

NATURE in the BALANCE

Artists interpreting climate change through sculpture

Spherilous by Jeremy Hughes

The name of the piece is a combination of the words 'sphere' and 'perilous'. Knowing what we now know about climate change it is appropriate to compare metaphorically the somewhat fragile existence that our planet endures, and the impermanence of this wooden ball exposed to the forces of nature. Both are subject to ongoing degradation, both represent beauty and change. In both cases it is necessary for us to maintain good stewardship in order to preserve the integrity of the whole.



3. Jeremy Hughes
Spherilous

Shift by Aaron Loveitt

Based on the proportions of the historic Flatiron building, this sculpture plays off the architecture of its surroundings to celebrate the natural process of transition. Caught somewhere between collapse and growth, constructed and organic, tradition and contemporary, "Shift" intends to evoke the constant transformation of our environment and our culture.

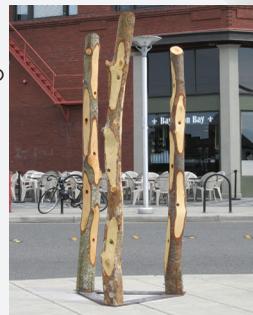


1. Aaron Loveitt
Shift

Our Forest and Hungry Beetles by Denise Snyder

I wanted to make a statement about the plight of our forests due to predatory pests. These pests thrive in our forests in North America and destroy acres and acres of it because of the warming of our winter seasons. With this idea in mind, I also wanted the sculpture to be appealing to look at and interactive for kids and adults.

I chose three upright logs that are alder, pine and fir. These are trees that were already being cut down from the yards of friends. The wood of each tree trunk is deeply scalloped and then bored into to create upward angling holes. These holes are filled with an amber like substance colored in red or lime green. As daylight illuminates the amber one is able to see handmade beetles that are imbedded within it. In the end my hope is that this sculpture is a playful way to consider a serious topic.



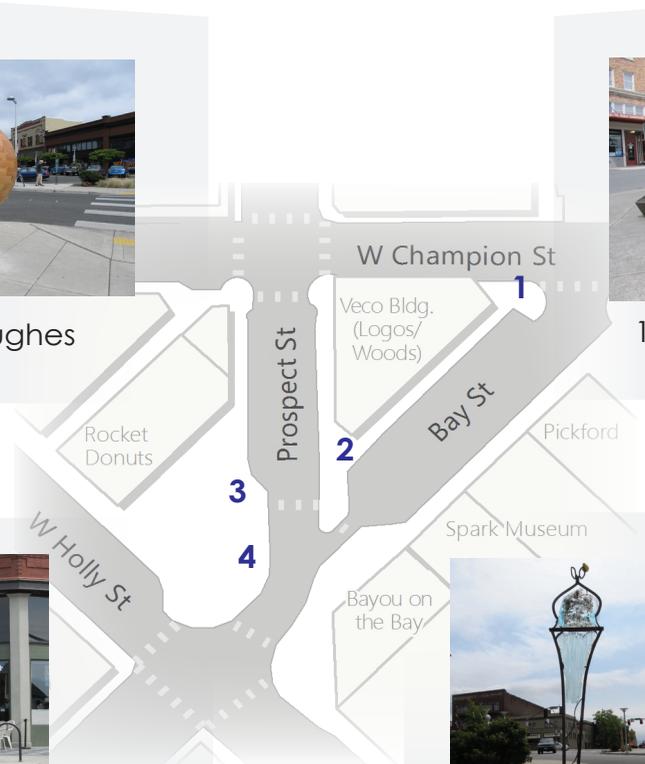
4. Denise Snyder
Our Forest and Hungry Beetles

The Canary by Shirley Erickson

"The Canary" is a statement about climate change. Vanishing ice is like a canary in a coal mine warning us that we must stop what we are doing to the planet if we are to survive.



2. Shirley Erickson
The Canary



This show coincides with the Whatcom Museum's current Nature in the Balance exhibit & the upcoming fall exhibition, Vanishing Ice: Alpine and Polar Landscapes in Art 1775-2012

For more information contact:
Shannon Taysi
staysi@cob.org