

Title: ***The Monument of Peace and Unity***, City of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

**Concept:** A tower monument constructed of heavy steel plate, plasma-cut and hydraulically bent into a graceful spiraling form depicting human figures and ascending flights of doves in positive and negative mass (shadow and light), ***The Monument of Peace and Unity will stand*** as light of humanity transforming us and transcending our boundaries, as beacon of humanity united us in peace.

**Inspiration:** "We support the self-evident truth that all persons are created equal We believe that the dignity of each Human Being is inviolable."

**Location:** City of Coeur D'Alene Four Corners Gateway Landmark

**Title:** *Monument to Peace and Unity* .....(from the City of Coeur D'Alene to the world.)

**Symbolic meaning:** Of high visibility, this works scale is to be approximately 24 feet in height. It will be a landmark at a major entry into the City; it will reflect the City's long-standing commitment to human rights and human dignity.

This symbol of unity and peace rises from the two majestic rivers of Coeur d'Alene and symbolizes the embrace of inclusiveness and equality. Celebrating the beauty of diversity and the spirit of Coeur d'Alene people.

The two flights of ascending birds entwine and spiral upwards giving emphasis to two powerful phases:

***"We support the self-evident truth that all persons are created equal " & "We believe that the dignity of each Human Being is inviolable."***

We were taken by and so impressed by these two phases of truth, we want these words "written in stone", (or cut in steel in this case)... rising powerfully upward to convey the spirit, direction, and creed of the City of Coeur D'Alene. This artwork's design is meant as a joyous celebration of humanity-- "the benefits of coming together as a community and human race", if we may quote you. We top this work at its highest point with the children of future triumphing in unity and peace, demonstrate the power of our shared common good...which is much more powerful than any hate that divides us, we look to the future of our shared destiny to transform any enmity of the past into light of humanity, for it is more important to nourish on the best we can become rather than any past differences that once separated us.

**Our personal inspiration with theme:** Our family's story, echo's these truths. We are a team of family artists with our young son of new generation together on expressions of peace and harmony of humanity for the world. We as parents, a woman, and a man, from two sides of the Earth, from two vastly different cultures, different languages, differing sensibilities and traditions, but we have united into a family now populated with 5 biracial children and bound together with their wish as our purpose to create a better world for all our children; What binds us is our common humanity, it is beyond gender, or race, or age, or culture. This is why this work is so connected to our personal ethos and our personal aspiration for peace and equality in the world, this is the light we bring to this work. We are deeply inspired by the quotes from Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations, to honor "the

long-standing commitment of your city to the equality of all people, to human rights, and to social and economic justice for all”

### **The circle**

Circle on the base as foundation “all persons are created as equal” somewhere on the earth circle...at the top of our work, all figures raise and join hands together in freedom and unity...symbolizing “the dignity of each Human Being forming part of the the circle of peoples, standing in unity”

A circle is the place of hope, and shape of earth and sun, honoring the connection we have with our sacred earth, together, to evoking our bond with one another and our earth, to eliminating racism, create community, for a better future for all our children.

The sacred circle on the ground as a symbol of each of us returning to humanity, returning to one another as human family, with sense of connected-ness with no beginning and no end and belonging, sharing interconnection .

### **Relaxed and Inclusive Seating:**

Seating places are made within the work above the copper river on the ground, to allow visitors to rest within the work, gazing upwards, allowing their spirit to rise with the ascending of birds of light spiraling above them, lifting their hearts and vision for peace and unity.