



Dancing Tower

Art.site (Claudia Cuesta & Bill Baker)



October 2010

Newton Cultural Centre, 13530 - 72nd Avenue

“You have to love dancing to stick to it. It gives you nothing back, no manuscripts to store away, no paintings to hang in museums, no poems to be printed and sold, nothing but that fleeting movement when you feel alive.”

– Merce Cunningham

“Dancing Tower is a free standing sculpture made out of raw aluminum pipe and laminated tempered coloured glass panels. Dancing Tower is a metaphor for the dynamic movement of dance. Our objective is to create an integrated art and architecture statement which is capable of transmitting a different level of excitement and passion to the community. This passion reflects the actively creative involvement of individuals and groups who will collaborate with others and build a collective knowledge of memory, an accumulation of history and legacy, in this piece.”

– art.site (Claudia Cuesta and Bill Baker)

Located in front of the new home of the Arts Council of Surrey, this unique artwork symbolizes Surrey’s commitment to arts experiences for residents. Created by Claudia Cuesta and Bill Baker, *Dancing Tower* is 16 feet tall with a multi-coloured glass roof which playfully animates colours and angles in response to the day and night light. Like many of Surrey’s young dancers who will pass under it on their way to classes in the building, the art work dances.

About the Artists

Working at their studio in Sechelt, BC, Claudia Cuesta and Bill Baker collaborate on public art projects under the name art.site. They work with the notion that viewers’ responses to an urban environment can be altered by art; that art impacts our surroundings; and our surroundings influence our narrative.

Claudia Cuesta, originally from Columbia, has an MFA from the Slade School of Art, University of London. Bill Baker is an urban and residential designer who studied art history at the Sorbonne, Paris. While Claudia explores connections between people and the spaces they use or occupy, Bill focuses on how we occupy space and how it is affected by light and time.

