



Eagle Calling

Robert Davidson



Frank Hurt Park, 13828 – 77 Avenue

Eagle Calling combines the traditional visual iconography of Haida art with a contemporary aesthetic that is elegant in its graceful contours and distinctive in its bold use of colour. Red, a traditional primary colour in traditional Northwest Coast art, is used by Davidson to symbolize the supernatural and the force of the spirit.

The form of an eagle was inspired by the artist's Eagle clan relationship with the Allaire-Bell family who initiated the artwork. Robert's Haida name, *guud san glans*, means Eagle of the Dawn. His stylized eagle looks upward and outward with inspiring strength giving us a glimpse of the spirit world. Unveiled 2014.

About the Artist

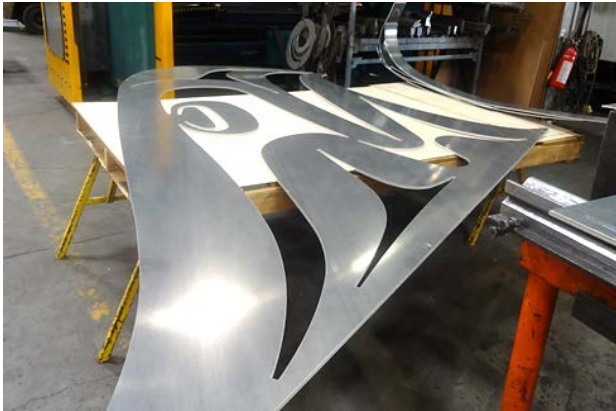
Robert Davidson is one of Canada's most important visual artists. A Northwest Coast native of Haida and Tlingit descent, he is a master carver of totem poles and masks and works in a variety of other media as a





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Design water-jet cut from aluminum sheet



Walls welded to sheets creating 3D form



Finished to create a precise edge

printmaker, painter and jeweler. He has received many honours for his accomplishments, the Order of Canada, the Audain Prize for Lifetime Achievement Award in the Visual Arts, and the Governor General's Award for Visual Art. His work is in the National Gallery of Canada, Royal British Columbia Museum, and the Vancouver Art Gallery. Davidson lives in South Surrey and Haida Gwaii.

Artwork Details

The overall artwork measures nearly three meters (10 ft.) tall and wide and is mounted on a three metre high black metal support structure. The aluminum artwork weighs about 150 kg (300 – 400 lbs). The structural design for the artwork, support structure, foundation and attachment details were by Thomas Leung Structural Engineering Inc.

Artwork Fabrication

Working first from drawings, cut-out card, and then a prototype, Robert adapts the traditional Haida iconography to create a contemporary “form-line” sculpture where positive and negative space work in flowing harmony.

This elegant sculpture was produced from two precise water-jet cut aluminum panels. The walls joining the two sheets were cut, formed and welded to create an enclosed 3D form. The aluminum artwork was fabricated by Brenco Industries Ltd. who also fabricated the supporting metal structure.

The finish of the artwork is a high gloss red powder coating with an undercoat and a final anti-graffiti coat. Painting was done by Aegis Industrial Finishing Ltd. Robert used Jan Schmidt with Longship Inc. as a consulting manager to oversee the fabrication of the artwork. Foundation by Bill Mathers Contracting and installation of artwork by White Rock Iron Products Ltd.

