



2007 THE LULU SERIES ART IN THE CITY

Working the Public Space

Thursday, March 29, 2007

7-9:30 pm

City of Richmond, Council Chambers
6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC

Guest Speaker:
Buster Simpson
Seattle, WA

Buster Simpson has been active as an artist working in the public since the 1970s. His work ranges from stand alone sculpture to integrated and/or collaborative works. All of his work incorporates ecological, historical, social, and aesthetic considerations, contextualizing them into the site specific values of place. His art, its medium and product will vary, but the methodology and underpinning conceptual approach are consistent. All aspects of the public realm become part of the his palette; the landscape, the built environment, and the social and economic engagement. Simpson has stated, "I prefer working in public spaces. The complexity of any site is its asset; to build upon, to distil, to reveal its layers of meaning. Process becomes part and parcel to the art of the place."

Simpson has worked on major infrastructure projects, site master planning, signature sculptures, museum installations, and community projects. Some of these include a \$14 million light rail bridge collaborative over the Salt River in Phoenix (now under construction) and art master plans for urban centers and watersheds that integrate community, ecology and art. Simpson's work has taken form in mediums which range from rotting wood in *Host Analog* to the highly technical in *Brush with Illumination*. The recent installation *Incidence* at the International Museum of Glass illustrates his efficient and poetic use of natural phenomena to engage the space with the viewer. Most recently, Simpson has collaborated with 4Culture on a South East False Creek sustainable arts master plan for the City of Vancouver and is collaborating with engineers, landscape architect and the architect on the design of the bridge spanning Hollybridge Canal at the Olympic Oval site in Richmond.

This is a free public lecture and seating is limited
Please RSVP at 604 247-8320 or sgreening@richmond.ca.