
For Immediate Release

ATTN: Editors - Interviews/photos with artist onsite during installation can be arranged.

Nationally Acclaimed Artist Begins Installing Public Art at Cambridge City Hall

Cambridge, Ontario. November 6, 2008... Stephen Cruise, nationally renowned Canadian artist whose work is found in the National Gallery of Canada and the Art Gallery of Ontario, will add Cambridge City Hall to the list of prominent locations for his visual display masterpieces. The public art sculpture entitled "indigena domain" installation is underway in front of Cambridge's new City Hall, adjacent to Historic City Hall along Dickson Street and is slated for unveiling at noon on November 22nd. The work was commissioned at a cost of \$150,000 by City Council last fall when Cruise's design won the public competition which was overseen by a distinguished group of art experts and scholars.

"Shortly after Council announced the winning design in October of last year, Stephen went to work on elements of the design, sourcing the numerous materials and coordinating logistical work to take the project from concepts to reality," says Reg Weber, Director of Community Recreation Services.

Stephen Cruise is known for bringing his highly engaging visual art to the masses and will be on site to oversee the installation. It is anticipated the process will take upwards of 12 days to complete with a crew of approximately 6 people. The first step is to lay the concrete foundation which will form the base of the art pieces.

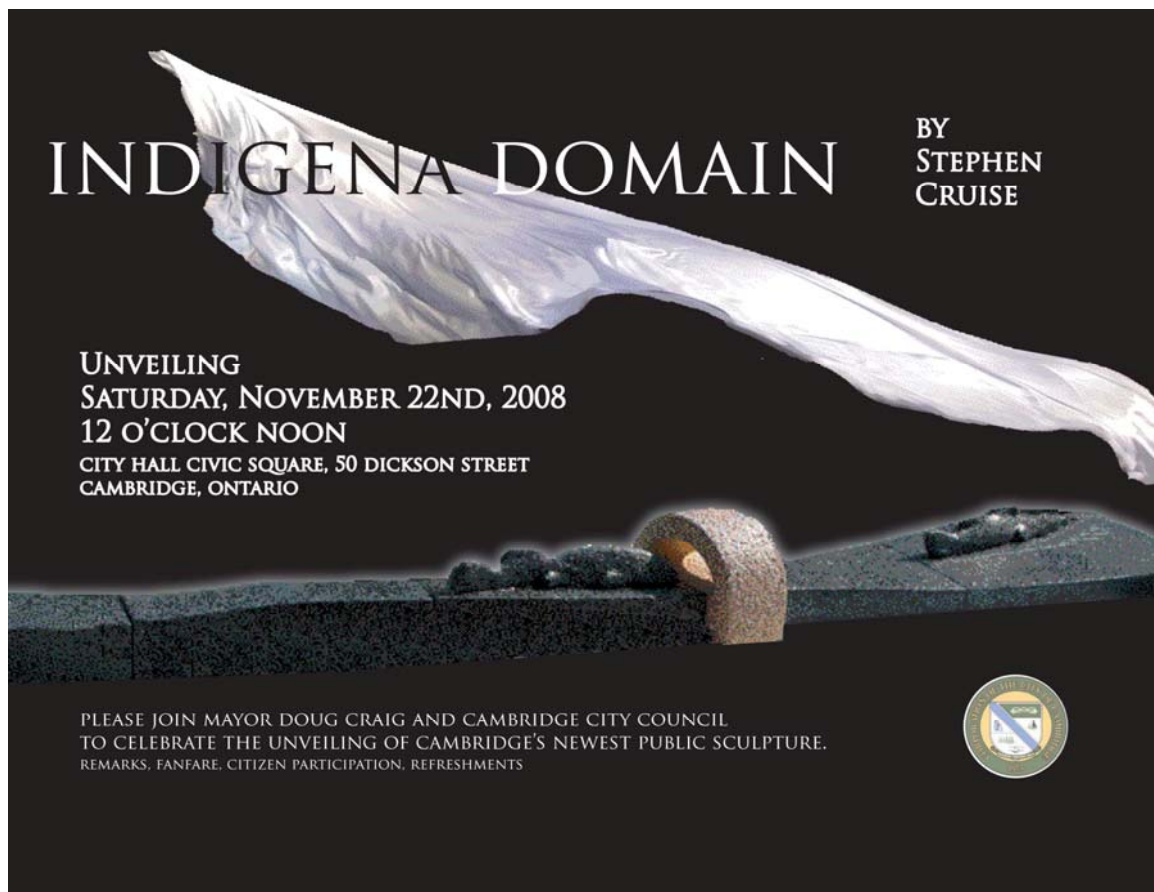
"The role of public art in the community can be significant," says Mayor Doug Craig. "The concept of Civic Square is to provide an enhanced area for the community to hold events and activities that are geared to everyone. This hands-on art display will be an engaging environment that integrates natural materials and historical elements into the square."

"indigena domain" traces the history of the local communities and draws from the natural significance of the elements of importance. The sculpture references deer hooves for Blair, grist mill wheels for Galt, trees for Preston and a beehive for Hespeler - all symbols that are true to these very distinct but intersected neighbourhoods. The Grand River unites the entire work which is symbolic of our roots as a community. The shifting scale plays with the sense of reality, and has a magical quality.

"The volunteer committee that assisted with this project was invaluable and dedicated their time and resources to make this showcase for the public to enjoy a success," adds Weber.

The official unveiling ceremony is planned for the public. This event will engage citizens of all ages to help unveil the 100 foot sculpture. Members of the Cambridge Concert Band will perform and attendees will also enjoy a specially commissioned edible work of art from locally-based Klara Johnson's School Of Confectionery & Pastry Art.

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About the Selection JURORS

Five experts served as jurors to select the winning public art bid:

Gary Michael Dault is a Toronto based writer, artist and art critic. He is the author or co-author of numerous books. Mr. Dault contributes a weekly visual arts review column to The Globe and Mail, and has written frequently for a number of Canadian and International magazines and journals including Canadian Art and Canadian Architect. Mr. Dault has held a number of teaching posts, including staff positions at the Ontario College of Art, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Brock University and positions within the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Design at the University of Toronto. He is currently an Adjunct Professor of Cultural History at the University of

Waterloo School of Architecture in Cambridge teaching courses in 20th century culture and criticism in the undergraduate program and leading a seminar in critical writing to graduate students.

Rina Greer is an art consultant who specializes in integrated art and architecture projects. She has been the Director of the Toronto Sculpture Garden since 1981. Ms Greer has been involved with public art projects including: the Gooderham Building's Flatiron Mural, 22 art projects for the Spadina LRT. She has also been involved with projects at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and the Japanese Canadian Culture Centre.

Gregory Humeniuk has a Masters in Art History. He works in the Curatorial Department, Office of the Director, Collections and Research at the Art Gallery of Ontario (Toronto). Mr. Humeniuk researches proposed acquisitions, and liaise between the Office of Director, Collections and Research and internal and external colleagues.

Laurie MacLean is a young adult who was born and raised in Cambridge. Ms MacLean is in her 4th year Bachelor of Architecture program at the University of Waterloo. She has lived and worked in New York, London, Paris and Dublin and has studied in Rome. Ms MacLean has studied first hand, the public spaces within the city, which provides her with a very good understanding of urbanism, art and architecture.

Heather Franklin is a Cambridge resident who is well respected throughout the community. Ms Franklin is chair and founding member of the Cambridge Sculpture Garden; is currently a Gallery Technician at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts; is an arts instructor at Cambridge Galleries, Conestoga College, and Homer Watson House and Gallery. Ms Franklin has received numerous awards including "Person of the Year" from the City of Cambridge, Bernice Adams Award in Visual Art and Women of Distinction Award in Arts and Culture sponsored by the Y.W.C.A. of Cambridge.

The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2008, the population reached over 125,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement. Based on the 2007 BMA Management Consulting Inc Municipal Study, the City of Cambridge is one of only four municipalities in the province that is debt free.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit www.cambridge.ca
The City of Cambridge press room is located at <http://www.cambridge.ca/article.php?sid=176>

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