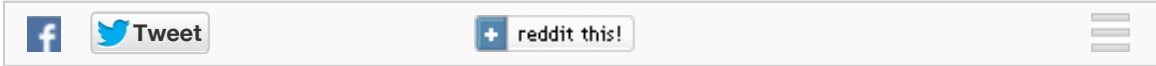


Massive art installation coming to New Westminster waterfront

The biggest art piece of the 2014 to 2016 Vancouver Biennale will be installed in New Westminster. Organizers say it might be the largest public art in Canada.



COURTESY VANCOUVER BIENNALE

A rendering of Wow Westminster, a public art installation to be set up as part of the 2014-2016 Vancouver Biennale.

By: **Emily Jackson** Metro Published on Wed Nov 18 2015

Four massive shipping containers cantilevered to look like a 'W' will be installed along New Westminister's waterfront next week to create what organizers say could be the largest public art display in Canada.

Called "Wow Westminster," the sculpture by Brazilian artist José Resende is part of the 2014-2016 Vancouver Biennale, a non-profit that brings art into public spaces around Metro Vancouver.

It will be installed at Westminster Wharf Park on Monday when a barge carries the containers to the site and places them with a crane.

This 140-foot long, 34,000-pound installation will be the largest Biennale project – and that's saying something considering the organization is responsible for the 24,000 square foot mural called **Giants** on the silos on Granville Island and the 35-foot **Trans Am Totem** pole of stacked cars near the viaducts.

Vancouver Biennale senior curator Marcello Dantas describes the installation as a reflection of the economic activity along the Fraser River and the transformation of the city's waterfront into a recreational place for arts and culture.

Dantas anticipates it will become “an icon of the city and region for decades.”

The Vancouver Biennale is perhaps best known for bringing the A-maze-ing Laughter sculptures at English Bay, where tourists and locals alike pause to snap pictures of themselves mimicking the statues.