



Photo by Rachel Topham

Hogan's Alley Artist Call 2019

Hogan's Alley is a neighbourhood that was home to multiple immigrant communities but known largely for its Canadians of African Descent or Black population. Beginning in 1967, homes located in Hogan's Alley were displaced to construct the Georgia and Dunsmuir Viaducts.

In 2018, Vancouver City Council approved the Northeast False Creek Plan, which calls to recognise Vancouver's Black Community at Hogan's Alley.

As part of the temporary modular housing development, the City invited proposals for a mural or printed artwork to be installed on site. The call seeks to celebrate artists who have a connection to Hogan's Alley or the Vancouver Black community. The selected artist was recommended by a panel of art and community experts.

Ejiwa "Edge" Ebenebe
2019

Learning that a vibrant community of Black Canadians was not only tragically erased, but that their memory is nearly forgotten, comes as a harsh shock. But focusing only on the pain of this tragedy isn't telling the complete story—Instead I've become driven by how strongly the voices of triumph and hope still ring out from underneath the loss.

With this piece I wish to highlight a vibrant, joyful perspective: one of hope and a future built from past remnants.

Motifs of music and laughter emerge throughout the stories and memories I have encountered, and the passion for rebuilding, of

bringing back to Vancouver what has been lost, is particularly moving. This tribute explores growth and rebirth—our youth rediscovering their roots and communing with their forebears through whatever means available.

Hogan's Alley is a precious piece of history in dire need of remembrance and revival. With this project I hope to do justice to the memories of our predecessors, as well as respect the wishes of those who strive to preserve our history.



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples

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