



Art Beat

Office of Arts & Culture news and events



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“Wind and Water” installed at Fire Station 20

At Interbay’s Fire Station 20, artist **Rob Ley** installed *Wind and Water*, an artwork that represents these two classical elements. To create this piece, Ley spent time with the firefighters at this fire station, riding along with them on the job and discussing the nature of fire. It was during this time Ley learned about the delicate interplay between fire, wind and water that inspired this piece.



The artist created *Wind and Water* using over 100 one-inch stainless steel tubes and stands over 14 feet tall. The artist welded the steel strands – which are individually 10 to 14 feet long – together in a wave formation that brings to mind the flow of water or movement of the wind. The sculpture engages pedestrians walking by, and frames the entrance to the building.

Rob Ley was **selected in 2011** to create artwork for Fire Station 20. Hailing from Los Angeles, California, he is an artist trained as an architect who often creates multi-dimensional public artworks using sustainable materials. He founded Urbana Studio in 2002, which focuses on developing environments that respond to the human experience. He also has many public artworks across the country, including works in Los Angeles, New York City and Denver.



The Office of Arts & Culture commissioned Water and Wind with Department of Finance and Administrative Services Fire Facilities and Emergency Management Levy 1% for Art funds. Photos courtesy City of Seattle.

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On the Move

Rob Ley's *Wind and Water* installed at Fire Station 20 by ARTSITE.LTD.



February 10, 2015

Letter of Recommendation for ARTSITEItd, LLC

This letter serves as a recommendation for Roger Waterhouse and Denise Bisio and their company, ARTSITE. In early 2014, I was put in touch with them at the suggestion of a mutual friend who had experience working with them in the past. My studio had been commissioned to design, fabricate, and install an outdoor sculpture for the new Fire Station 20 building, in Seattle. As my studio is in Los Angeles, it was imperative that I find and work with a local company that had the expertise to oversee the installation of the large piece being developed on site.

Over the course of a year, as the sculpture was being fabricated in California, Denise and Roger helped with the logistics leading up the installation day. This included coordinating delivery of the piece with my shipping company, meeting with the building construction superintendent on site to discuss staging and installation plans, as well as set up delivery of additional landscaping and lighting components.

On the day of installation, Denise and Roger worked diligently into long hours of the night as the available window of time allotted for the art installation was limited. The piece was installed beautifully, in spite of the challenges that often appear during an unusual installation process.

Perhaps most telling of their professionalism was their continued correspondence and care for the piece including a follow up cleaning and preparation session prior to a big open house for the new facility. Whereas some companies consider the project finished as soon as the last element is installed, ARTSITE clearly puts an emphasis on continued service. It is with no hesitation that I recommend their service.

Regards,



Rob Ley

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