

Panorama

Art About Town

The Public Art Program is pleased to present the first in a series of walking tours to help you find public art pieces in Vancouver. This issue focuses on a six-block-square area in the downtown core. Forthcoming tours will be the Shoreline Tour of the downtown/west end perimeter and a walk through the Downtown Eastside. Take a break from shopping and take your family and friends on an art walk!

Public Art Walks Downtown Core

Start on the northeast corner of Robson and Hornby facing the Vancouver Art Gallery.

1 **Placed Upon the Horizon (Casting Shadows), 1990** Lawrence Weiner

On the portico of the Gallery facing Robson, sits a text in yellow cedar letters. Weiner is a conceptual artist whose work is based in text and the resulting images which are evoked.

Collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery 90.49 a-jj

Go along the east side of the VAG to the stairs and follow the map to view the art work in Robson Square. You can use the stairs, or cross at street level.

2 **Bird of Spring, 1979** Abraham Etungat

Bird of Spring is a simplified bird form which sits on the stairs down to the plaza from the Vancouver Art Gallery off Howe Street. The sculpture is a bronze replica of a 14cm original by this Cape Dorset artist.

3 **Spring, 1980** Alan Chung Hung

- a red steel coiled spring situated in the plaza near the Hornby entrance which appears to hold up the second level. Also by this artist and viewable from Robson Square's upper plaza are the "clouds" on top of the Bing Thom building at 938 Hornby Street.

Go up the stairs to the second level. The landscape design of Robson Square is by Cornelia Hahn Oberlander who also designed the natural areas around the National Gallery in Ottawa.

4 **Primary #9, 1981** Michael Banwell

- an abstract steel assemblage of shapes in brilliant colours.

5 **Joy of Freedom, 1995** Geert Maas

This bronze abstract by a Dutch artist who lives in BC was donated to the Province in honour of all Canadians who contributed to the liberation of the Netherlands in 1944-1945.

Walk back along the walkway (still on the second level, Hornby Street side) to the magnificent glass concourse of the Law Courts. The concrete and glass building, designed by Arthur Erickson, is a beautiful example of modernist architecture, representing the relationship with nature and the surrounding environment.

6 **Themis, Goddess of Justice, 1982** Jack Harman

Located on the 4th floor of the Provincial Law Courts, this elegant bronze goddess holding the balanced scales can be viewed from the outside.





You can go through the building or take the outside stairs down and go south one block to the corner of Hornby and Nelson. To the west is the former BC Hydro Building (1957) now The Electra suites. The original building has a distinctive diamond shape and an exterior porcelain mosaic by B.C. Binning. This design has been carried throughout the new development. Walk east on Nelson to Seymour and turn left.



At the foot of Hornby on Hastings is a walk-through park next door to the Vancouver Club, built in 1914, a Georgian-influenced building designed as an exclusive men's club.

100,000 Doorknobs, 1998

Joey Morgan
933 Seymour Street. Around the perimeter of The Spot, like subterranean pools welling up from underneath, are fragments of the past, doorknobs, hinges, faucets, cast in polyurethane resin. The piece was commissioned by Pacific City Land Corporation for the Vancouver Public Art Program.

Walk north down Seymour three more blocks to Dunsmuir, turn left (west) and then right on Granville. In this area there are two corporate murals which are worth seeing if it is during business hours:

British Columbia Beginning, 1958

B. C. Binning
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 586 Granville Street - a modern abstraction in golds, browns and reds.

BC Pageant, 1951

B. K. Cook, C. Comfort, O. Fisher, G. Dixon
TD Bank, 499 Granville Street - a pageantry mural representing early development.



Working Landscape, 1998

Daniel Laskarin
901 West Hastings Street. Three wooden platforms, each with a park bench and a living tree in a steel planter, rotate at subtle speeds based on the work week: 1-, 8-, and 40-hours, referencing the traditional use of clocks in public squares. The piece was commissioned by the Vancouver Civic Art Program and produced with the support of Douglas B. Forster.

Vancouver Vertical

Joanna Staniszki
999 West Hastings at Burrard. In the lobby is a weaving of the 1981 Vancouver skyline.

Also of note is the Marine Building, 355 Burrard, Vancouver's finest art deco building completed in 1930 by McCarter and Nairne architects. The building has a distinctive cast frieze of undersea creatures, ceramic tile and brass relief doorways, and a stunning vaulted lobby with fine detail. Turn south on Burrard, away from the water.

The Pod, 1989

Rick Switzer
Burrard and Pender - on the southeast corner, commissioned by Montreal Trust.

Fountain of the Pioneers, 1969

George Tsutakawa
The Bentall Towers.

Continue up the west side of Burrard to Dunsmuir and the Skytrain station.

The Builders, 1986

Joyce McDonald
This black granite sculpture was donated to the Province as part of the Centennial Sculpture Symposium to commemorate the immigrants whose work provided the foundation for the City.

The Vessel, 1986

Dominique Valade
The abstract ship in grey granite is a gift from the Canadian Stevedoring Company Ltd and was also produced as part of the Centennial Sculpture Symposium.

Turn west along Dunsmuir and Melville to Bute (one past Thurlow). At Bute, if you are feeling energetic, you can take a little detour one block to the right to the East Asiatic Building, 1201 West Pender. In the small circular garden is a sculpture by Gerhard Class, 1964, and in the lobby are metal reliefs by George Norris, 1964.

Go south on Bute to view two private development works commissioned as part of the Vancouver Public Art Program.





Persian Wall, 1998

Dale Chihuly
1200 West Georgia on Bute - a large glass case with blown glass florets set in a water feature.

New Currents, An Ancient Stream, 1994

Gwen Boyle
1200 Alberni Street on Bute. A layered black slate pool, flowing water, and two large boulders: one is a cast bronze replica of the other natural one. The intent is to connect the present with the past, acknowledging an ancient stream which once ran near the site.

Return to Georgia Street and walk back towards downtown, on the north side of the street.

Spirits In a Landscape, 1992

Abraham Anghik
1111 West Georgia. Commissioned by BC Gas, this bronze sculpture on the corner represents the natural world "as a reflection of our own human pursuits and activities."

Primavera, 1987

Jack Shadbolt, assisted by Alan Wood and Greg Bullen
MacMillan Bloedel Building, 1075 West Georgia Street - an acrylic on plywood painting in the lobby, viewable from the street. The artist wished to create "...something expansive and jubilant" amid the weighty grey of the concrete building.



Ksan Mural, 1972

Chief W. Harris, Chief A. Joseph, E. Moldoe, K.Mowatt, A. Sterritt, V. Stephens
Royal Bank, Georgia Street near Burrard. This beautiful carved cedar mural is on the mezzanine above the entrance.

The Christ Church Cathedral (1895) on the corner of Burrard and Georgia is one of the oldest churches in the City. There is supposedly a window by William Morris and Company in the basement which one can ask to see. Cross over to the gothic-inspired Hotel Vancouver, built by the CPR in 1939.

Uncoverings, 1998

Susan Ockwell and Jill Anholt
Burrard at Georgia, Dunsmuir & Smithe, Beatty at Robson. One of four glass and steel coverings over the vapour outlets of an underground heating system. Etched words refer to systems of exchange within the city.

Symbols of Cuneiforms, 1960

Lionel Thomas and F. Lachnit
750 Burrard Street - a metal relief on the exterior northwest corner of the building above street level. The white sections are lighted at night. The piece was saved during the conversion of the old library.
Back on Georgia, note the nurses at the upper corners of 925 West Georgia. They are fibreglass replicas of terra cotta figures which adorned the original medical building on this site. Navigation Device by Robert Studer is in the lobby. Paul Merrick's jewel-case design for the entrance of the Canadian Craft Museum(on Hornby) incorporates the original art deco entrance to the former building.



Pendulum, 1987

Alan Storey
Hongkong Bank of Canada, 885 West Georgia Street. The Pendulum of polished steel swings from the high ceiling of the glass foyer over the activities below. The furthest reach of the swing is precisely over an angled pedestal which completes the line from the top of the glass dome to the floor.

B.C. Centennial Fountain, 1966

R.H. Savery and A. Svoboda
- commissioned by the Province of British Columbia

Untitled (Pair of Lions), 1910

Timothy Bass and John Bruce
- two granite lions on either side of the stairs of the Gallery.
King Edward VII Fountain, 1912
Charles Marena
- a memorial fountain on Hornby Street, donated to the Province by the Vancouver I.O.D.E.



News

The Public Art Registry on the Web has been delayed but should be available in the early new year at www.city.vancouver.bc.ca under Public Art. This site also contains current information about artist calls.

Keefer Triangle

Artists are invited to submit ideas by January 7, 2000 for a triangular plaza at Keefer and Columbia Streets in Chinatown. Information: on the City web site or call 871 6000.

Concord Pacific Beach Neighbourhood East

between Richards Street and David Lam Park will include three public art opportunities. An artist's residency and a water feature will be selected through an invitational call. An open competition for a light feature will be announced in early 2000. Information: fax id @ Consulting, 604 731 3890 or e-mail id_a@ultranet.ca

Multnomah County Headquarters, Portland

\$150,000 USD commission for rooftop piece. Call 503 823 4196 or e-mail pkendellen@racc.org before March 2000.

Community Public Art Update

Two murals were inaugurated at the Riley Park Community Centre on October 2. Artist Joey Mallett created a mural on the east wall based on the activities and the people at Riley Park. Mainly for the Birds by Pat Beaton is on the Ontario Street side of the centre and is part of a series of murals also at Simon Fraser Elementary School and the Mount Pleasant Community Centre.

Project Dragonfly has installed fibreglass sculptures of butterflies, bees, dragons, etc. around the Marpole community. They were created through workshops with artist/teacher Eric Neighbour sponsored by Aunt Leahs Independent Lifeskills Society.

Watch for sewn collaged banners on Victoria Drive, made by community members working with Elizabeth Shefrin and Yvonne Clements. The theme is community vitality.

Kirsty and Philip Robbins have completed mosaics along a bikeway sponsored by Templeton School and forming part of the Trans Canada Trail.



The Community Public Art program invites comments about the role of art in community development and how artists and community members can collaborate to achieve artistic excellence and address significant neighbourhood sites. Your comments can be sent via the addresses listed on the newsletter.

Around the Lower Mainland

Surrey

Completed Projects

From Frozen Ponds, a ceramic tile art wall by Blake Williams at the Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex joins other work by this artist at the Aquatic Centre.

In Process

Quibble Creek Pump Station on King George Highway and 94A Avenue: artists Susan Ockwell, with Alex Percy

Guildford Multi-Purpose Community Centre: artists MUSE Atelier Ltd. (Nancy Chew and Jacqui Metz)

For information contact Lianne Payne, 604 501 5195.

Richmond

Private Development Sponsored Art Works in 1999

Rising Tide by Connie Glover and Brent Gloeckler, a ceramic tile mural in the Cosmo Plaza's courtyard, McKim & Garden City.

Landscapes of Imagination by Marko Simcic, an outside installation at the Terra Nova Village Centre, Westminster & No. 1 Road.

About Face, a community public art project by Kinichi Shigeno, located in Caring Place foyer, Granville & Minoru Blvd.

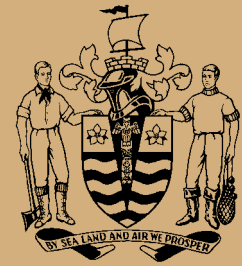
In Process

Span by Elizabeth Roy, at the new Richmond City Hall, Granville & No. 3 Road.

Garden City Street Tree Grates by Colleen Dixon at the Richmond City Centre.

A Group of Seven by January Wolodarsky and Bill Jeffries at Empire Centre, just north of Leslie & No. 3 Road.

For information contact Kari Huhtala, phone 604 276 4188, fax 604 276 4177, khuhtala@city.richmond.bc.ca



Public Art Committee 1999

Theresa Best
Claudette Dayan
Sheila Hall
Gordon Brent Ingram
Johnny Leung
Joanne Silver
Elizabeth Roy
Robert McCarthy
Leah MacFarlane

Committee meetings are generally the second Monday of every month. The public is welcome. Please contact Laura Kazakoff at 871 6353, or via e-mail at laura_kazakoff@city.vancouver.bc.ca, to confirm date, time, and location.

Staff

Bryan Newson
Public Art Program Manager
Lorenz von Fersen
Community Public Art Program
Barbara Cole
Project Coordinator

Panorama is the newsletter of the Public Art Program for Civic and Private Development. It is published periodically by the Office of Cultural Affairs, City of Vancouver. To put your name on the mailing list or update your address, please phone 871 6000 or send a message to the e-mail below.

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604 871 6048 Fax

publicart@city.vancouver.bc.ca

Public Art Program information is available at www.city.vancouver.bc.ca.

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City of Vancouver Public Art Walks Downtown Core



Burrard Inlet

Canada Place

Sea Bus Terminal

English Bay

Jervis

Bute

Thurlow

Burrard

Hornby

Howe

Granville

Seymour

Richards

Homer

Haro

Alberni

Melville

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