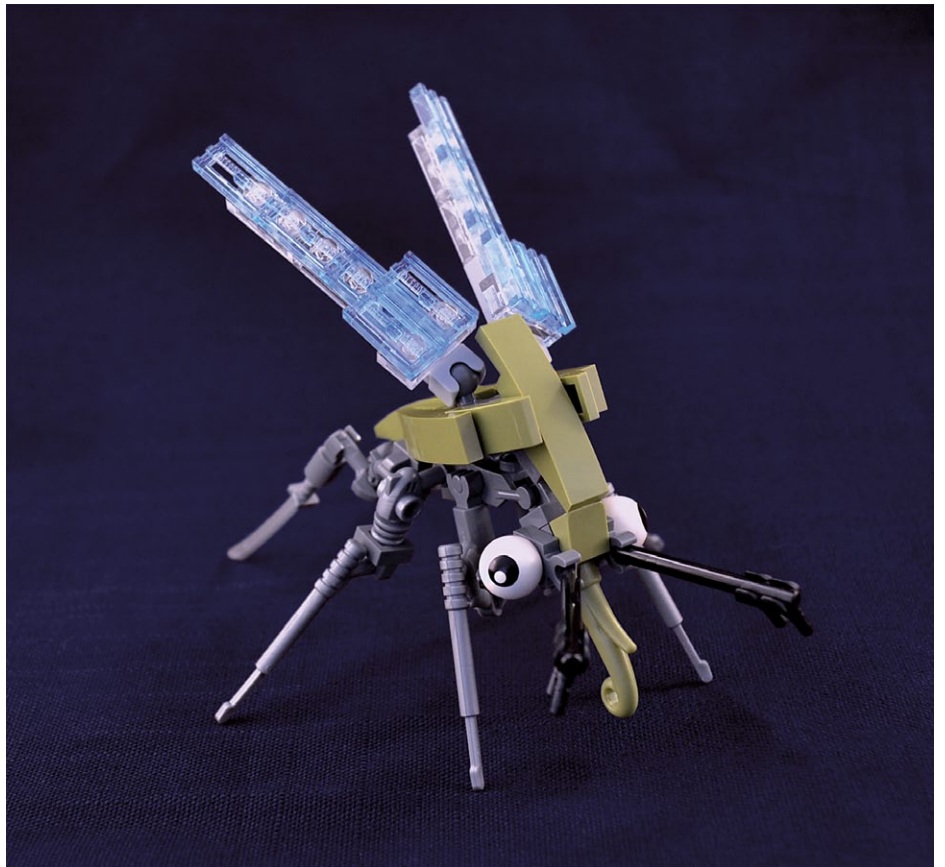




(top)
Michaela Clites
Chub-bee! 2014 (~50 pieces)

(bottom)
Thomas Poulsom
Bumblebee 2013 (~325 pieces)





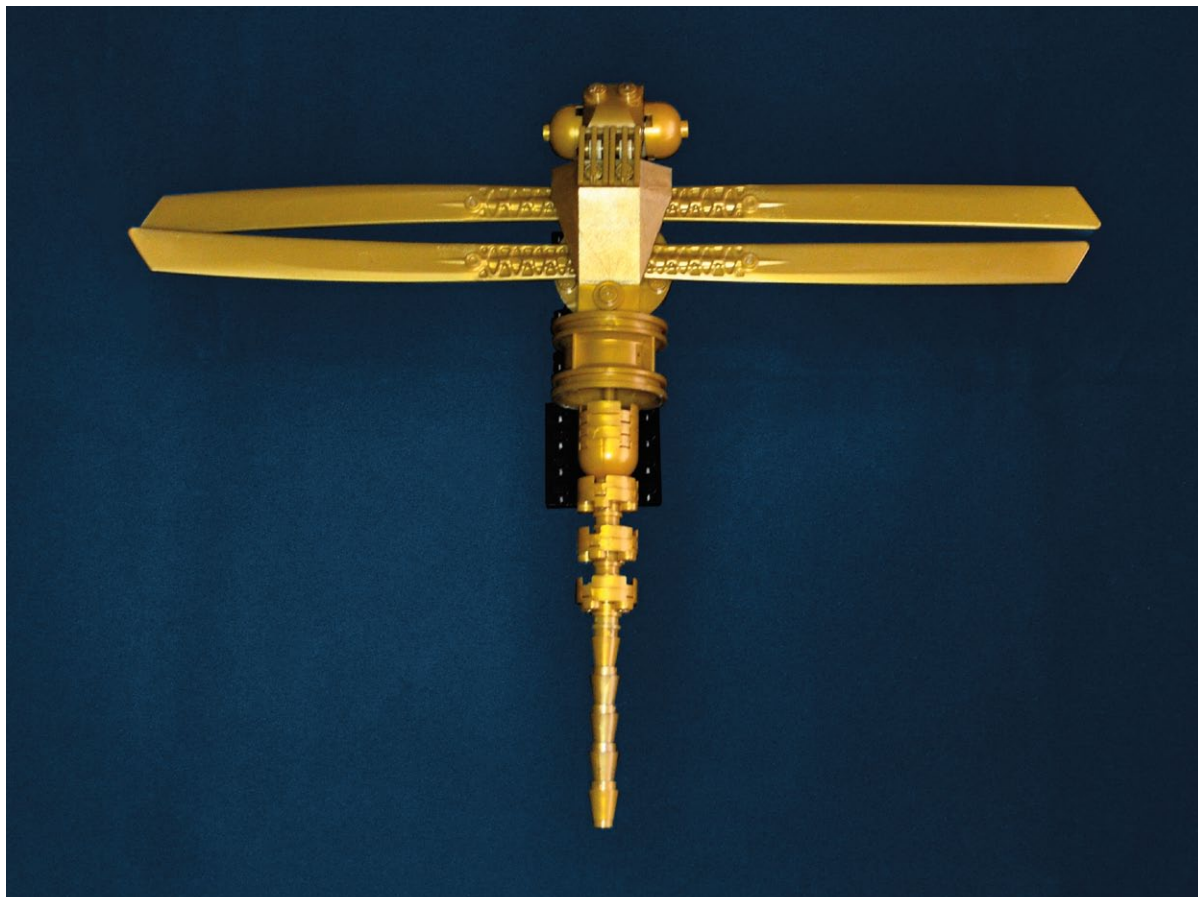
(opposite top)
 Dave Foreman
 Anansi the Spider 2014
 (~80 pieces)

(opposite bottom)
 Cole Blaq
 Dragonfly 2009
 (~120 pieces)



(top)
 Sylvain Amacher
 Mosquito 2014
 (~60 pieces)

(bottom)
 Matthew De Lanoy
 Cicada 2014
 (~200 pieces)



(top)
Omar Ovalle
El Dorado (Dragonfly) 2015 (~45 pieces)

(bottom left)
Matt Armstrong
Praying Mantis of Gold 2012 (35 pieces)

(bottom right)
James Bailey
Mechanical Dragonfly 2015 (56 pieces)



(top)
 Josh Christenson
 Ladybug 2015 (140 pieces)

(bottom)
 Sylvain Amacher
 Caterpillar 2014 (~160 pieces)





(opposite top)
Moko
Cockroach 2014

(opposite bottom)
Benjamin Cheh Ming Hann
German Cockroach (*Blattella Germanica*) 2015 (~100-150 pieces)

(above)
Bartosz Kacprzyk
Pyrrhocoris Apteris 2011 (~220 pieces)





David Steeves
Black Centipede 2011 (~60 pieces)

Beasts



(above)

K. Amida Na
Bakje 2014 (~9000 pieces)

(opposite top)

Shawn Snyder
Smaug (The Hobbit) 2014 (~1200 pieces)

(opposite bottom)

Mitch Phillips
Zaldrizes 2014 (~400 pieces)







Taylor Baggs
(opposite) Drakkon Fury 2014 (352 pieces)
(above) Scauldron 2014 (359 pieces)



(top)
Cole Blaq
The Dunes are Alive 2014 (200-250 pieces)

(bottom)
Tyler Clites
Mechanical Terror 2010

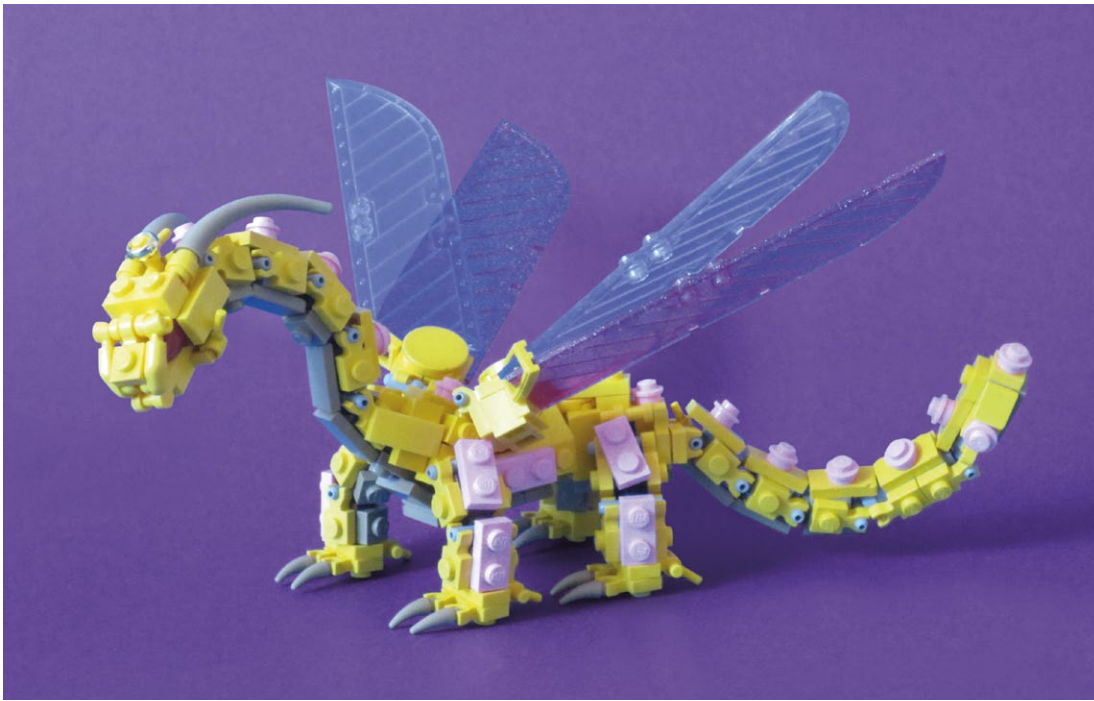


(top)
Steven Erickson
Stegosaurus 2013



(bottom)
Gabriel Thomson
Dragon Card 2013 (~300 pieces)





(top)
Bojan xrtovix
Faerie Drake 2014 (~500 pieces)

(bottom)
Djordje Dobrosavljević
T-Rex 2014 (~300 pieces)





(opposite top)
K. Amida Na
Kaiju - Knifehead 2013 (~12,000 pieces)

(opposite bottom)
Taylor Baggs
Pokémecha Venusaur 2013 (351 pieces)

(above)
Omar Ovalle
Reek 2012 (~280 pieces)



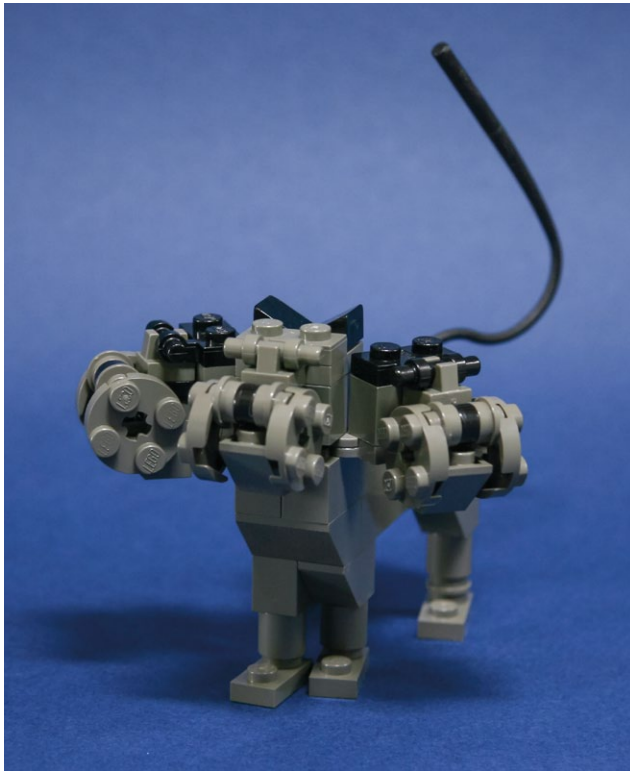


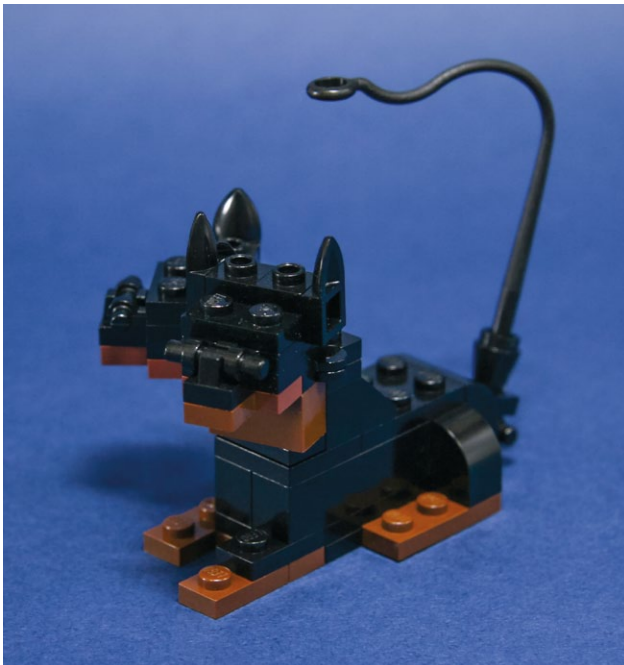
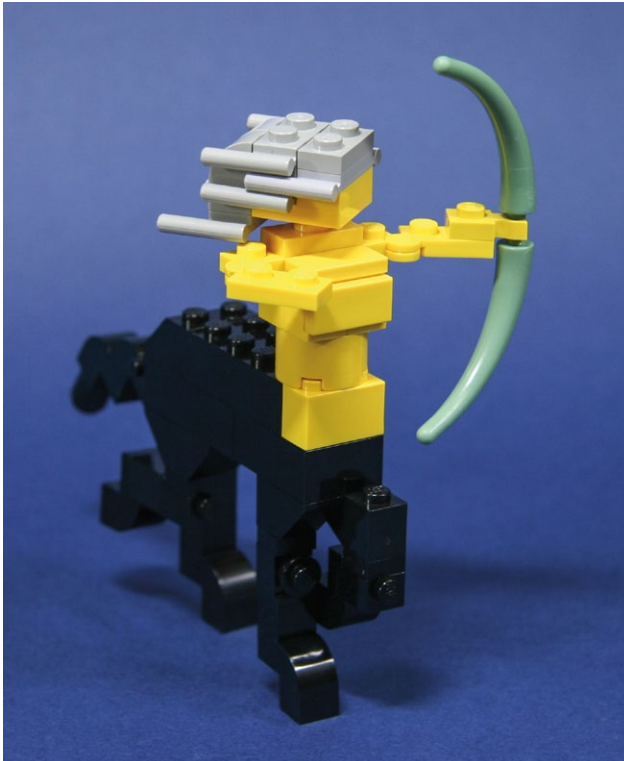
(opposite)
Moko
Dragon 2011

(above)
Taylor Baggs
Hideous Zippleback 2014 (682 pieces)

Mythical

by MisaQa





Contributors

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Akinaga, Sachiko ("Sachiko"), <http://lets-brick.com/>:

The Animal Musicians (2010), 109; A Lion and a Kitty Go to Forest! (2011), 110; Little Ida's Flowers (Hans Christian Anderson) (2007), 37; Sea Otter Mum & Pup (2011), 139

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Baker, Joel, http://flickr.com/photos/joel_baker/: Apple (2012), 57; Dachshund Sculpture (2009), 159

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Bidea, <http://brick-life-idea.blogspot.tw>: Blue Ribbon Eel (2012), 167; Summer Fusion (2014), 45

Blaq, Cole, <http://coleblaq.blogspot.de>; <http://flickr.com/photos/coleblaq/>: After the First Impact (2009), 39; Amanita Muscaria (2011), 38; Dragonfly (2009), 196; The Dunes are Alive (2014), 208

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Courtney, Emma, <http://flickr.com/photos/emma-lego/>: Fimbrelthil's Return (2014), 33

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Fedde, Kevin ("Crimson Wolf"), <http://feddestudios.com/>: Dragon Temple (2008), viii; Lotus Mosaic (2009), 53

Fedin, Anton ("Fianat"), <http://flickr.com/photos/fianat/>: Master Crane (2014), 103

Finch, Alice ("Bippity Bricks"), <https://flickr.com/photos/88574960@N02/>: Rivendell (2013), 8

Foreman, Dave ("3rdeye88/Thirdeye88"), <http://flickr.com/photos/thirdeye88/>: Akrida (2014), 94; Anansi the Spider (2014), 196

Fortel, Jimmy ("6kyubi6"), <http://flickr.com/photos/7kyubi7/>: Dragonfly (2014), 193; The Duke of Owl (2015), 73; Gone Fishin' (2014), 182; Poisonous Froggy (2014), 151

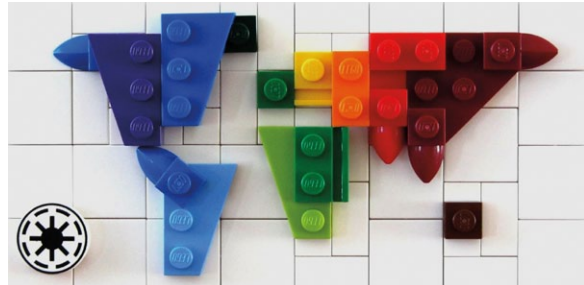
Frank, David ("Fraslund"), <http://flickr.com/photos/fraslund/>: Knights' Plea (2012), 17; Rivendell (2013), 8; To Whatever End (2014), 3

Goddard, Tim, <http://flickr.com/photos/roguebantha/>: Mouse (2012), 149

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- Hart, Carson**, <http://flickr.com/photos/58252782@N06>: Hawaiian Paradise (2012), 28; Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (2011), 120; The Willow Tree (2012), 27
- Heath, Iain** ("Ochre Jelly"), http://flickr.com/ochre_jelly: Fluttercord (2014), 114; Fluttershy (2014), 114; Grumpy Cat (2013), 155
- Hensel, David** ("LegoNardo Davidy"), <http://flickr.com/photos/davidhensel>: Sennecks's Reside (2014), 1
- Heriawan, Bill Dennis** ("Dennis Qiu"), <http://flickr.com/photos/96821301@N06>: Dewi Hutan (2014), 154; Harimau Putih (2015), 35
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- Hung Chi Kin, Andy** ("andybear"), <http://andyhung.com>: Aquarium Tank (2014), 168–169; LINE Characters: Brown and Cony (2013), 112; Rilakkuma (2013), 113
- Inman, Tim** ("rabidnovaracer"), <http://flickr.com/photos/rabidnovaracer>: Lilies (2014), 42; Orchid (2013), 47
- Ito, Ken** ("w9gfo"), <http://flickr.com/photos/w9gfo>: Basilosaurus (2011), 174; Michael (2009), 160
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