

Warner Century Plaza

Art in Private Development Fact Sheet



City of Tempe
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Photo: Craig Smith

Artwork

Wave

Development

Warner Century Plaza

Address

2135 E. Warner Road

Artist

Lyle London

Completion

2003

Material

Bronze

Description: This 12-foot high bronze sculpture was created for UTAZ Developers as the central focus of the entry at Warner Century Plaza complex. It was installed in 2003 and fabricated from fusion welded bronze plate at Art in Metal USA in Tempe. It took more than 600 hours to complete.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.

Artist biography: Lyle London studied with sculptor Varujan Boghosian and numerous visiting artists (Larry Zox, Dimitri Hadzi, Robert Indiana, Jack Zajac and others) at Dartmouth College in the late 1960's. Zajac's style of biomorphic abstraction has had a lasting influence on his work. After several years of carving stone and practical experience in the art bronze foundry, he began working primarily in metal. The intimate scale and pronounced formalism of earlier cast bronze pieces have given way to an increasing body of large scale commissioned works mostly in copper and stainless steel. Another important change in London's work has come from incorporating a greater sense of spontaneity and fluidity through the use of high-tech fabrication techniques. Sculptures integrating water features and kinetic motion have appeared since 1985.

Artist's process: This sculpture illustrates the complex dynamics of a breaking wave. The piece is typical of the artist's style of organic abstraction. More of London's work included a limited edition of this sculpture in a smaller scale. It can be seen at artinmetalusa.com of which he is co-owner.