Date:

October 17, 2013

Re:

2013 Graduating Class Sculpture Development Permit

**Artist:** 

Title of Sculpture: When Women Rise Mehrdad Rahbar

# Introduction

The 2013 Graduating Class is requesting development permit approval for the installation of a community art level sculpture to be installed in Marine Drive Courtyard. Today, more than ever, art can be an effective and peaceful instrument to combat war, inequality, injustice and prejudice. This proposal is for a sculpture that pays tribute to the women of the world in their struggle for equality, respect and freedom. This installation will have a landmark and symbolic quality due to its timeline and theme. University of British Columbia is the ideal location for such an installation as it is emerging as one of the most important institutions in North America and the world. This public art piece is intended to become a place of meeting and congregation for thousands of students and the public at large.

# Description of the proposed artwork.

A group of five abstract female figures, representing each continent form a circle and hold a globe, appeared as a cage. Inside the globe is a captured dove, trying to fly to freedom. This art piece reflects the struggle, endurance, determination, dreams, unity and hopes of women for equality, respect and freedom around the globe. I believe any movement for freedom and equality should concern all members of our planet. The struggle of one people is the struggle of all peoples regardless of gender, race, and faith. In summer of 2009 the Iranian women demonstrated this struggle as a member of the global community. The world in unison marched with them, which later triggered the Arab Spring. More recently, the Pakistani teen activist, Malala Yousafzai triumphed over a horrific assassination attempt, and continues to inspire the world with her unending fight for education and rights for girls and women. This is not solely about women in the Middle East but about the suffering and rising of all women around the globe.

# Forms, symbolism and harmony

The circle was selected as a metaphor to bond the women together as the primary form of unity, and as a geometric order for universal unity that has existed in the development of all human cultures throughout the history. The Circle is also an analogous form to humans and their environment and appears complete at all times. This geometrical form signifies multiplicity, endurance and ultimately victory for existence and a cause.

#### Design and installation team

The sculpture will be designed and fabricated by the proponent, Mehrdad R. Rahbar, in collaboration with IE Creative Studio, Vancouver.

#### Medium

The five figures are cut from 12mm thick copper-plated steel and the globe is sliced from 10mm thick bronze bars and tubes. Both metals are symbolically interwoven with antiquity, human civilization and endurance and they change gracefully in textures and appearance over time. The sculpture colours will also change over time by natural oxidization. The dove will be made with blown-glass technique.

#### **Size**

- Five figures, each 2.1m high
- The Globe 1.8m diameter
- The Dove 30cm in volume

#### Weight

- 5 figures at 70 kg for the total weight of 350kg
- The Globe 100-110 kg.
- The Dove 500g.

## **Medium**

The figures are cut from 12mm thick copper-plated steel

# **Installation Method**

All 5 figures and globe will be transported and installed by a crane truck
The 5 figures will be shop welded to a copper base plate. The base sculpture will be fastened to the
concrete platform by using "Hilti" bolting system. The entire structure and its installation will be
reviewed and approved by a P.eng.

## **Duration of fabrication and installation**

Approximately 6 months from the date of Development Permit approval

#### **Maintenance**

The sculpture will requires minimal maintenance throughout its life. A maintenance agreement will be submitted as an addendum.

#### **Plaque Inscription**

#### WHEN WOMEN RISE

BY MEHRDAD RAHBAR

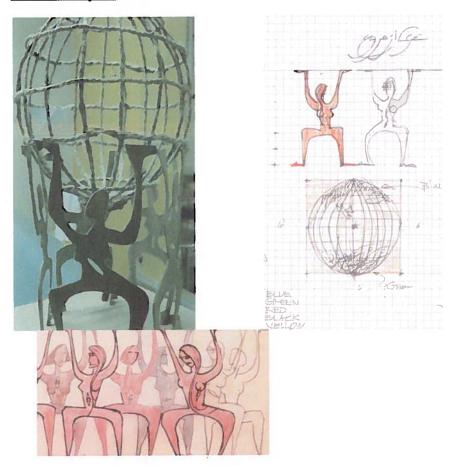
"THE STRUGGLE OF ONE PEOPLE IS THE STRUGGLE OF ALL PEOPLES. THIS PIECE REFLECTS THE STRUGGLE, DETERMINATION, DREAMS, UNITY, AND HOPES OF WOMEN. EQULITY, RESPECT AND FREEDOM ARE THE RIGHT OF EVERY HUMAM – A RIGHT THAT MUST BE RECLAIMED."

PRESENTED TO (OWNER) BY THE 2013 GRADUATING CLASS (PLANNED DATE OF OPENING)

HONOURABLE MENTION TO (DONOR/PROJECT CONTRIBUTER) (DONOR/PROJECT CONTRIBUTER) (DONOR/PROJECT CONTRIBUTER) (DONOR/PROJECT CONTRIBUTER) (DONOR/PROJECT CONTRIBUTER) (DONOR/PROJECT CONTRIBUTER)



# **Preliminary sketches**



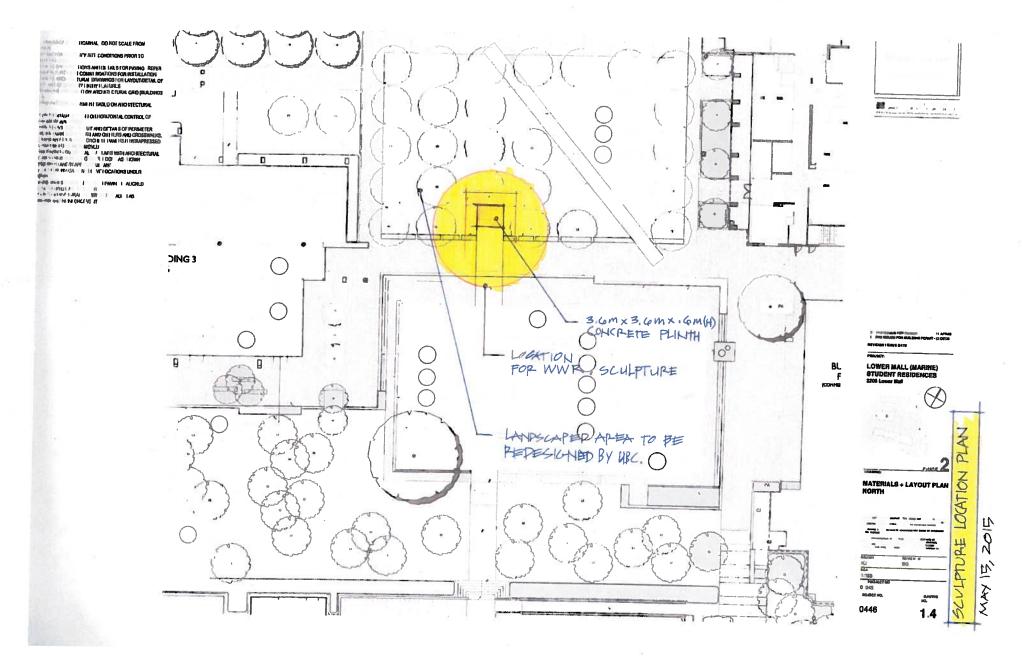
Preliminary model

Preliminary sketches

Preliminary sketch

APPROVED
Campus & Community Planning
Campus & Community Planning
University of British Columbia

By:
Date:



# Campus & Community Planning University of British Columbia By: Date: University Of British Columbia

to be verified in field. 18" high square concrete plinth to sculpture. Footing Campus & Community Plan University of British Colum Align both sides of plinth with existing paving TOTAL PROPERTY.