

GIANT OUTDOOR SCULPTURES COMING TO VANCOUVER: VANCOUVER BIENNALE 2014

by *REMY SCALZA* in *TOWN* on March 18, 2014



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Get your cameras ready: Another round of giant, outdoor art is coming to Vancouver.

The third instalment of the *Vancouver Biennale* begins later this month. Every other year, the celebration brings massive works of public art to locations throughout Vancouver and surrounding communities. As part of the 2014 Biennale, some 20 sculptures will be installed in Vancouver and an additional 10 will go in New Westminster, North Vancouver and Squamish.

The big news this year is that one sculpture has been crafted by none other than China's most famous dissident, Ai Weiwei. No word yet on what the piece is or where it will be placed, but it's bound to turn heads.

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Oftentimes, the sculptures go on to become permanent icons on the Vancouver landscape. Past examples include *A-maze-ing Laughter* (the giant bronze men near English Bay), *Engagement* (the huge engagement rings above Sunset Beach) and *217.5 Arc X 13* (those weird rusting metal ribs at Sunset Beach).

So what inventive, whimsical and absurd creations can we expect to be seeing in the weeks ahead? In total 92 international artists and 12 Canadian artists will be participating in the event. Here's a sneak peek at some of the works on display:

Shipping Containers: Among the most visually stunning of the new sculptures, this piece by Brazilian artist Jose Rensende consists of pairs of full-size shipping containers welded together into gravity-defying V-shapes. The sculpture will stand at Pier Park in New Westminster.



Breathing Flower: Imagine a delicate lotus flower the size of a two-storey house. The exact location for this eye-catching piece by Korea's Choi Jeong Hwa, which is made from sheets of red fabric and opens and closes throughout the day, has yet to be determined.



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Human Structures: This human pyramid from American artist Jonathan Borofsky consists of 64 brightly coloured, life-size steel figurines stacked on top of each other. The location has not yet been determined.



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Love Your Bean: These car-size, neon-coloured Jelly Beans from Montreal's Cosimo Cavallaro have made waves around the world. Just don't try to eat one. No word yet on where the beans will call home.



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