

Public art embodies the vision that defines Vancouver as a creative city, and expresses shared civic values and traditions. The City makes a high priority of its ongoing investment in the creative sector.

## Public Art

### ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS IN THE CITY

For more than two decades, the City of Vancouver's Public Art Program has invigorated both civic spaces and private developments. Whether placed beside downtown condo towers or parked outside residential houses, art unites architecture, people, and place in memorable and moving ways.

The program supports a broad range of artists, emerging and established, working in both new and traditional media. Works range from large traditional sculptures to new media works, to community mosaics in intimate neighbourhood settings.

### PEOPLE AMONGST THE PEOPLE

Three powerful and beautiful carved gateways were installed in 2008, welcoming visitors to the totem site at Brockton Point in Stanley Park. *People Amongst the People*, by Susan Point, celebrates Coast Salish peoples whose traditional territories overlap Vancouver.

The artwork is a tribute to cooperation between the Nations. The gateways represent a three-year collaboration between the artist, the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Watuth First Nations, Vancouver Storyscapes (a City project that encourages aboriginal people to share their stories), and the Vancouver Park Board.



Susan Point and assistants work on *People Amongst the People*.



### DROP, INGES IDEE GROUP, 2009

A gigantic water droplet on the waterfront in rainy Vancouver, this eye-catching sculpture adds a note of whimsy and surprise to the Vancouver Convention Centre.



**FLOW**

*Flow* is an electronic media project by Fiona Bowie and Sidney Fels. Integrated with the 1 Kingsway Civic Centre, it projects day and night onto street-level windows a stream of Bowie’s photographic portraits and landscapes.

A unique system, designed and programmed by the artists, sequences and combines the images to create a constantly changing abstract narrative. The glass projection surface allows images to fade and disappear, transforming the translucent screen to a clear window with shifting views of the street.



**FLOW, FIONA BOWIE, 2009**

**PARK**

A sculptural art project by Vancouver-based artist and architect Marko Simcic, *Park* explores the nature and value of public and private space in our urban experience.

Displayed at various locations along the six-kilometre Ontario Street Greenway, each sculpture depicts drapery shrouded over familiar forms: lawn chairs facing one another, a picnic complete with portable barbecue and crockery. The artworks, each about the size and weight of a small car, rotate among display places adjacent to public sites, commercial properties and residential parking spaces, where they are “adopted” by residents.



**PARK, MARKO SIMCIC, 2008**

**BRUSH WITH ILLUMINATION**

*Brush with Illumination* by Buster Simpson is an interactive sculpture that also functions as a data-gathering apparatus, drawing ideograms and sounds generated from real-time environmental conditions. The sculpture suggests a calligraphy brush, responding kinetically and immediately to tidal and weather conditions in False Creek.



**BRUSH WITH ILLUMINATION, BUSTER SIMPSON, 1998**



\*An Official Mark of the City of Vancouver

The Russian Hall mural, by Richard Tetrault, is 12 m high and covers nearly 600 m<sup>2</sup> with illustrations of traditional Russian dance, music and decorative motifs. It also pays homage to the Strathcona Property Owners and Tenants Association, which defended the area from freeway expansion plans in the 1970s.