

An Auspicious Find

Artist – Lori Sobkowich

An Auspicious Find, by Lori Sobkowich, is located in a pathway intersection between the pedestrian overpass on Memorial Drive and the Jaipur Bridge NW near Eau Claire market in downtown Calgary.

An Auspicious Find consists of four pixilated images, created with approximately 15,000 glass marbles captured in perforated and riveted steel, of flora and fauna set on stone columns. The theme encompasses the ecological aspects a visitor to Prince's Island might encounter - water, air and land. The images themselves are a contemporary version of the traditional stained glass panel, making the changing direction and quality of the natural light as much an element of the sculpture as the glass, metal and stone.



The Artist

Lori Sobkowich is a local Calgary artist who works in the diverse fields of fine art and art glass, as well as scenic stage and film craft.

Renowned for her skill and design abilities, she has received both public and corporate commissions, including glass and scenic design work at the Calgary International Airport, and a glass installation/sculpture at the new ENMAX place.

Her scenic stage and film work includes: Showboat; Disneyland Tokyo; Mystery Alaska; Shanghai Noon; K-19 – The Widowmaker; Dreamkeeper; and the unauthorized Michael Jackson biography, Man in the Mirror.

She has received many awards and scholarships including the Bronfman Award for an Outstanding Canadian Artist which acknowledged her status as an international glass artist.

The Project

- The artist was chosen through an open call process, where all interested artists are invited to submit an application for the project.
- The budget for *An Auspicious Find* was \$24,000.
- The public art project was a collaborative initiative by the Public Art Program and City of Calgary Parks, the business unit sponsor.
- *An Auspicious Find* was completed in November 2004.