

What is Public Art?

Public art is created by artists to animate publicly accessible spaces. It enhances the sense of place for neighbourhoods, and the city as a whole. In Nanaimo, some art pieces are permanent, such as the sculpture Pacific Sails, on the Harbourfront Walkway, and others are exhibited on a temporary basis. We hope you enjoy the view!

Why Public Art?

Art has the power to energize public spaces and makes the places we work, live and play more unique, welcoming and beautiful. Public art prompts us to think, to ask questions, see new perspectives and talk to each other.

Art in Public Spaces 2012 / 2013

The City of Nanaimo and Nanaimo Art Gallery have partnered to install seven works of art in public spaces to be on display from **May 2012 through April 2013**. The artwork will then be auctioned by Nanaimo Art Gallery in the spring of 2013.

For more information about the auction visit nanaimoartgallery.ca

To learn more about the Public Art Program, contact Kirsty MacDonald, Parks and Open Space Planner for the City of Nanaimo 250.755.7506

To view an online gallery of public art in Nanaimo visit www.nanaimo.ca

Temporary (May 2012-April 2013)

Public Art in Nanaimo

Roaming Deer

Artist: Carl Sean McMahon
Location on Map: Maffeo Spirit
Discarded metal objects and scrap

1

Look closely and identify the familiar parts that make up this sculpture. McMahon uses found metal objects such as gears, cogs, garden tools, kitchen utensils and scrap material to create unique renderings of wildlife. What do you think the artist is saying about the relationship of nature and industry?



Frame

Artist: Jason Gress
Location on Map: Maffeo Spirit
Wood, steel, latex paint

2

Picture frames contain images we think are significant, like special works of art, or family photos. Gress' golden frame offers two ever-changing scenic viewpoints, one of ocean and harbour, one of city and mountain. His work references the notion of framing, in the sense of mediating an experience. Gress says, "the act of taking a particular view or viewpoint of a place, event, or concept, is a very powerful thing."



Gates of Opportunity

Artists: Samuel and Deryk Houston
Location on Map: McGregor Park
Hot rolled steel with polished chrome

3

This abstract sculpture is a contemporary take on the old idea of a city gateway. Modern in both design and material, this gate without doors invites us to consider a familiar space in a new way. What does Gates of Opportunity say about downtown Nanaimo and the harbourfront?



The Hug

Artist: Kurt Feschuk
Location on Map: Maffeo Wall
Rusted steel

4

The rich texture and deep colours of rust, which Feschuk created by applying salt and water to metal, fits into our context of living in a temperate rainforest. Bent and cut using a hands-on process, The Hug is intended to be uplifting. Doesn't everyone feel good after a hug?



Never out of Season

Artist: David Moench
Location on Map: Maffeo Wall
Automotive base coat clear coat on metal

4

Having returned to BC after living in towns across Canada, Moench became interested in the arbutus tree, which is indigenous to the west coast. His work depicts the four seasons, and according to the artist is intended to remind us of "the beauty around us, every day, every season."



China Steps Mural

Artist: Nadine Wiepning
Location on Map: Nanaimo Museum
Exterior acrylic on signboard, with hidden timber frame

5

Wiepning's work brings the history of Nanaimo's Chinese community to life and is inspired by archival footage and photos, traditional Chinese painting, and mythology—one animal represents each cardinal direction: Black Tortoise (North), Azure Dragon (East), Vermilion Bird (South), and White Tiger (West).



Snuneymuxw—Meeting Place

Artist: Yvonne Vander Kooi
Location on Map: Beban Park Social Centre
Acrylic on canvas

6

Layered images, bright colour and a sense of movement create an abstract portrait of Nanaimo as place where natural beauty exists in harmony with the community of people who live and work here. Take a close look—what unique elements of our city do you recognize?



We are also lucky to add that 2011 pieces **Breaching Orca, Points of Origin, H2O, Nanaimo with Love & Dream Catcher** Are also still on display and up for auction.

CITY OF NANAIMO
THE HARBOUR CITY
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

NANAIMO
ART
GALLERY



Key Map
With Temporary Art Locations.

- 1 **Roaming Deer** Artist: Carl Sean McMahon
- 2 **Frame** Artist: Jason Gress
- 3 **Gates of Opportunity** Artists: Samuel and Deryk Houston
- 4 **The Hug** Artist: Kurt Feschuk
- 4 **Never out of Season** Artist: David Moench
- 5 **China Steps Mural** Artist: Nadine Wiepning
- 6 **Snuneymuxw - Meeting Place** Artist: Yvonne Vander Kooi



Maffeo Sutton Park
With Temporary Art Locations.

Public Art in Nanaimo

- Temporary Pieces of Art
- Permanent Pieces of Art