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Public Art Walking Tour of the City of Kitchener by artist Nicholas Rees Approximate walking time 90 minutes

The tour begins at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery,
101 Queen Street North (located in Centre In The Square.)



At the main entrance to
the building, on the Otto
Street side of the Centre
in The Square, located
on the lawn to your left.

Reclining Woman, Walter Bachinski, 1977/78.
Bronze. Purchased by the Gallery with funds
from the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.
The strong classical and renaissance influence
in Bachinski's work along with his own
themes of tragedy and violence are evident
in this handsome traditional piece.



Further to your left
and close to the Centre
In The Square sign at
Queen and Otto streets
you'll find the next work.

Untitled, Alan Reynolds, 1991. Welded and
painted steel. Gift of Irving Zucker. The
sculpture is also a small bench and reflects
the influence of Picasso on the artist.



Cross Otto Street to Civic
Square park (located
across from the Gallery's
main entrance), to the
large black memorial.

*Kitchener Fallen Firefighters Memorial
Monument*, Timothy P. Schmaltz, 2008. Bronze
on black granite base. Commissioned by local
firefighters to honour those killed in the line
of duty, the sculpture is in the realist tradition
of large monumental works.



Head along Queen Street (towards the Kitchener Public Library). At Ahrens Street turn right and walk a few blocks to Hibner Park.

Hibner Park fountain, 1939. Steel, granite. Located in one of Kitchener's oldest parks, this gazebo/fountain has sculptural elements and offers a tranquil oasis in the city's core. The fountain's basin carries the inscription "Daniel Hibner, Mayor of Berlin", and may belong to an earlier fountain built on the same site, circa 1897. The fountain is oriented towards the four cardinal points and therefore also serves as a compass



From Hibner Park take Young Street towards Kitchener City Hall. Cross Weber and Duke streets. Kitchener City Hall is at the corner of Duke and Young. The next sculpture is located in the City Hall garden closest to Duke and Young streets.

Anvil, Nicholas Rees, 1996. Ferro-cement, steel. Commissioned by the City of Kitchener, the theme of an anvil was chosen by the artist to reflect the City's motto- "Ex Industria Prosperitas" (or through industry, prosperity), in addition to resonating with publicly displayed pieces that are part of the Kitchener Industrial Artifacts Project. The project preserves and displays industrial machinery and artifacts that reflect the city's manufacturing heritage, in prominent public locations.



The next sculpture is located beside the garden at City Hall. Head down the steps to the area near Duke Street.

Horsepower, Brad Golden and Lynne Eichenburg, 1993. Steel, glass. Installed at the time of opening of Kitchener City Hall, this large sculpture celebrates the city's history via a series of historic photographs on glass plates, a large set of wheels reminiscent of agricultural machinery and a "governor" which reflects both industrial processes and the role of civic government.



The next sculpture is located inside City Hall. Walk into City Hall, turn right and walk along the corridor that is parallel to Duke Street.

Sawdust Angelus, Michael Jacob Ambedian, 2005. Commissioned by the City of Kitchener at the conclusion of the artist's term as Artist in Residence, the work is inspired by the famous painting "The Angelus," by Millet. The use of sawdust and glue as a sculpting material is both unique and highly effective, imparting warmth and texture to the work.



Walk back towards the entrance and on your right, there is a curved wood-paneled wall. The next work is installed on the wall.

The Necklace, Carol Bradley, 1997. Ceramic. Commissioned by the City of Kitchener after her term as Artist in Residence, the sculpture reflects the artist's strong interest in organic form and is an elegant solution to placing a work on a curved wall.



Staying on this level of City Hall, walk to the other side of the entrance, for the next installation

Hydro Electric Governor, C. 1921, installed 1999. Part of the Kitchener Industrial Artifacts Project. Brass, steel. Donated by Ontario Power Generation Ltd., the artifact celebrates the arrival of hydro power from Niagara Falls to Berlin (as Kitchener was known prior to 1916), in 1910. Sculptural elements in this and other artifacts are clearly evident.



Go down the large staircase to City Hall's lower level. Exit through the main doors opposite the stair case. The next work is located on the exterior wall of City Hall, on the right hand side, along the ramp.

Millenium Thumbprints, Charles Baker, Christopher Griffin and Marshall Ward, 2000. Bronze. An interactive piece to celebrate the historical connection between Kitchener and Berlin, the work is composed of castings of thumbprints taken from citizens of both cities.



Cross King Street at the traffic lights in front of city hall and walk down Gaukel Street to Victoria Park. Cross Joseph Street to enter the park. The next installation is located inside the park entrance, including in and around the pools.

The Luggage Project, Ernest Daetwyler, 2007. Cast concrete, bronze. Located at the Joseph Street entrance to Victoria Park and composed of a series of pieces of luggage, the work is an eloquent salute to all those who have emigrated to Waterloo Region.



Cross the large green common behind the Clock Tower, towards the lake in Victoria Park. The next work is located near Jubilee Drive.

Statue of Queen Victoria, Rafael Zaccagnini, 1909/1910. Bronze on granite plinth. Commissioned by the Imperial Order of The Daughters of The Empire (I.O.D.E), this large monumental sculpture in Victoria Park has become a city landmark.



Walk past the Queen Victoria Sculpture towards the lake and cross the first wooden foot bridge. Turn right, then cross the next bridge and turn right again. The next sculpture is on the bank of the creek next to another bridge.

The Canoe, Brian Scott, 1997. Aluminum, bronze. Located in Victoria Park, the sculpture has proven enormously popular with children, as it invites hands-on exploration. Now eroded from use, the immediate area around the work was landscaped to resemble waves.



Walk back to the Clock Tower in the park. Walk back up Gaukel Street to Charles Street, Turn right on Charles, and walk 3 blocks to Benton Street, Turn left on Benton.

Pedestrian, Ted Fullerton. Commissioned by the City of Kitchener for the parking facility designed by Diamond Schmitt Architects. Seven figures were installed in 2010: on the garage's exterior wall, on the retail roof, and on the sidewalk. The striding figures reflects the pedestrian-first values of Kitchener's new downtown design. The figures on the building are cast polyester and fibreglass with a bronze-appearing patina. The sidewalk figure is cast bronze.



Further up Benton at the public square beside the parking garage (King St. and Benton St.) is the final work.

Re-location and Transformation of Memory, Allan Harding MacKay, 2009. Granite, chrome, steel. Photos of the site as it appeared during its former incarnation as Speaker's Corner have been stretched and incorporated into coloured tiles in the ground. Referred to as anamorphic art, (a distortion of shape) the work requires a curved reflective surface (the chromed cylinder at its center) to restore the original image.

Walk to King Street (Benton becomes Frederick Street at King) and turn left to return to the Walper Hotel.