WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?

Artist: JAMES CAMERON SMITH  TOGETHER

SHORTLISTED PROPOSAL BOOKLET 2 OF 5
This sculpture titled ‘Together’ is composed of three larger than life characters dancing around a circular labyrinth design rendered in paving stones. Lines on the pavers create a simple labyrinth which is derived from a celebrated mosaic floor labyrinth in Chartres Cathedral in France. Visitors can relax on one of the three benches provided and are able to engage contemplatively with the labyrinth component by pacing along the pathways to the centre and back.

The three figures create a unique pergola structure which arches above the “patio”. The figures suggest that in these politically and socially divisive times, it is significant and consequential to present imagery which embodies togetherness and encourages visitors to spend time with each other symbolically sheltering beneath these three interconnected and animated dancing figures.

Once visitors are engaged by the dancing figures, they are encouraged to interact with the sculpture and to gather to sit, or to contemplatively pace the labyrinth. The “Backyard patio” ambience and benches are designed to suggest the atmosphere of the park as “public backyard”. By incorporating these elements in this sculpture design, we effectively create a bridging connection between the nature of a public park and that of a backyard environment.

My vision is to create a striking and expressive sculptural installation which presents an engaging and iconic presence in the park through its substantial scale as well as its prominent positioning within the confluence of three walking paths between the playground and splash pad. The height of each of the figures is 4.37 M. The expansive open spaces of the park site require this sculptural scale to persuasively capture visitors’ attention and to generate an outstanding visual impact within the surrounding environment.

The three figures are similarly rendered in a whimsical style and are intended to represent park visitors of any age, gender or social background. The concept of bringing together these figures signifies a celebration of past and future visitors enjoying the park amenities.

James Cameron Smith
WATERDOWN MEMORIAL PARK PUBLIC ART PROJECT PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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