

Barrie Public Art Guide

A Project of the Barrie Public Art Committee





Mayor's Welcome

On behalf of City Council and the residents of Barrie, welcome you to our city. The City of Barrie is a four-season destination offering year round entertainment, recreation and lifestyle.

Barrie is proud of our rich history and our vibrant arts and culture scene. Our downtown arts cornerstones the MacLaren Art Centre and Five Points Theatre alongside the public art featured here highlight our commitment to enriching our community through the arts. In this Public Art Guide, we feature works in public spaces for you to explore during your visit to Barrie. These pieces are from regionally and internationally renowned Canadian artists, and are not to be missed destinations on your tour of our city.

The valuable information contained in the Public Art Guide will help make your stay enjoyable and I hope you experience all that Barrie has to offer. Make sure you visit the jewels of our city, Kempenfelt Bay and Little Lake, where you will discover Barrie's breathtaking views, walking trails, parks and marina, and our historic downtown core with its shops, top restaurants, and special events and festivals. I encourage you to visit our website at barrie.ca to learn more about our community.

Public Art in Barrie

Public art is essential to the fabric of a healthy community and Barrie is committed to growing our collection and developing programming that appeals to residents and visitors alike. The city's parks, suburban developments and downtown core are punctuated with art and installations that offer unique markers of place. This character roots our community, fostering identity and pride in the places we work and play while stimulating economic development through tourism and infrastructure investment.

About the Barrie Public Art Committee

The Barrie Public Art Committee's (BPAC) goal is to enhance Barrie with art, and encourage residents and visitors alike to visit public spaces. Made up of volunteers from the art and design industry, and interested community members, BPAC secures art by commissioning new works, facilitating donations, and organizing temporary installations.

Vision: Connecting our community through public art.

Mission Statement: "The Barrie Public Art Committee will enhance the City of Barrie by purposefully acquiring public art that inspires and connects the community in our public spaces. We will promote art appreciation and build lasting relationships through education, integration and activation that engages the community, creates conversation and demonstrates the value of public art."

barrie.ca/publicart

For more information about public art in Barrie, please contact the Economic and Creative Development Department at creative@barrie.ca

WATERFRONT

Map and Guide for outdoor art in the City of Barrie



- 1. Sea Serpent*
- 2. Spirit Catcher*
- 3. The Horn and The Heart*
- 4. Urn Wall*
- 5. Barrie Memorial Cenotaph to Fallen Heroes*



***Spirit Catcher*, 1986**

Artist: Ron Baird

Corten Steel, Kinetic, 22 x 24 m
Located in Spirit Catcher Park

Ron Baird, *Spirit Catcher*, 1986.
Collection of the MacLaren Art Centre. Gift of
the Helen McCrea Peacock Foundation, 1987.
Photo: Joseph Hartman, 2013.

Ontario-based Ron Baird created this sculpture for Vancouver's EXPO '86, responding to the theme of transportation and communication. Influenced by the iconography of Indigenous oral traditions in the Pacific Northwest, the work references the Thunderbird. Originally installed at False Creek in Vancouver, this 20 tonne steel sculpture took over six months to produce. The sculpture is 21 metres high, and has 16 kinetic quills, 2 wings, 3 legs and a pair of antennae. After EXPO '86, the sculpture was purchased by the Helen McCrea Peacock Foundation and donated to the Barrie Gallery Project in memory of Helen McCrae Peacock and Kenneth Westrup. It is the first work in the MacLaren's Permanent Collection.

ronbairdartist.com, maclarenart.com



***Sea Serpent*, 1986**

Artist: Ron Baird

Corten Steel, Kinetic, 2 x 8 x 3 m
Located in Heritage Park

Ron Baird, *Sea Serpent*, 1986.
Collection of the City of Barrie.
Gift of Mr. Alexander Sellers.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

Ontario-based Ron Baird's *Sea Serpent* was the winning design of an international sculpture competition for EXPO '86. Placed in the centre of the pond in the Marine Plaza in Vancouver it was meant to represent the fear that follows our dream ship. It was donated to the City of Barrie in 2016 by the Sellers family and its transportation, storage and installation were generously provided by Pratt Homes. The City of Barrie would like to thank Karen Pratt Hansen and her team for their support in bringing the *Sea Serpent* to Barrie's waterfront.

ronbairdartist.com, pratthomes.ca



***The Horn and The Heart*, 2020**

Artist: John McEwen

Stainless Steel, 2.5 x 2.5 x 0.9 m

Located in Meridian Place

John McEwen, *The Horn and The Heart*, 2020.

Collection of the City of Barrie.

Photo: Andre Beneteau, 2021.

The Horn and The Heart is a memorial to the late Bob Hunter. A local musician and champion of musical performance, Hunter saw the potential for an outdoor live music venue on Barrie's waterfront. His vision was eventually realized at Meridian Pace and Hunter's legacy was assured by a grass-roots fundraising campaign supporting a work of public art in his honour. With the assistance of the Barrie Public Art Committee, a national competition for proposals was organized and in 2019 Hillsdale-based artist John McEwen was selected to execute his concept for *The Horn and The Heart*. Thinking through the experience of live music and the relationship between the performer and the audience, McEwen's sculpture incorporates a double-sided horn and a split heart form. Made with stainless steel activated by the artist's signature laser-cut star formations, *The Horn and The Heart* is an elegant work that evokes the experience, emotion, and memory associated with live musical performance.

olgakorpergallery.com/artists/john-mcewen



***Urn Wall*, 2018**

Artist: Marlene Hilton Moore

Granite, bronze, 1.7 x 1.5 x 0.4 m

Located in Memorial Square, Dunlop Street East,
facing the Barrie Memorial Cenotaph.

Marlene Hilton Moore, *Urn Wall*, 2018.

Photo: Bhreagh Campbell, 2019.

The *Urn Wall*, designed by regional artist Marlene Hilton Moore, contains sacred soil from the April 1917 battlefields of Vimy Ridge. The soil symbolically contains the DNA of Canadian soldiers that lived and fought in the fields and trenches of Vimy. The Urn Wall is placed strategically within Memorial Square, in dialogue with the Cenotaph, which was created to honour local lives lost in World War I. All are remembered.

marlenehiltonmoore.com



J. F. Murphy of Barrie, Barrie Memorial Cenotaph to Fallen Heroes, 1922.
Photo: Bhreagh Campbell, 2019.

Barrie Memorial Cenotaph to Fallen Heroes, 1922

Artist: J.F. Murphy

Stanstead granite, Barrie granite, 9.75 m high
Located in Memorial Square

The Cenotaph is a monument that holds the weight of the sacrifices of our fallen heroes. Artist J.F. Murphy created this piece to honour community members of Barrie, Innisfil, and Vespra whose lives were lost in World War I. Names of those who died in later wars have been added. The word Cenotaph is said to derive from two Greek words indicative of an empty tomb and in time has evolved to mean any form of a memorial erected in honour of those whose mortal remains were lost elsewhere. In 2017 during the remodeling of Memorial Square and addition of Meridian Place the three-piece, 23 feet high monument, with a nine-foot statue of a soldier on top was relocated to a more high profile site at the bottom of Owen Street, so that more residents passing by can take a moment to remember the lives lost for our country.

DOWNTOWN

Map and Guide for outdoor art in the City of Barrie



- 1. Dividers Made Into A Juncture*
- 2. Simcoe Country Courthouse Sculpture*
- 3. Column of Valour*
- 4. Shlosa*
- 5. Dream Chamber*
- 6. Ascension*
- 7. Soapbox*



Jennifer Davis and Jon Sasaki, *Dividers Made Into A Juncture*, 2016.
Collection of the City of Barrie.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

Dividers Made Into A Juncture, 2016

Artists: Jennifer Davis & Jon Sasaki

Vintage, local wrought iron fencing
153 x 401 x 279 cm
Located at Downtown Branch of
Barrie Public Library
60 Worsley St, Barrie, ON L4M 1L6

The first commissioned piece of public art under the leadership of Barrie's Public Art Committee, *Dividers Made Into A Juncture* was selected with the aim of creating an original permanent outdoor sculpture that functions as a bicycle rack. By repurposing old fences, this piece encourages civic dialogue about the nature of public and private space within the city. In the case of *Dividers Made Into A Juncture*, fence sections that once divided neighbours from one another are repurposed as a community meeting place.

jenniferdavis.ca, jonsasaki.com



Ron Baird, *Simcoe County Courthouse Sculpture*, 1978.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

Simcoe County Courthouse Sculpture, 1978

Artist: Ron Baird

Corten Steel, Kinetic, 3 modules
approximately 6 x 3 x 1.5 m
Located at the Simcoe County Courhouses
Corner of Mulcaster & MacDonald Streets

This kinetic sculpture by Ron Baird was moved to its present location from another on the courthouse property in 2016.

ronbairdartist.com



Column of Valour, 1998

Artist: Marlene Hilton Moore

Brass, Bronze & Limestone
Located at the corner of Mulcaster
Street & Collier Street

Marlene Hilton Moore, *Column of Valour*, 1998.
Collection of the City of Barrie.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

This Monument is dedicated to the memory of the Volunteer Firefighters who protected the City of Barrie from 1844 to 1998. The monument sits on the site of the original Fire Hall. The brass poles of the monument, which support the bronze dates, 1844-1998, are the original poles of the Fire Hall. The bronze Maltese Cross on the top of the limestone column is a symbol which recognizes the great courage and valour of the Fire Service and is the Firefighters' badge of honour. Stories engraved in the limestone column and an engraved symbolic ladder complete the monument.

marlenehiltonmoore.com



Kosso Eloul, *Shlosha*, 1974.
Collection of the MacLaren Art Centre.
Gift of Beverley Zerafa and Boris Zerafa, 2001.
Photo: Toni Hafkenscheid.

***Shlosha*, 1974**

Artist: Kosso Eloul

Stainless Steel, 119.5 x 307.3 x 143.2 cm
Located at the corner of Mulcaster
& Collier Streets, at the MacLaren
Art Centre

Shlosha, a public sculpture by internationally known artist Kosso Eloul, refers to Jewish law and the belief that the world is sustained through three principles: truth, justice and peace. The piece is comprised of three brushed steel blocks, the resiliency of the material offset by the delicate balance of the forms. This tension is central to Eloul's vision drive to capture the precariousness of life and the search for stability.

kossoeloul.net, maclarenartcentre.com



Sorel Etrog, *Dream Chamber*, 1976.
Collection of the MacLaren Art Centre.
Gift of the Artist, 1999.
Photo: Toni Hafkenscheid.

***Dream Chamber*, 1976, ed 1/5**

Artist: Sorel Etrog

Bronze casting, 150 x 60 x 60 cm
Located at corner of Collier and Mulcaster
Streets, at the MacLaren Art Centre

Sorel Etrog is one of Canada's pre-eminent artists, a sculptor with an international reputation, renowned for his use of hinge iconography. *Dream Chamber* is one of the most significant pieces of this kind in his oeuvre. Distinctly figurative, this work is evocative of an interlocked skull. It speaks to the transformative power of imagination and a belief in human potential.

maclarenartcentre.com, soreletrog.com



Ascension, 1997

Artist: Ted Fullerton

975.4 x 91.44 x 70 cm

Located at corner of Collier and
Mulcaster Streets, at the MacLaren
Art Centre

Ted Fullerton, *Ascension*, 1997.
Collection of the MacLaren Art Centre.
Gift of the artist, 2000.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

The concept for *Ascension* is based on the Judeo-Christian story of Job. Pious' father Job is caught in a wager between God and the Devil as they test his faith in God by removing all the protections he enjoys as a follower of God. Despite the theft and destruction of all his possessions, the death of his children and the loss of his health, Job's faith in God persists. This work sees Job's story as a metaphor for the indestructability of nature, which endures and regenerates despite abuse at the hands of humans. The figure of Job in this cast resin sculpture was first modeled from clay and fallen tree branches. The three steel sections that make up the vertical beam refer to the three trials that confronted Job.

tedfullerton.net, maclarenartcentre.com



Chris Hanson & Hendrika Sonnenberg, *Soapbox*, 2006.
Collection of the City of Barrie.
Photo: Andre Beneteau, 2021.

***Soapbox*, 2006**

Artists: Chris Hanson and Hendrika Sonnenberg

Dimensions variable

Located outside the main entrance to City Hall near
the Circle at the Centre

Evoking an ideal central to Canadian identity, *Soapbox* was installed as part of Art in Unexpected Places, a temporary art exhibition hosted in 2017. Ripe for public engagement, this installation celebrates freedom of speech and encourages visitors to exercise it. Painted in the blue and green pastel tones that Minden-based Hanson & Sonnenberg are known for, this piece makes a bright addition to the downtown core.

bucketofblood.info



Angela Aujla, *Sisters*



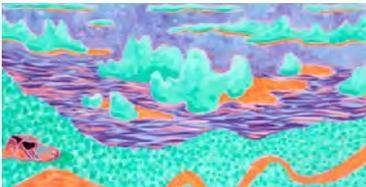
Leandra Almeida, *The Future*



Leandra Almeida,
Centennial



Cody D'Amico, *A Candlelight for Moths*



Katie Green, *Holy Land*



Katie Green, *Kempenfelt Drive*

Downtown Barrie Mural Project, 2021-22

Artists: Katie Green, Angela Aujla, Cody D'Amico, Leandra Almeida

121 x 243 cm each

Located throughout downtown Barrie

As you walk, cycle or drive through Barrie's downtown, keep an eye out for temporary art displays. Murals, wraps and artwork in a variety of media are installed throughout the year for varying lengths of time.

The Downtown Barrie Mural Project will be on display throughout 2021 and 2022. An artistic collaboration combining original words with original paintings, this project was made by locals for locals. There are six pairings of poetry excerpts and corresponding images installed throughout the downtown area. Organized by the volunteer group, 320 Collective, this project was supported by the Downtown Barrie BIA and donations from individuals committed to public art in Barrie.

BARRIE SOUTH

Map and Guide for outdoor art in the City of Barrie



- 1. Scrimmage*
- 2. Wheelie*
- 3. Spirit Clock*



***Scrimmage*, 2016**

Artist: Ron Baird

Located at the Sadlon Arena – Near the corner of Mapleview Drive and Bayview Drive

Ron Baird, *Scrimmage*, 2016.
Collection of Barrie Minor Hockey. Gift of the artist.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

Donated by the artist to the Barrie Minor Hockey Association. This sculpture celebrates 50 years of minor hockey in Barrie and contains a time capsule.

ronbairdartist.com, barrieminorhockey.net



***Wheelie*, 2014**

Artist: Ron Baird

Located in the Yonge Station neighbourhood – Corner of Yonge Street and Madelaine Drive

Ron Baird, *Wheelie*, 2014.
Collection of Pratt Homes.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

Commissioned by Pratt Homes for the Yonge Station development. This dynamic but whimsical piece is pure steam punk and very dramatic in a high wind.

ronbairdartist.com, pratthomes.ca



***Spirit Clock*, 2014**

Artist: Ron Baird

Located in the Yonge Station neighbourhood – Corner of Yonge Street and Madelaine Drive

Ron Baird, *Spirit Clock*, 2014.
Collection of Pratt Homes.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

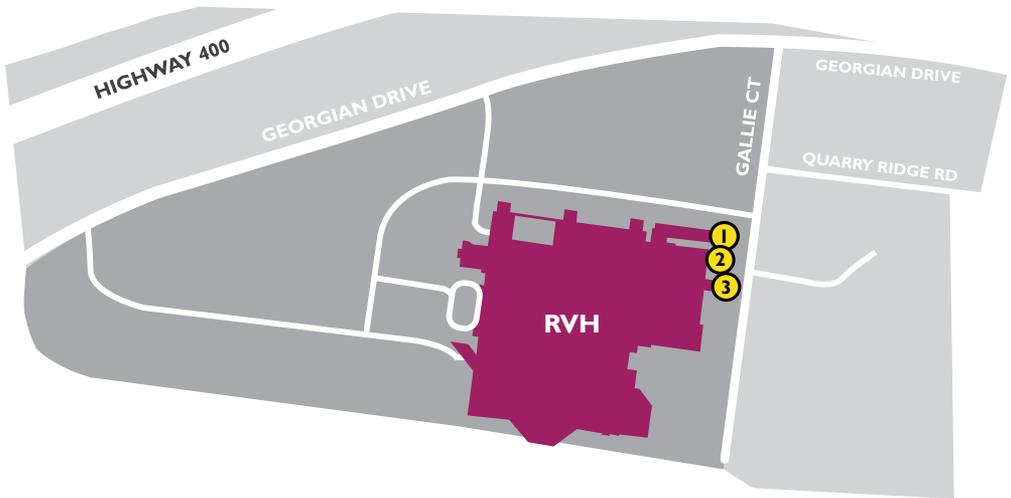
This site-specific installation, located near the Barrie South GO Train Station, honours Barrie's railroad history and includes a functioning clock, lights and sound which is generated when the wind blows through it.

ronbairdartist.com, pratthomes.ca

Art@RVH is transforming the idea of care and community through the selective acquisition and placement of contemporary fine art at RVH. The goal is to provide an enhanced and uplifting experience for patients, their families, staff and members of the community during their visiting or working hours.

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH)

Map and Guide for outdoor art in the City of Barrie



- 1. Aristotle's Square*
- 2. Monarchs*
- 3. Healing Circle*



***Aristotle's Square*, 2011**

Artist: Ted Fullerton

Cast resin and steel, 305 x 213 x 91 cm
Located by main entrance to
RVH off Gallie Court

Ted Fullerton, *Aristotle's Square*.
Collection of the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

This sculpture is intended by the artist as a poetic metaphor for the four Aristotelian elements of creation—earth, water, air and fire. For many cultures the symbol/image of the square suggests birth with its balanced dimensions of the vertical (the mystical) and the horizontal (life experience). The male and female figures facing each other invoke the potential of life while their polar opposite positions suggest harmonic balance somewhat like the eastern symbols of Ying and Yang.

tedfullerton.net



***Monarchs*, 2015**

Artist: Derek Martin

Corten steel, 30 x 300 x 81 cm
Located in garden along RVH facing
Gallie Court

Derek Martin, *Monarchs*, 2015.
Collection of the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

The artist's concept is a symbolic representation of our ability to overcome obstacles. The work is comprised of a large body or "flock" of over 500 corten steel butterflies encountering an invisible wall which is manifested by the density and proximity of the butterflies as they meet, rise and overtake the barrier. The idea of a barrier or wall is a suggestive device used in this composition to represent things and events which impede or arrest actions and ideas, while the physical surmounting of the barrier by the monarchs provides hope and inspiration.

mar-10house.com



Timothy Laurin, *Healing Circle*, 2015.
Collection of the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre.
Photo: Mark Wanzel, 2016.

***Healing Circle*, 2015**

Artist: Timothy Laurin

Concrete, Resin, Aluminum,
Bronze, Dimensions variable
Located on outside patio
adjacent to waiting area, main
floor cancer centre

In response to the health centre's smudging policy, Laurin, of Métis heritage, developed this multi-piece work in order to create a safe, regenerative space as a permanent sacred site for patients to conduct smudging ceremonies. There are two main components—a central piece that incorporates a ring of 36 flush-mounted, half-inch, bronze-filled circles in the limestone patio in the centre of which is a permanent ceremonial pedestal. The companion piece located on the nearby plinth is inspired by the idea of an inverted feather. Themes of ascension, the mystical and formal religion mingle with traditional first nation's references and the use of symbolic colour.

For more information about public art in
Barrie, please contact Economic & Creative
Development at:

creative@barrie.ca or barrie.ca/PublicArt

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