

# vision

Public art should be a force for placemaking--for creating strong, meaningful connections between people and places that are important to community and civic life.

# Arlington County public art

A walking tour of Rosslyn





## Public Art in Rosslyn

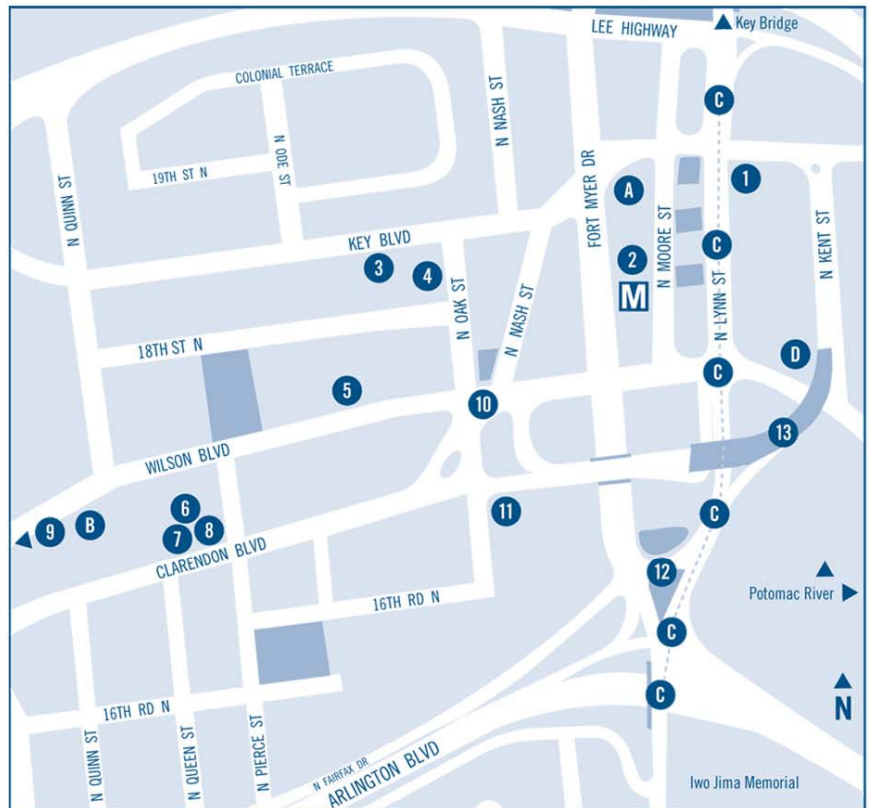
- 1 Ned Kahn**  
*Liquid Pixels*, 2002  
stainless steel disks and pins, injection molded plastic backing panels  
1801 North Lynn Street  
Funded by Stuart Investment Company and The JBG Companies
- 2 David Chung**  
*Rosslyn*, 2000  
Keim mineral paint on concrete panels  
Rosslyn Metro Station, Fort Myer Drive, above fare machines  
Funded by Arlington County, Federal Transit Administrations Livable Communities Initiative, WMATA, Rosslyn Renaissance
- 3 David Chung & Tom Ashcraft**  
*Continuum*, 2003  
hand-cut ceramic tile mounted on waterproof composite board  
1800 North Oak Street (Key Boulevard side)  
Funded by The Donohoe Companies, Inc. and Twin Oak LLC
- 4 David Chung & Tom Ashcraft**  
*Reposto*, 2003  
Japanese porcelain mosaic tile over steel frame and concrete  
1800 North Oak Street  
Funded by The Donohoe Companies, Inc. and Twin Oak LLC
- 5 Miriam Schapiro**  
*Anna and David*, 1987  
painted aluminum and stainless steel  
1525 Wilson Boulevard  
Funded by J.W. Kaempfer
- 6 Kendall Buster**  
*Untitled*, 2007  
powder-coated steel covered in greenhouse shade cloth  
1650 Wilson Boulevard - indoor art atrium  
Funded by Washington Real Estate Investment Trust (WRIT)
- 7 Foon Sham**  
*Aya*, 2007  
cherry and walnut wood  
1650 Wilson Boulevard - indoor art atrium  
Funded by Washington Real Estate Investment Trust (WRIT)
- 8 Wendy Ross**  
*Radiolaria*, 2007  
welded stainless steel  
1650 Wilson Boulevard - outdoor interior courtyard  
Funded by Washington Real Estate Investment Trust (WRIT)
- 9 John Dreyfuss**  
*Helix*, 2006  
bronze  
1800 Wilson Boulevard  
Funded by Holladay Corporation
- 10 Chris Gardner**  
*Cupid's Garden*, 1994  
stainless steel  
Wilson & Clarendon Boulevards between Oak & Nash Streets  
Funded by LaSalle Partnership
- 11 Boaz Vaadia**  
*The Family: David, Haggit, and Adoniyya*, 1992  
bluestone  
1300 17th Street  
Funded by LaSalle Partnership

- 12 Nancy Holt**  
*Dark Star Park*, 1984  
gunite (air-placed concrete), earth, sod, winter creeper, crown vetch, willow oak, stone dust, stone masonry, asphalt, steel, water  
1655 Fort Myer Drive and adjacent traffic island  
Funding, development, and support provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the J.W. Kaempfer Company, Kingdom Gould, and Geneva Associates.

- 13 Karen Singer**  
*Spectrum of Freedom*, 1997  
ceramic tile  
Freedom Park, 1101 Wilson Boulevard  
Funded by Westfield Realty

### PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT

- A Christian Moeller**  
1812 North Moore Street  
Funded by Monday Properties
- B Artist TBD**  
1716 Wilson Boulevard  
Funded by Lincoln Property Company
- C Cliff Garten**  
*Corridor of Light*  
North Lynn Street Corridor  
Funded by The JBG Companies (Central Place, Waterview, and Rosslyn Commons), Turnberry Tower (Facchina Development, LLC)
- D Possible Future Cultural Center**  
1101 Wilson Boulevard



**Artist:** Ned Kahn

**Title:** *Liquid Pixels* (2002)

**Material:** stainless steel disks, stainless steel pins, injection molded plastic backing panels

This artwork consists of six 42 x 25 foot vertical panels mounted on the North and East sides of this building, to which 630,000 one-inch diameter brushed stainless steel disks, attached to stainless steel pins, have been affixed.

The work responds kinetically to the wind and light, mimicking the flow of air currents and light conditions across its surface.

Funded and developed by the Steuart Investment Company and the JBG Companies.

1



**Artist:** Y. David Chung

**Title:** *Scenes of Rosslyn* (2000)

**Material:** mineral paint on concrete panels

Eleven separate panels comprise this 88' long panoramic mural of Rosslyn. The mural's size and sitting—which do not allow it to be apprehended by the viewer in one glance—as well as its stylized imagery make it appear from Moore Street outside like an abstract pattern of colors and forms. Upon closer inspection inside the station, familiar elements of the Rosslyn neighborhood's urban landscapes emerge and morph into one another, in a serial effect that relates to film and graphic novels/comic strips: Key Bridge; the curved form of one of Rosslyn's twin towers; a flowering dogwood, the Virginia state tree; the Arlington Temple United Methodist Church building, which houses both a place of worship and a gas station; and even another of Rosslyn's public artworks. The work's dynamic lines connote the experience and perspective of a person moving through the streets.

Funded by Arlington County, and the Federal Transit Administrations Livable Communities Initiative with support from WMATA and Rosslyn Renaissance.

2



3

**Artist:** Tom Ashcraft/ Y. David Chung

**Title:** *Continuum & Reposto* (2003)

**Material:** *Continuum*: hand-cut ceramic tile mural mounted on waterproof composite board

*Reposto*: Japanese porcelain mosaic tile over steel frame and concrete

Commissioned to enliven this stretch of Key Boulevard, the 17 mosaic panels of *Continuum* depict motion through a sequence of abstracted botanical forms. A second work, *Reposto*, is situated at the main entrance of this building on Oak Street. *Reposto* consists of two mosaic benches and one mosaic sculpture, whose forms echo the organic shapes found in *Continuum*.

Although *Continuum* is two-dimensional and *Reposto* sculptural, the shared color scheme, mosaic design, and references to natural forms visually unite these works.

Developed and funded by The Donohoe Companies, Inc. and Twin Oak LLC



4



**Artist:** Miriam Schapiro

**Title:** *Anna and David* (1987)

**Material:** painted aluminum and stainless steel

When real estate developer J. W. Kaempfer discovered Miriam Schapiro's painting *Pas de Deux*, he not only purchased the work, but commissioned Schapiro to recreate the painting's central figures into a large-scale sculpture. This sculpture now beautifies the entrance to this Rosslyn office building. Schapiro, primarily known as a painter, embraced the proposal and created her first sculpture.

*Anna and David*, a three-story, brightly painted sculpture, conveys movement through animated poses and brightly painted aluminum. A woman steps sideways, raising her arms while her partner appears to dance in a similarly dynamic stance. Schapiro writes, "I wish to translate feeling into movement in my figurative works, so that body language tells the story." This sense of movement is visible in *Anna and David* and allows the sculpture to enliven the neighborhood in which it stands.

Funded by J. W. Kaempfer Company

5



**Artist:** Kendall Buster

**Title:** *Untitled*, 2006

**Material:** powder-coated steel covered in greenhouse shade cloth

Originally trained as a microbiologist, Kendall Buster (b. 1954) considers herself both scientist and artist. This suspended sculpture, like many of Buster's artworks, calls to mind natural forms and processes. Here, two clusters of domed oval forms hover overhead. Each cluster comprises a series of interconnected shapes, which invite us to imagine a path through and within the structures. Buster's use of steel frames and semi-transparent cloth yields tangible yet airy forms that seem simultaneously weighty and delicate.

The sculpture's simple shapes encourage a wealth of associations. Typical of Buster's abstract forms, they may portray cross-sections of cells viewed under a microscope, clouds drifting across the sky, or even a fantastic architectural model. Buster often refers to such works as "drawings in space" because of their visible structures.

Funded by Washington Real Estate Investment Trust

6



**Artist:** Foon Sham

**Title:** *Aya*, 2006

**Material:** cherry and walnut wood

Initially, this dramatic sculpture by Foon Sham (b. 1953) appears solid, like a massive tree trunk. But *Aya* is meticulously constructed of myriad pieces of stacked and interlocked wood. Balanced at its base, *Aya* soars upward fifteen feet, twisting to produce visual dynamism through its evolving contours. The tower-like form reflects Sham's exposure to architecture of the American Southwest. He developed his concept for *Aya* using acrylic and pastel sketches.

Closer consideration of *Aya's* surface reveals Sham's passion for process, craftsmanship, and wood as a material. Tidy, regular edges and neat joints create a unified surface, which also discloses the artist's touch in the marks left behind by carving implements. This type of joinery is a traditional construction method, but Sham celebrates its aesthetic merits rather than its merely functional ones.

Funded by Washington Real Estate Investment Trust

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**Artist:** Wendy M. Ross

**Title:** *Radiolaria*, 2006

**Material:** welded stainless steel

Sculptor Wendy M. Ross created this airy steel structure as an abstract focal point for the landscaped courtyard. Ross has long been fascinated by the internal structures of plants and simple organisms. The delicate skeletal remains of minute marine creatures called *Radiolaria* inspired this sculpture. Our movement around *Radiolaria* reveals its visual complexity of curves and counter-curves. Interior and exterior hooks terminate in disks that recall the filaments *Radiolaria* use for propulsion and buoyancy.

The sculpture's undulating forms suggest the water currents of the marine environment the creatures inhabit. These same elements give the impression that the sculpture might be capable of motion despite its repose in the garden. Ross is best-known for abstract sculptures like *Radiolaria*. However, she also designed and created the realistic full-length bronze portrait of Founding Father George Mason, which is the central feature of his memorial near the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C.

Funded by Washington Real Estate Investment Trust

7



8



**Artist:** John Dreyfuss

**Title:** *Helix*, 2006

**Material:** bronze

Inspired by the shape of the human pelvis, Washington, D.C., native John Dreyfuss (b. 1949) created this massive bronze sculpture titled *Helix*. Expanded to this monumental scale, *Helix* functions primarily as an abstract form rather than a literal representation of a human bone. Its curving silhouette, echoed by the circular plaza on which it sits and the concave arc of the adjacent building, encourages us to walk around the work. Our movements reveal the elegance of *Helix*'s changeable contours from our own perspectives.

As a sculptor and trained architect, Dreyfuss enjoys exploring the component parts of such complex structures as the human skeleton. Though he begins his creative process by making small models to understand the form, Dreyfuss uses digital technology to refine the shape of a sculpture at different scales before its execution.

Funded by Holladay Corporation

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9



**Artist:** Chris Gardner

**Title:** *Cupid's Garden* (1994)

**Material:** stainless steel, concrete foundation, brick paving, landscaping

The artist imagines this work as “the garden where Cupid grows his arrows.” Arrows have been a predominant motif in the artist’s work for some time, as Gardner enjoys the dynamism and sense of movement they convey and the numerous metaphorical possibilities they offer.

*Cupid's Garden* is appropriately located on a traffic island where several streets converge. The arrows allude to signs that direct the busy flow of traffic and become shiny directional counterparts for the cars dashing by.

Funded and developed by LaSalle Partners

10



**Artist:** Boaz Vaadia

**Title:** *The Family: David, Haggit, and Adoniyya* (1992)

**Material:** bluestone

Using materials from his urban environment, Israeli-born sculptor Boaz Vaadia gleans New York City for slate and bluestone from which to create works of art. Vaadia's parents farmed the earth for food, while Vaadia garners stone from the earth for his artwork. This primal connection to the earth and respect for natural materials is vital to Vaadia's work.

The simply posed figures of *The Family: David, Haggit, and Adoniyya* are based on biblical characters from the Old Testament: King David, his wife Haggit, and their child Adoniyya. These figures were formed by stacking hand-carved layers of bluestone. Vaadia's layering of stone slabs mimics the stratification of the sedimentary rock and emphasizes the verticality of the structure.

Funded by Arlington County



**Artist:** Nancy Holt

**Title:** *Dark Star Park* (1984)

**Material:** gunite (sprayable mixture of cement and sand), stone masonry, asphalt, steel, water, earth, grass, winter creeper, crown vetch, willow oak.

Encompassing landscape architecture, sculpture, and astronomy, *Dark Star Park* is among the first major examples of "integrated public art" that is inseparable from its setting and creates a total environment to be experienced. The work was restored in 2002.

The work also refers to the area's history. Each year, on August 1<sup>st</sup>, at 9:32 am, actual shadows cast by the poles and spheres align with permanent forms in the shape of the shadows on the ground beneath them. The date marks the day that William Henry Ross purchased the land that later became Rosslyn.

Funding, development, and support provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the J.W. Kaempfer Company, Kingdom Gould, Geneva Associates and Arlington County



**Artist:** Karen Singer

**Title:** *Spectrum of Freedom*  
(1996-97)

**Material:** ceramic tiles mounted in metal frames  
attached to a wall with bolts

270 student apprentices assisted in the creation of this work

Lead artist Karen Singer and workshop instructor Evelyn Stanley worked with 270 young artists between the ages of nine and fourteen to create this seven part ceramic tile mural. Each part is dedicated to one of seven freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of expression, freedom to learn, freedom to grow, freedom to live in a clean environment, freedom of religion, and freedom from fear.

Each section is composed of 42 tiles that students hand-sculpted and glazed at the Lee Arts Center. Color plays a vital role in the symbolism of this piece. Each of the panels is dominated by a color of the spectrum. Singer makes an analogy between light and freedom, "Just as light is composed of an array of colors, freedom is made up of many components." The 28 foot mural is appropriately displayed in Rosslyn's Freedom Park.

Funded by Westfield Realty, Inc. and Hyatt Arlington



## Projects in Development

### Christian Moeller

1812 North Moore Street  
Funded by Monday Properties



Plans for this project are in the initial stages.  
Please visit our website for future highlights.

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### Artist TBD

1716 Wilson Boulevard  
Funded by Lincoln Property Company



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### Cliff Garten

*Corridor of Light*  
North Lynn Street Corridor  
Funded by The JBG Companies (Central Place,  
Waterview, and Rosslyn Commons),  
Turnberry Tower (Facchina Development, L.L.C.)



Artist Cliff Garten is developing artwork along Rosslyn's North Lynn Street corridor. His project will focus on the Rosslyn Esplanade adjacent to Key Bridge and a serial gesture of illuminated sculpture and light fixtures along the corridor, including JBG's Central Place development and a possible treatment of the Meade Street Bridge.

*(See Rosslyn Magazine article for more information)*



### Possible Future Cultural Center

1101 Wilson Boulevard



The County's plan for a multidisciplinary cultural complex, with a black box theatre, a ballroom, an art gallery, a café, retail stores, and classroom space. Right in the heart of Rosslyn, a gathering place: an arts space for everyone.

