WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?

Artist: SLIPPER LIU STUDIO  THE OUTDOOR ROOM

SHORTLISTED PROPOSAL BOOKLET 4 OF 5
The goal of this project is to create a playful interactive sculpture series that embodies the spirit of the historic beginnings through to present-day usage of Waterdown Memorial Park. Utilizing the most weather resistant granite, an Ontario native material that has a strong relationship to the park’s natural qualities adds a sense of belonging of the artwork to the local environment.

‘The Outdoor Room’ consisting of eight monumental granite pillows and featuring eight designs carved as needlepoint relief into each of the granite surfaces. These designs represent the memorial aspect, the surrounding nature and the recreational features of the park.

Needlepoint dates back to antiquity and has always been a unique hand worked labour of love to commemorate events and items close to the heart. Needlepoint images often created in the home environment have a wonderful sense of delight and unpretentiousness. The expression of needlepoint in granite is our innovative approach to make a transient material permanent. We want to capture the handmade charm of needlepoint in a series of granite cushion sculptures. Eight cushions have been chosen to symbolically represent the eight soldiers who died in WWII. One of the cushions carries the medal awarded to the veterans who served during WWII.

This is an important and historical reference to the parks beginning in 1949. Viewers will be visually drawn to the artwork by the juxtaposition of the soft cushion from carved into granite; a very hard and inflexible material. Up close viewers of all ages will want to touch, sit-on and engage with the playfulness of each of the cushions. The granite cushions will have a range in size from 3’ - 5’ rectangular shapes to feature the different needlepoint designs. Each granite cushion will be large enough to allow viewers a place to rest relax and offer photo opportunities.

‘The Outdoor Room’ captures the projects goals of a “Public Backyard” by incorporating elements that are familiar and recognizable to all of us. Our choices of locally significant images include the Canadian Medal for WWII, Canada Geese flying over the escarpments of Hamilton, a pattern of an Anishinaabe purse formed as a cushion, A Chonnoton beaded design, a scenery with bears, a rendition of Home Sweet Home with an Ontario Provincial flower - The Trillium, Ice Skaters styled from the 1950s and a playful basketball design. We hope to create a strong identity for the community by using meaningful images that relate and resonate the site’s historical and current identity.

The material chosen for this project is weather resistant Canadian Granite. Granite is an extremely durable and tough material that will not be vulnerable to any type of vandalism. The polish applied to areas of the stone will not fade or be scratched over many decades.

Slipper Liu Studio
SITE PLAN
ELEVATIONS

A. Retro Ice Skating Cushion  
46"W X 30"H X 15"D

B. Anishinaabe Purse Cushion  
34"W X 27"H X 22"D

C. Basketball Cushion  
40"W X 16"H X 15"D

D. Wildlife Bear Scenery Cushion  
60"W X 32"H X 15"D

E. Chonanot Design Cushion  
33"W X 22"H X 22"D

F. Memorial Medal Cushion  
34"W X 27"H X 22"D

G. Home Sweet Home Ontario Cushion  
33"W X 22"H X 22"D

H. Canada Geese Scenery Cushion  
60"W X 30"H X 15"D
LIST OF SCULPTURAL ELEMENTS: DIMENSIONS & NEEDLEPOINT DESIGN PATTERNS IN BAS RELIEF GRANITE

A. Retro Ice Skating Cushion
   46”W X 30”H X 15”D

B. Anishinaabe Purse Cushion
   34”W X 27”H X 22”D

C. Basketball Cushion
   40”W X 16”H X 13”D

D. Wildlife Bear Scenery Cushion
   60”W X 32”H X 15”D

E. Chonnton Design Cushion
   33”W X 22”H X 22”D

F. Memorial Medal Cushion
   34”W X 27”H X 22”D

G. Home Sweet Home Ontario Cushion
   33”W X 22”H X 22”D

H. Canada Geese Scenery Cushion
   60”W X 30”H X 15”D
DETAILS

LIST OF SCULPTURAL ELEMENTS: CUSHIONS SIZES, GROUPINGS & DESIGN PATTERNS
CANADA GEESE, BASKETBALL & ANISHNAABE PURSE CUSHIONS GROUP

FRONT

SIDE

BACK

SLIPPER LIU STUDIO
THE OUTDOOR ROOM

PRELIMINARY SIZES
A. Retro Ice Skating Cushion
   46" W X 30" H X 15" D

B. Anishnaabe Purse Cushion
   34" W X 27" H X 22" D

C. Basketball Cushion
   40" W X 16" H X 13" D

D. Wildlife Bear Scenery Cushion
   60" W X 32" H X 15" D

E. Chonniston Design Cushion
   33" W X 22" H X 22" D

MEMORIAL MEDAL, HOME SWEET HOME CUSHIONS GROUP

FRONT

SIDE

BACK

F. Memorial Medal Cushion
   34" W X 27" H X 22" D

G. Home Sweet Home Ontario Cushion
   33" W X 22" H X 22" D

H. Canada Goose Scenery Cushion
   60" W X 30" H X 15" D

WILDLIFE BEAR SCENERY & CHONNOTON FLORAL DESIGN CUSHIONS GROUP

FRONT

SIDE

BACK

GOLDEN EAGLE CUSHION

FRONT

SIDE

BACK

H. Golden Eagle Cushion
   60" W X 30" H X 15" D
WATERDOWN MEMORIAL PARK PUBLIC ART PROJECT PUBLIC CONSULTATION

www.hamilton.ca/waterdownmemorialparkart