

New Artwork Provides Seating for Patrons at 7th/Metro Station

(March 22, 2002) Three clusters of unique artist-designed benches now afford Metro Rail patrons a place to sit at the 7th and Metro station. Two clusters are located on the Metro Red Line platform and one on the west Metro Blue Line platform.

Named "Plantings" by the artists, the simple concrete cubes have designs inspired by floral tile work in the historic Fine Arts Building directly above the station. A special light that casts shadows onto the benches gives patrons the illusion of sitting under a tree.



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"These new artworks are a prime example of how artists can help us improve customer comfort while also bringing warmth and light to their transit experience," says Deputy CEO John Catoe.

A panel of arts professionals and community members selected the artist team of Noel Korten, Kipp Kobayashi and Marta Perlas through a nationwide call for artists interested in creating seating for the station.

"We have named this project '*Plantings*' in reference to its symbolic growth from the abstract patterns and stylized shapes of tilemaker Ernest A. Batchelder," says Korten.

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