



WHITMAN
COLLEGE

Campus Sculpture Tour

EXPLORE WITH THIS
HANDY GUIDE



Soaring Stones #4

1990 • John T. Young

Medium: Stone & Steel

Prominently visible on the Cordiner Hall south lawn are a series of multiton boulders from the Cascade Range set atop polished steel. For 16 years this sculpture was displayed in downtown Portland, Oregon, until light-rail construction necessitated its removal. The work was then returned to its creator, artist and University of Washington Professor John T. Young.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College by the artist in honor of his daughters who both attended Whitman, Eliza Young and Hayley Young '09.



everything impossible once

2022 • Kim Nemeth • **Medium:** Yarn/Thread

The All Faiths Room inside Reid Campus Center is a space for students of all spiritual identities to build community through worship, prayer, meditation and reflection. Hanging on the walls is a woven art installation by local artist Kim Nemeth. Composed of 3,840 colored threads (42,240 yards), "everything impossible once" is intended to provide a respite for tired eyes. This artwork is unavailable to view when the room is in use.

Provenance: Commissioned by Whitman College's Division of Inclusive Excellence through the Gaiser Art Endowment.

Upward Mobility

2005 • Daniel Forbes '93

Medium: Ceramic & Wooden Ladders

Just off of the lobby of Reid Campus Center, on a block wall above a small sitting area near the east entrance, you will find an arrangement of colorful fish of various sizes attached to wooden ladders. Upward Mobility was created by artist, alum, former faculty member and former Sheehan Gallery Co-Director Daniel Forbes '93. It represents just one of Forbes' several artistic styles. Each fish, based loosely on native Northwest species, was individually formed from slab-rolled clay.

Provenance: Commissioned for Reid Campus Center.



All the Rare Birds

2024 • Daniel Forbes '93

Medium: Painted Birch

A large relief-style tree with colorful birds and bright foliage is located outside the Young Ballroom in Reid Campus Center. This art piece was created to honor Kyle Martz '07 and all the extraordinary people who have a positive impact on our lives and communities. Additional artists contributed to All the Rare Birds, including Rhiannon Anderson, Lita Bacus '25, Fi Black '22, Jeanne Denker, Natalie Godfrey '19, Margaret Jamison '74, Lisa Anne Rasmussen '86, Juan Rivera, Jodi Straker, Jessie Vanscheik and Heidi Veldhuis.

Provenance: Made possible by contributions from the Gaiser Art Endowment, the President's Fund, and the Rare Birds Collective and their fundraising efforts.





Frogs' Foot Chandelier

2014 • Dale Chihuly • Medium: Glass

In the heart of Reid Campus Center hangs Frogs' Foot Chandelier, a multistory, colorful sculpture composed of many individual hand-spun and blown-glass elements created in the studio of internationally acclaimed glass artist Dale Chihuly. A second Chihuly piece can be found across the street at Cordiner Hall. (See No. 32.)

Provenance: Given to Whitman College by an anonymous donor.



Four Columns

1988 • Lee Kelly • Medium: Steel

On the back lawn of Reid Campus Center stand four rust-colored columns topped with geometric shapes, each with a speckling of bright enamel colors. Sculptor Lee Kelly's work was often informed by his experiences traveling the world, and this piece was based on ancient columns discovered in central Persia. Four Columns is the first of three Kelly sculptures found on this sculpture walk. (See No. 10 and No. 17.)

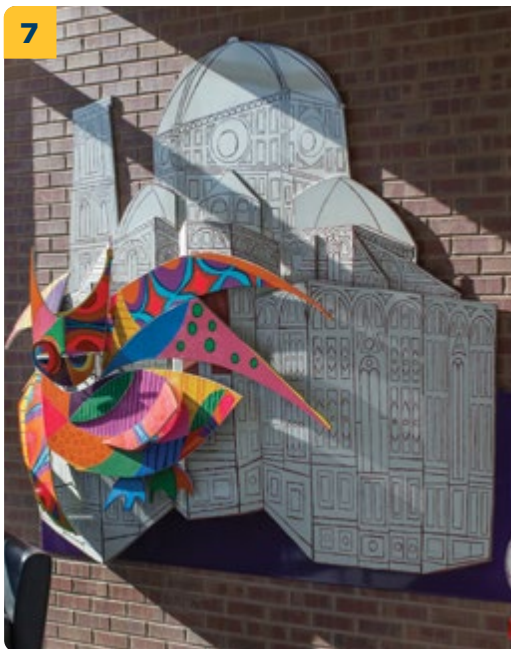
Provenance: Purchased in 2002, through the Garvin Family Art Fund.

Richard Jens Rasmussen Memorial Sculpture

2011 • Lisa Ann Rasmussen '86 & Frank Munns • Medium: Painted Steel

Visible from Park Street, located on the second floor of the Fouts Center for Visual Arts, is a colorful, relief wall hanging dedicated to Richard "Dick" Rasmussen, who served as the first tenured Chair of the Art Department and taught art to Whitman students from 1950 until his retirement in 1980. Including elements from several of Rasmussen's original works, the final composition was designed by Rasmussen's daughter, Lisa Rasmussen '86, and Frank Munns, Director of the Sheehan Gallery from 1976–1983, and fabricated through the Walla Walla Foundry.

Provenance: Acquired through the Richard Jens Rasmussen Memorial Fund.



Untitled

1999 • Barbara Ream '00 • Medium: Steel

In the foyer of the Hall of Music are a number of stringed musical instruments made of welded sheet steel and rod. Artist Barbara Ream '00 graduated from Whitman with a degree in Art History and created these sculptures after taking a class in sculpture.

Provenance: Purchased from the artist upon her graduation from Whitman College.



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Pirouette

2004 • Micajah Bienvenu '86

Medium: Stainless Steel & Bronze

Between the Hall of Music and Prentiss Hall stands a shiny, silver spiral standing on its end. Washington-based artist Micajah Bienvenu '86 uses computer imaging and digital technologies to design his work, resulting in pieces with a lyrical quality, despite the rigidity of their materials. Like *Triumphant Arc*, the other Bienvenu sculpture on campus (see No. 30), *Pirouette* is interactive, rotating on its base.

Provenance: Commissioned by Whitman College.



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Angkor IV

1995 • Lee Kelly • **Medium:** Burnished Steel

Behind Hunter Conservatory, near the Prentiss Bridge, you will find four shiny, steel columns holding up a large triangle sitting on horizontal steel beams. Sculptor Lee Kelly's work was often informed by his experiences traveling the world, and this piece was a response to Cambodian temples he visited. *Angkor IV* is one of three Kelly sculptures on this tour. (See No. 6 and No. 17.)

Provenance: Purchased by Tom Cronin during his time as president to add to the sculpture collection.



Topophilia Gates

1999 • Keiko Hara

Medium: Glass & Steel

Between Hunter Conservatory and Prentiss Hall, standing in College Creek, you will find three tall, metal archways decorated by squares of colored glass. Artist and Professor Emerita Keiko Hara taught Art at Whitman from 1985–2006 and also served as Chair of the Art Department. Hara, who is known for abstract paintings and prints, took inspiration for this piece from a temple in Japan. Water flowing through the sculpture's arches represents the passage from one realm to another.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College by the artist; casting and glass materials commissioned through the Gaiser Art Endowment.



Friends

2010 • Cynthia McKean '63

Medium: Painted Steel

Centrally located between Stanton Hall and Anderson Hall are two figures of maroon and copper. The two abstract creatures, with differing features, interact with each other, reflecting the beauty of campus and the ways it brings so many individuals together in community. The artist, a Biology major from the Class of 1963, credits Whitman with helping her realize her creative potential.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College by the artist.





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Carnival

1997 • Jim Dine • Medium: Bronze

Between Memorial Building and Baker Center stands a large, modern interpretation of the ancient Greek Venus de Milo, covered in a patchwork of painted colors. Such Venus-inspired forms are iconic of artist Jim Dine's work, and similar figures can be found in museums and both public and private collections throughout the world. This particular Venus was carved from a single tree using a chainsaw, before it was molded and cast in bronze at the Walla Walla Foundry.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College by Mark Anderson '78 and the Walla Walla Foundry.



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The Basalt Archway

2005 • Thomas Berger • Medium: Stone

Between Maxey Hall and Penrose House, you will find a gateway composed of three large blocks of columnar basalt, assembled by acclaimed landscape architect Thomas Berger. Three smaller decorative blocks of stone rest nearby. Step through the entrance to find yourself in a small meditative glen, affectionately called "Narnia" by Whitman students.

Provenance: Funded by the Whitman College Class of 2002.

Totem Pole

2000 • Jewell Praying Wolf James

Medium: Wood

Near the outdoor amphitheatre, you will see a 24-foot totem pole, carved from western red cedarwood by Jewell Praying Wolf James, a master carver of the Lummi Nation. This contemporary figure combines Coast Salish and Alaska Native styles. Nearby is another totem pole whose authorship is unknown. On the other side of the creek stands a wooden Tiki figure by artist James Paulik.

Provenance: Totem Pole: Purchased from the artist by Whitman College. Untitled totem: Donated by Lloyd Benedict '41. Tiki figure: Donated by Baker Ferguson '39.



American Satyr & The Mistress of the Wild Beasts

1982 (American Satyr) and
1988 (The Mistress of the Wild Beasts)

Frank Munns • Medium: Bronze

Occupying a small glade between Maxey Hall and Deshler Auditorium are two life-sized figures sprung from the imagination of Walla Walla native Frank Munns. Munns was a historian with degrees in Classics and Archaeology and served as a Lecturer in Art History at Whitman as well as directing the Sheehan Gallery from 1976–1983. Made at the Walla Walla Foundry, the male figure is a life cast of the artist's own body.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College by the Munns family after the artist's death in 2013.



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Lava Ridge

1978 • Lee Kelly • Medium: Steel

Between Maxey Hall and Lyman House, you will find a sculpture by noted Northwest artist Lee Kelly, who draws inspiration from ancient and contemporary sources. The piece is made of thin, rust-colored beams welded together with large rivets. Lava Ridge is one of three Kelly sculptures found on this sculpture walk. (See No. 6 and No. 10.)

Provenance: Purchased in 2002, through the Garvin Family Art Fund.



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Pe-Wa-Oo-Yit (Treaty Rock)

1955 • Medium: Stone

On the back side of the outdoor amphitheatre, you will find a large stone monument. On one side is a plaque given to the college on the centennial of the 1855 signing of tribal treaties between the Walla Walla, Umatilla, Cayuse, Yakima and Nez Perce tribes and the U.S. government. On the other side is a plaque designed by Ernest Norling, Class of 1915, that names Hol-Lol-Sote-Tote or Small Eagle, the Nez Perce negotiator who signed the treaty.

Provenance: Stone donated by A.W. Laird.
Hol-Lol-Sote-Tote plaque donated by the Class of 1930.



Moon Gate

2000 • Benbow Bullock

Medium: Stainless Steel

On the east side of Ankeny Field, in front of Lyman House, you will find three sets of double, shiny metal rings on a box pedestal. Moon Gate is exemplary of California sculptor Benbow Bullock's work, which was informed by the artist's world travels to various archaeological and historical sites.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College by the artist.



Students Playing 4D Tic Tac Toe

1994 • Richard Beyer • Medium: Aluminum

Outside of Jewett Hall, on the northeast corner of Ankeny Field, two figures play a game while sitting on a long bench. Representing both intellectual and playful aspects of college life, this piece was created by sculptor Richard Beyer, whose realistic figurative works populate public spaces through the Pacific Northwest.

Provenance: Commissioned and donated by the Class of 1954.



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leisure/labor (cloud)

2012 • Io Palmer • Medium: Wood, Bobby Pins, Paint, Chimney Sweep, Wrench

High on a wall in the Olin Annex float the cloud-like forms of an art piece by Io Palmer. Composed of thousands of meticulously sewn bobby pins and a chimney sweep's brush, the sculpture's couture aesthetics hold a complex commentary on the racial politics of hair and its cultural stylings.

Provenance: Purchased through the Gaiser Art Endowment.



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Styx

2002 • Deborah Butterfield
Medium: Bronze

Centrally located on campus, standing resolutely in the grass near Ankeny Field, is the iconic figure of a horse that appears to be assembled from driftwood. This signature design of artist Deborah Butterfield was cast in bronze in a process known as "direct burnout," using driftwood collected from the Snake and Columbia rivers. Styx was fabricated at the Walla Walla Foundry.

Provenance: Acquired by Whitman College in collaboration with the Walla Walla Foundry.



Field of the Sky

2010 • Ian Boyden

Medium: Meteorite, Steel, Wood (book);
Ground Meteorite Paint on Canvas (painting)

On the second floor of the Hall of Science, in the southeast corner of the building, you will find Field of the Sky. Northwest artist and former Sheehan Gallery Director Ian Boyden crafted this ingenious book from the sliced slabs of a Campo del Cielo meteorite, using stainless steel hinges. Boyden also created the abstract painting found on a nearby wall, which uses inks and pigments he made himself from carbon, cuttlefish, cinnabar and a ferric ink derived from the meteor's shavings.

Provenance: Commission sponsored by the Rina Imperial Memorial Fund in memory of Rina Imperial '01, an aspiring Astrophysics major with a keen interest in art.

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Three Stories

1997 • Squire Broel • **Medium:** Bronze

On the corner of Ankeny Field, in front of Penrose Library, is the sculpture of a green fish with its tail buried in the ground, balancing a yellow lemon in its mouth and a large, green cup on top of the lemon. The piece was inspired by artist Squire Broel's walks through Hong Kong fish markets. In China, the carp represents prosperity; by scarring its scaled surface, Broel signifies the loss of values that can occur in the quest for wealth.

Provenance: Gifted by Mark Anderson '78 and the Walla Walla Foundry.

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When Nothing Ends, Nothing Remains

2016 • Jacob Hashimoto

Medium: Resin, Bamboo, Paper, String

Take a few steps inside Penrose Library and look up to see a site-specific work by New York-based artist Jacob Hashimoto. Drawing on the Japanese art of kite-making, and incorporating traditional material techniques with the processes of print and collage, Hashimoto assembled a multitude of individual resin and bamboo “kites” as sculptural elements, creating a poetic whole that is simultaneously atmospheric and architectural.

Provenance: Commissioned through the Gaiser Art Endowment.



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Icarus

2017 • Satish Gupta

Medium: Copper With Gold Plating

On the second floor of Penrose Library, in the northeast window-lined corner, a giant feathered wing unfurls from the floor, evoking the Greek myth of Icarus, who ignored his father’s warning and flew too close to the sun, causing the beeswax in his wings to melt. Celebrated Indian artist Satish Gupta is a versatile artist with expertise ranging from painting to printmaking to ceramics.

Provenance: Gifted by the artist in honor of his children’s experience at Whitman College.

Balancing Act

1989 • Jim Wood • Medium: Stainless Steel

On the south side of Penrose Library are three large, yellow cubes, balancing precariously creating a slightly curved line upward. This playful sculpture is the creation of California artist Jim Wood, a Korean War veteran who became an artist in retirement after a career in engineering and construction. He was prolific in the creation of large, outdoor, welded metal art pieces.

Provenance: Gifted to Whitman College in memory of Reine Hillis '65.

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Fountain of Vibrant Waters

1992 • George Tsutakawa • Medium: Bronze

In front of Sherwood Athletic Center, near Harper Joy Theatre, a large pagoda-like tower sprays water from its sides and top into a rectangular pool of water. Renowned Seattle artist George Tsutakawa was inspired by Japanese pagodas and Tibetan obos (rock mounds made by travelers in the Himalayas).

Provenance: Commissioned by Whitman College to honor Robert Skotheim, Whitman's 10th President, and his wife, Nadine.

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Eclipta Alba

1995 • Nancy Mee • **Medium:** Glass

Within the lobby of Harper Joy Theatre, and visible from outside the building through the windows, is an abstract sculpture composed of two blue-tinted tall glass shards and one shorter black carved column. Seattle sculptor Nancy Mee's work historically draws on world mythologies and combines slumped or fused glass with materials like steel, bronze and stone.

Provenance: Gifted by John E. Braseth, Director of the Woodside/Braseth Gallery in Seattle, in honor of Peter Van Oppen '74 and Brad Jones.



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Triumphant Arc

2004 • Micajah Bienvenu '86
Medium: Copper

Located outside Harper Joy Theatre, Triumphant Arc is a large, dark gray crescent by Washington-based artist Micajah Bienvenu '86. According to the artist, due to environmental considerations, most of his pieces are made sustainably with salvaged metals. Like Pirouette, another Bienvenu sculpture on campus (see No. 9), Triumphant Arc is interactive, rotating on its base.

Provenance: Donated by the artist.



Joined Together, Let No Man Split Asunder

1980 • Ed Humpherys • Medium: Aluminum

In the corridor between the two buildings that make up Sherwood Athletic Center, you will find a 14-foot-tall serpentine aluminum sculpture by artist Ed Humpherys. A Whitman faculty member from 1973–1997, Humpherys worked in a variety of 3D media, and his sculptural works ranged from representational to abstract. This piece was originally installed on the north lawn by Memorial Building but was restored and relocated following damage from a falling tree during a windstorm in 2008.

Provenance: Purchased from the artist through the Gaiser Art Endowment.

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Sunfire Persian

2011 • Dale Chihuly • Medium: Glass

Above the entryway of Cordiner Hall is Sunfire Persian, comprised of 17 blooms of glass that hold light and radiate inward and outward. A second Chihuly piece is located across the street in Reid Campus Center. (See No. 5.)

Provenance: Donated by the artist and Walla Walla Foundry owner Mark Anderson '78.

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Discobolus

1982 • Robert Cronin

Medium: Corten Steel

On the lawn to the north of Cordiner Hall stands an abstract sculpture which includes three long, yellow organic beams standing upright to form a pyramid shape, accented by several bright green and red circles and a blue beam. Artist Robert Cronin's long career as an artist includes work in many different media, but always with an attention to color and placement.

Provenance: Gifted by the Board of Trustees to honor President Thomas Cronin and his wife and former faculty member Tania Cronin to mark their 10th anniversary of service to Whitman College.

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Marcus Whitman

1992 • Avard Fairbanks • Medium: Bronze

Near the downtown entrance to campus stands a statue of Marcus Whitman for whom the college was named. Whitman College is committed to helping students understand the history of Marcus and Narcissa Whitman and its impact on the people who lived in this region. Recognizing that the college exists on territory ceded under the Treaty of 1855, a Memorandum of Agreement with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation seeks to develop and maintain a mutually beneficial working relationship with the local Indigenous community.

Provenance: Commissioned by the Marcus Whitman Memorial Committee and owned by the City of Walla Walla.

Exhibition Spaces at Whitman College

For general inquiries or to schedule a tour, please email sheehan@whitman.edu.



Donald H. Sheehan Gallery in Olin Hall



Fouts Center for Visual Arts



Maxey Museum in Maxey Hall



Stevens Gallery in Reid Campus Center

Whitman College is located on the traditional Cayuse (Weyíletpuu), Umatilla (Imatalamtáma) and Walla Walla (Walúulapam) homelands. We pay our respect to tribal elders both past and present and extend our respect to all Indigenous people today. We honor their stewardship of the land and ecosystem and commit to continuing that important work.

