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Roswell permanently adds four outdoor sculptures

Julia Grochowski Jan 24, 2018



Reception fulfills a Nigerian tradition of welcoming visitors to the city with a gift of peace.



Roswell Arts Fund members host the ArtAround Roswell Art and Brew tour with Gate City Brewing at Sentience, a now permanent piece of public art.

ROSWELL, Ga. — Four new sculptures from the 2017 ArtAround Roswell sculpture tour will permanently join the city's growing public art collection. Three of the pieces were purchased by the Roswell Arts Fund. The fourth was a private purchase.

Reception, Sweet Pops of Brilliance and Sentience were all purchased for a total of \$55,400, in part from donations by local businesses and residents. Steady was bought by The Hagan Family Foundation for \$10,000.

The four sculptures join two others that were purchased from the 2016 tour: Smoke, in the Historic Roswell Square, and Oak Leaf Triptych, in Roswell Area Park.



"We have seen how the arts transcend our differences" said Rochelle Mucha, chair of the Roswell Arts Fund. "It is a universal language that facilitates connections. We hope and trust that our community will continue to optimize the arts to strengthen and grow the city of Roswell today and in the future. Roswell Arts Fund is extremely grateful to the residents, businesses, visitors and community at large of Roswell who have made these purchases possible."

Sentience was purchased earlier in 2017 after the Downtown Development Authority issued a \$10,000 grant and challenged the community to match the contributions. About two months later, in November, residents did just that.

Local artist David Landis created Sentience, a stainless steel model of a blooming bloodroot flower worth \$33,000, as a destination piece that could meld with the park's design, landscape, streetscape and community. He said he chose the name "Sentience" because it means "to feel."

Reception, created by Nigerian artist Fred Ajanogha, is located at one of the Roswell Riverwalk entrances across from the Chattahoochee Nature Center, where the borders of Cobb County and Fulton County meet. It is a stone cast African woman, dressed in traditional attire, holding a drinking gourd as a peace offering and is valued at \$17,000.

Craig Snyder created Sweet Pops of Brilliance out of rolled and forged steel that was hand-painted with bright colors. The work, Snyder said, was created to remind people of their fun and happy memories with their family and friends. It now sits in East Roswell Park and was purchased for \$5,400.

As a purchase by the Hagan Family Foundation, Ben Pierce's sculpture Steady will remain permanently in Roswell. It will be on loan to the city for the upcoming ArtAround Roswell 2018 sculpture tour and will remain in its current location in the Riverside Park east trail entrance through early 2019.

"The Hagan family is very active in the Roswell community and we are delighted that they have purchased this piece," said Roswell Arts Fund Marketing Partner Whitney Parks. "Due to the timing of the purchase, the Hagan family agreed to leave the sculpture in its current location for the 2018 tour so that we would avoid an empty base... It will move after the 2018 tour, and we will select another sculpture for that location."



Steady is visible to vehicle, pedestrian and bike traffic and is designed to encourage photo ops.

The third annual sculpture tour is slated to open April 14. Sculptures and locations have already been selected.

For information about the Roswell Arts Fund and the upcoming ArtAround Roswell 2018 Sculpture Tour, visit roswellartsfund.org.