

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Y Public Art and Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas unveil latest public art piece at McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport

July 9th, 2015, Vancouver, BC – Y Public Art unveils its latest public art piece, SEI, at McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport, July 9th at 10:00 AM. Y Public Art is a large scale public art design and installation company founded by internationally acclaimed visual contemporary artist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and award-winning designer Barry Gilson. Designed, fabricated and installed under Gilson's business management and Yahgulanaas' artistic direction, SEI is a stunningly dynamic sculpture that pushes the boundaries of design innovation.

"Public art is where the voice of a single artist is exchanged for the chorus of many. SEI was designed to be accessible, interactive and engaging for vast numbers of people over great spans of time," said Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Artist, Y Public Art. "SEI is now beginning a journey that depends on those observers to find meaning and direction."

Made of highly polished stainless steel and weighing 3800 kilograms SEI is a sculptural example of the hybrid art form Michael is known for, Haida Manga. While the physical structure is reminiscent of North Pacific Indigenous Arts - in particular Haida Nation - the sculpture is pierced with modernist and contemporary influences.

"Art is an integral part of the YVR experience, providing a gathering place, a conversation-starter or even a moment of calm for busy travellers," said Craig Richmond, President & CEO, Vancouver Airport Authority. "No YVR space is truly complete without a striking, accessible art feature. In the same way, Y Public Art's spectacular SEI sculpture provides a visually stunning focal point for McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport."

The material of this 12m long public artwork was carefully selected for its narrative implications. The reflective surface is an invitation to a dynamic visual experience with no end. Connected to its surroundings, the sky, buildings and crowds of people become a part of the piece, and allow the observer to see their common humanity and shared responsibility. The highly polished stainless steel blurs the edges between object and background, while the anchoring copper leaf underbelly and the arching silver back of SEI raise notions of currency and value and speak to the surrounding commercial activity in the Plaza.

"McArthurGlen Vancouver is delighted to announce that our forthcoming designer outlet will feature a specially commissioned, show stopping piece of artwork by acclaimed, prominent local artist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas," said Robert Thurlow, General Manager, McArthurGlen Vancouver. "In keeping with the McArthurGlen tradition of incorporating ground- breaking artistic pieces across our centres worldwide, the sculpture has taken centre stage in a beautiful piazza; Michael has created a remarkable piece of work, known as SEI."

Taking design and fabrication to a new level of flexibility and precision SEI is a cutting-edge example of how accessible art can capture the imagination and address contemporary issues in an unrestricted and current way.

“This is our most sculptural and technically challenging design we have completed so far,” said Barry Gilson, Project Designer, Y Public Art. “As a result of SEI’s design and fabrication experience we are very confident that future creations will meet or indeed exceed the complexity of SEI.”

Join Y Public Art for the official unveiling of SEI:

What: SEI - stainless steel and copper leaf on granite and marble plinth, 12 m and 3800 kilograms.

When: Thursday July 9th, 2015, 10 AM for McArthurGlen Opening, followed by the unveiling of SEI.

Where: [McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport](#) - Templeton Station Rd.

To learn more about Y Public Art click [here](#). To view video and images of SEI click [here](#). High resolution images and interviews are available upon request.

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About Y Public Art

Y Public Art is a large scale public art design and installation company founded by internationally acclaimed visual contemporary artist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and award-winning designer Barry Gilson. Designed, fabricated and installed under Gilson’s business management and Yahgulanaas’ artistic direction, each piece aims to engage the broader public, inviting the viewer to participate in contemporary social issues. For more information: Website: ypublicart.com

About Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas

Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas is an award winning visual contemporary artist and author. His art works are in numerous public and private collections and have exhibited broadly. Institutional collections include the British Museum, Seattle Art Museum, Vancouver Art Gallery, Calgary’s Glenbow Museum and Vancouver’s Museum of Anthropology. His large sculptural works are part of the public art collection of the City of Vancouver, City of Kamloops and University of British Columbia. Yahgulanaas’ publications include national best sellers *Flight of the Hummingbird* and *RED: A Haida Manga*. For more information: Website: mny.ca Twitter: [@haidamanga](https://twitter.com/haidamanga) Instagram: [yahgulanaas](https://www.instagram.com/yahgulanaas) Facebook: [Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas](https://www.facebook.com/MichaelNicollYahgulanaas)

About McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport

McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport is a joint venture between McArthurGlen, Europe’s leading owner, developer and manager of designer outlets, and Vancouver Airport Authority, a community-based, not-for-profit organization that operates Vancouver International Airport (YVR). For more information about the centre, visit: mcarthurglenvancouver.com. And follow us on:

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