



VALLEY METRO **ART** 2015



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Introduction

Valley Metro Public Art Grows with the Community

It's been nearly eight years since light rail began serving the metropolitan Phoenix region. Since then, Valley Metro Rail has become an important and essential part of the communities it serves. Ridership has exceeded projections contributing to significant economic investment along the initial 20 miles.

As rail expands in the Valley, so does the public art program. The public art engages riders and communities by celebrating history and progress at the same time. Inspired by downtown Mesa's rich culture, the artists and designers created the theme "Old Roots, New Growth" to capture the spirit of its re-emergence. Each art project is a study in the community's past influences and future endeavors.

The artwork and station design combine to make Valley Metro Rail a point of pride for the neighborhood with new colors and canopies enhancing the original station kit of parts. Besides being an origin or destination for every journey, the stations offer the rider a safe, comfortable, well-maintained space. The artwork adds an element of introspection, fun and place-making that completes the experience.

The six artists showcased along the Central Mesa Light Rail Extension were selected by community representatives, as well as art and design professionals from the region. These artists are recognized for their works of art locally and around the country.

Valley Metro is proud to continue the tradition of including art that is meaningful to the rider, the community and the public transit system.

Valley Metro Rail Overview

◀ WEST





STATION ART INITIAL 20 MILES

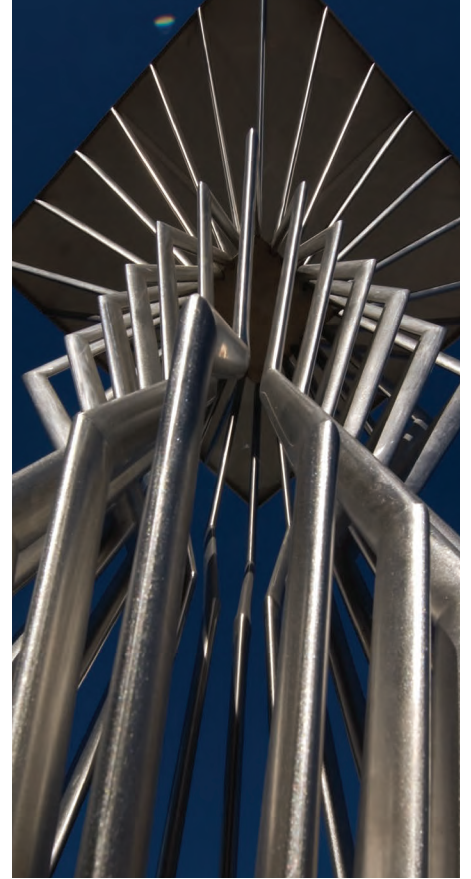
19th Ave/Montebello



Indian School/Central Ave



3rd St/Jefferson



19th Ave/Camelback



Campbell/Central Ave



Osborn/Central Ave



Thomas/Central Ave



Encanto/Central Ave



McDowell/Central Ave



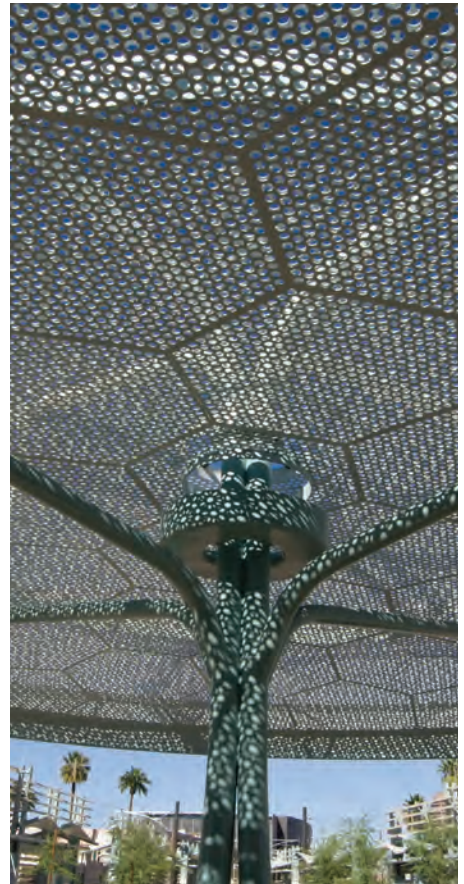
Washington/Central Ave



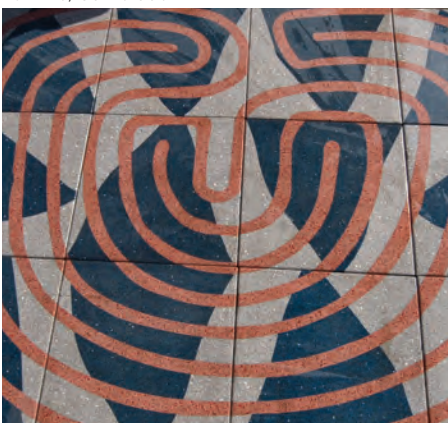
Van Buren/Central Ave



Roosevelt/Central Ave



7th Ave/Camelback



12th St/Washington



38th St/Washington



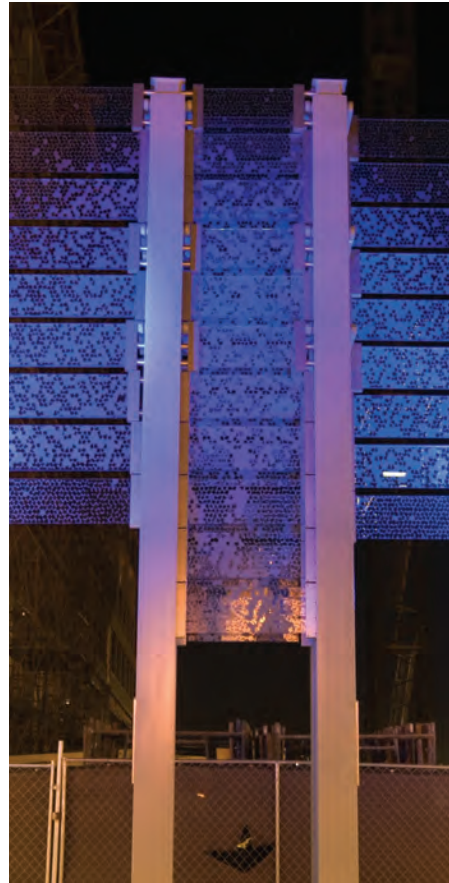
44th St/Washington



Priest Dr/Washington



Mill Ave/3rd St



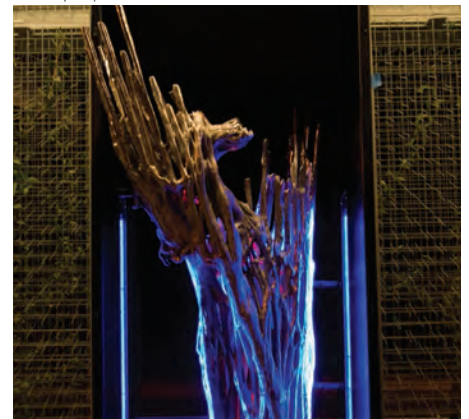
Veterans Way/College Ave



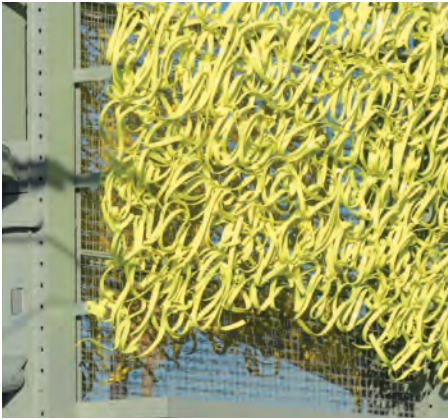
University Dr/Rural



Dorsey/Apache Blvd



McClintock/Apache Blvd



Smith-Martin/Apache Blvd



Price-101 Fwy/Apache Blvd



24th St/Washington



Sycamore/Main St

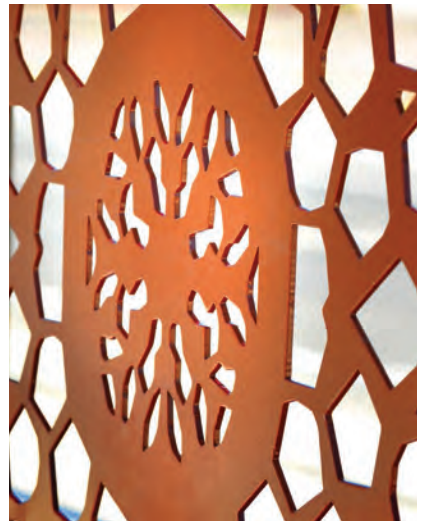


Tempe Town Lake Bridge



Central Ave/Camelback





Alma School/Main St.

Daniel Martin Diaz
Tucson, AZ

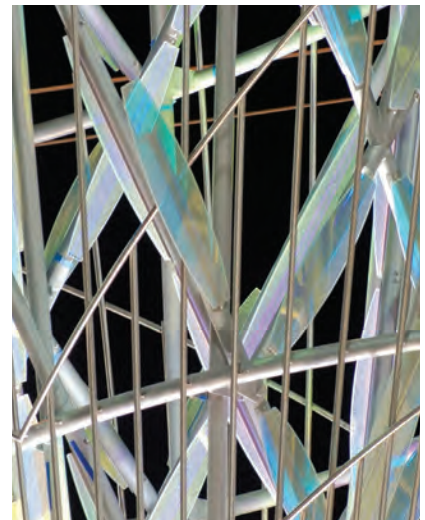
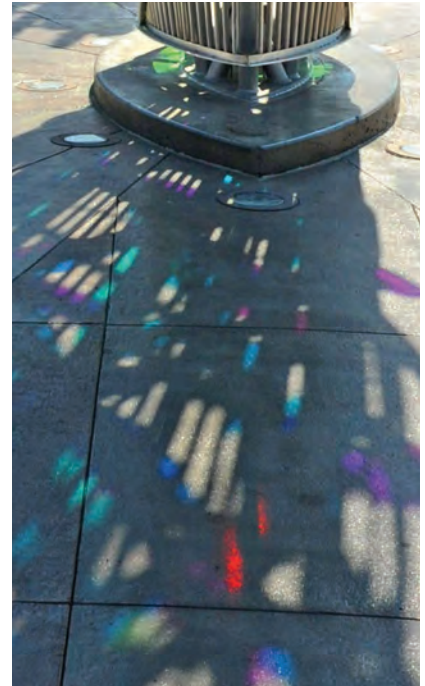
Emergence

The artist designed a series of cut metal screens whose patterns are both organic and scientific. It serves the community by reflecting desert and farming communities of the past and celebrating the technical emergence of the nearby East Valley Institute of Technology. View the entryway screen tree imagery to experience a mimic of the "Voronoi Fractal," as seen in the center of saguaro cacti and other desert plants.

The kinetic, wind-driven, metal pinwheel located high in the center screen is surrounded by colored glass inserts that provides a dynamic focus for the piece. Emergence is one that hopes to embrace a historic past and an emergent, thriving community.







Country Club/Main St.

Ed Carpenter
Portland, OR

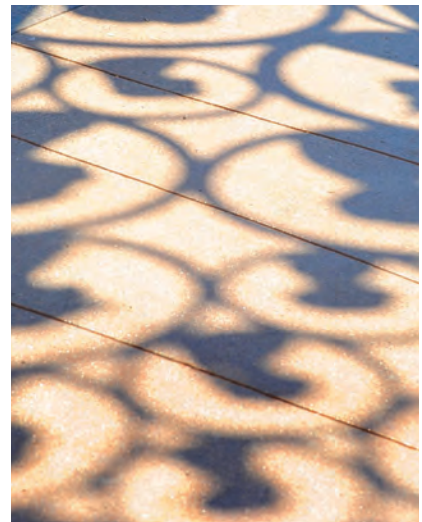
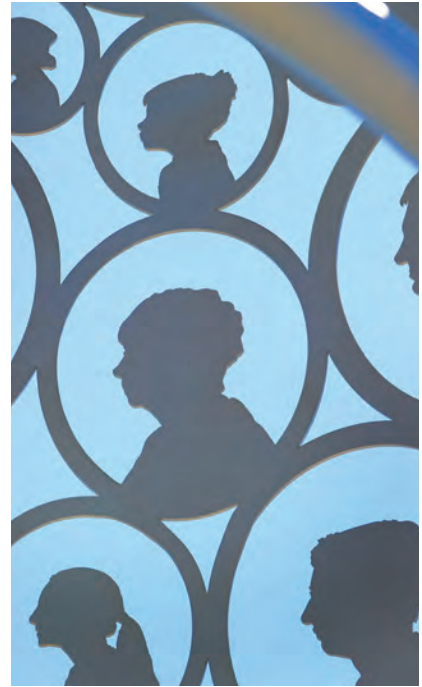
Mesaflora

Seen by many as the entry point into the historic downtown, the art is in response to the city's request for a special gateway piece. Mesaflora was created as a 30-foot steel and glass structure that depicts a blooming desert plant. The metaphor is revealed with the ongoing development and flowering of downtown.

The dichroic glass elements create a dazzling rainbow display of colored lights that constantly change and shift as the day evolves. At night the art is illuminated, creating an added dramatic effect.







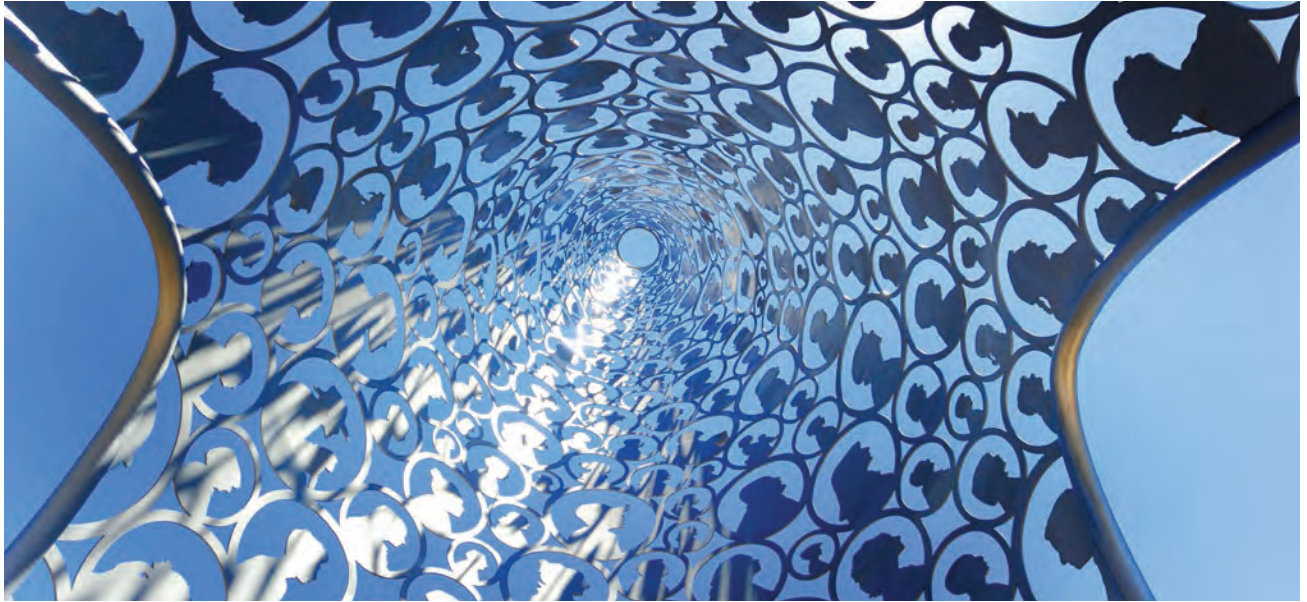
Center/Main St.

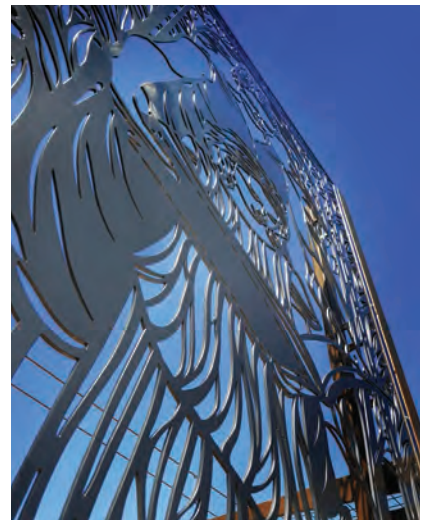
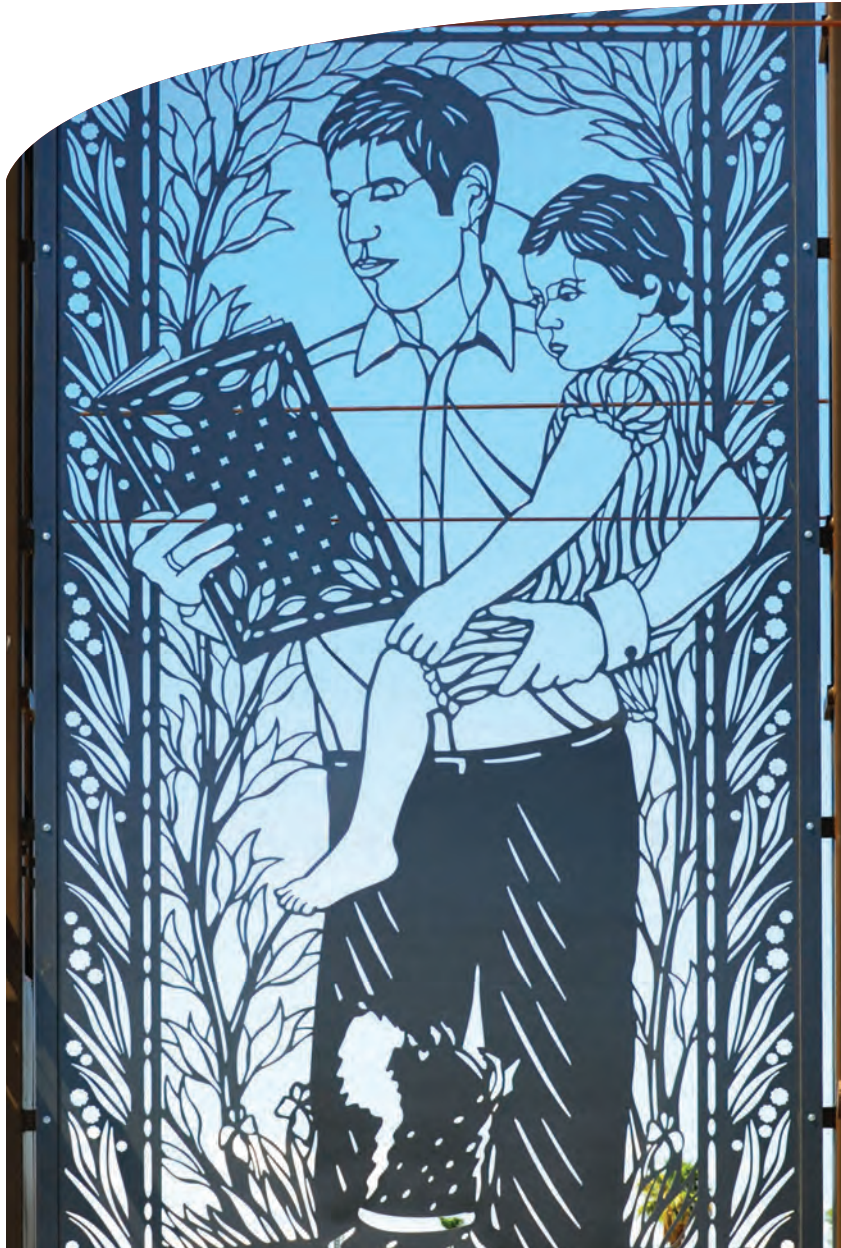
**Ralph Helmick
Newton, MA**

Drawing Room

Located where the city's civic, arts, education and business institutions meet, this art showcases the combination of urban icon, outdoor room and collective portrait of community. Standing beneath the 50-foot steel sculpture, the viewer can see through the profiles to the sky above. Viewed from afar, the station art serves as the metaphorical front door to City Hall and the Mesa Arts Center. Dramatic programmable lights will change color as it relates to community events.







Mesa Dr./Main St.

**Mary Lucking
Phoenix, AZ**

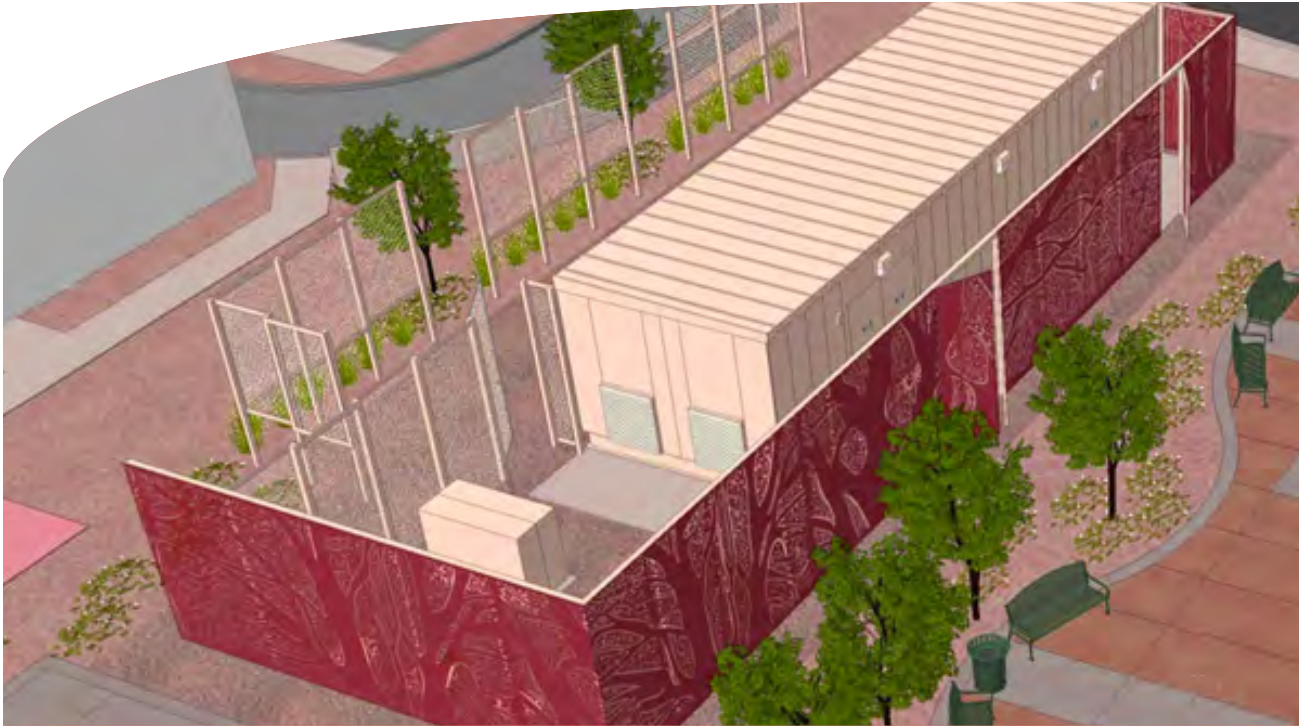
Sixteen Stories of One Home Town

Stories of Mesa's history are told through the eyes of its youngest residents. These stories have been translated into illustrations and featured on sixteen porcelain panels as storybook pages. Two 21-foot steel panels bookend the center section of the station depicting a mother and father who represent the gift of storytelling from one generation to the next.

The station includes vine-covered, trellised entryways that extend the natural elements of Pioneer Park to the north and the park-like grounds of the Temple located to the south.





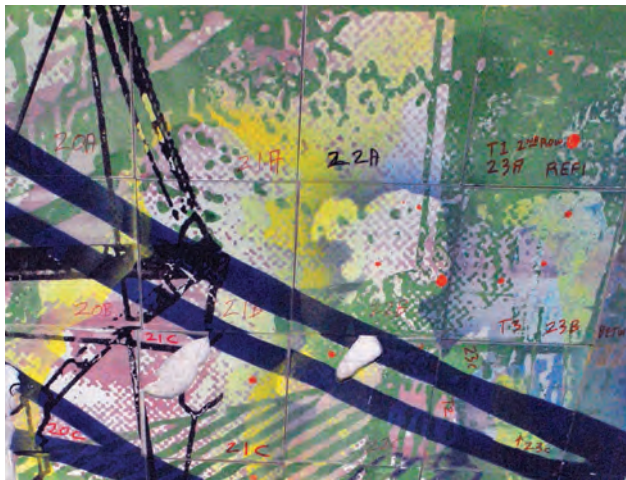


Morris Plaza Traction Power Substation

Mary Shindell
Phoenix, AZ

The Memory of a Tree is Strong

In her dynamic artwork, this local artist chose pecan trees as the subject matter to screen the traction-powered substation at Morris Plaza. Pecan orchards were once located adjacent to Main Street, originally serving as crop trees and later as shade trees in the neighborhoods. The pecan trees are a fixture of her childhood memories growing up in Mesa.



Hibbert Signal House

Roberto L. Delgado
Los Angeles, CA

Palo Verde

A tile mosaic in the shape of a yellow Palo Verde is fashioned to adorn the wall surrounding the signal house at the corner of Hibbert and Main Street. The tree is native to the Sonoran Desert and was cultivated by native residents of the area. The silkscreened photo and painted tiles feature images of Mesa's local culture history.



Acknowledgments

This important and amazing part of the Central Mesa Light Rail Extension would not have been possible without the contributions and support of the Mesa city staff, Valley Metro staff and design and engineering consultants who helped guide the artists in their final designs. Special thanks to the volunteers of the Regional Rail Arts Committee, Station Arts Review Committees and the City of Mesa Museum and Cultural Advisory Board for their important contributions and insight.

