

Skywalk

Artist - Derek Besant

Skywalk is a 14-panel frieze that depicts a stretched panoramic of the Chinook prairie sky. On a grey day, the *Skywalk* mural is a welcome glimpse of blue sky, and on a sunny day, the frieze helps blend the bridge structure into the skyline.

Skywalk is located on the south face of the pedestrian overpass near the Canyon Meadows C-Train (light rail transit) station. The overpass spans Macleod Trail South, north of Canyon Meadows Drive and south of Lake Fraser Gate (Avenida Mall). The overpass connects the east side of Macleod Trail with the transit station.



The image is a computer reconstruction built by the artist which is printed on layers of industrial vinyl adhesive film. The film has an ultraviolet inhibitor skin surface, which helps reduce fading.

The Artist

Derek Besant is an internationally acclaimed artist known for his unorthodox approaches to technology and industrial materials in public art installations.

He has participated in projects all over the globe including Russia, the USA, Japan, Budapest, Berlin, Italy and Canada.

The Project

- The artist was chosen through an invitational call process, where selected artists are invited to submit an application for the project.
- The budget for *Skywalk* was \$70,000.
- The project was a collaborative initiative by the Public Art Program and City of Calgary Transportation Project Office, the business unit sponsor.
- The capital project through which the funding was made possible was the construction of the Canyon Meadows Pedestrian Overpass.
- *Skywalk* was completed in August 2004.