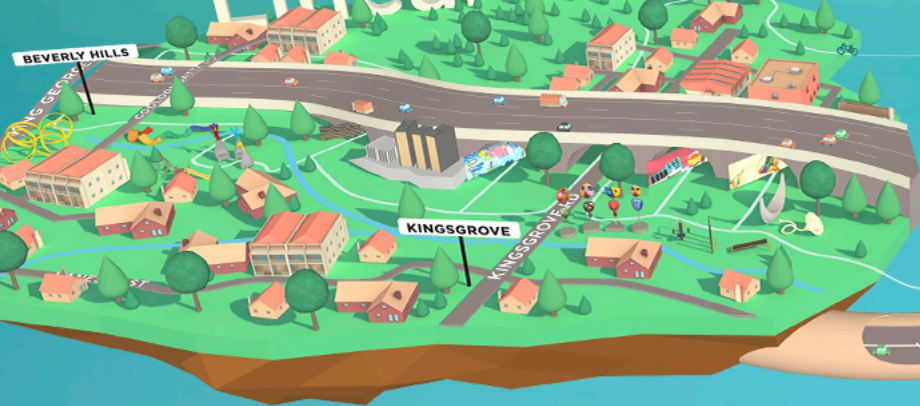


# Canal to Creek

WestConnex | Transurban

THE WESTCONNEX PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

## Linear Park



## St Peters



Canal to Creek

WestConnex | Transurban

VADEA  
NSW

VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN  
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

## The Four Graces: Deborah Halpern



# Concept

## THE FOUR GRACES: DEBORAH HALPERN

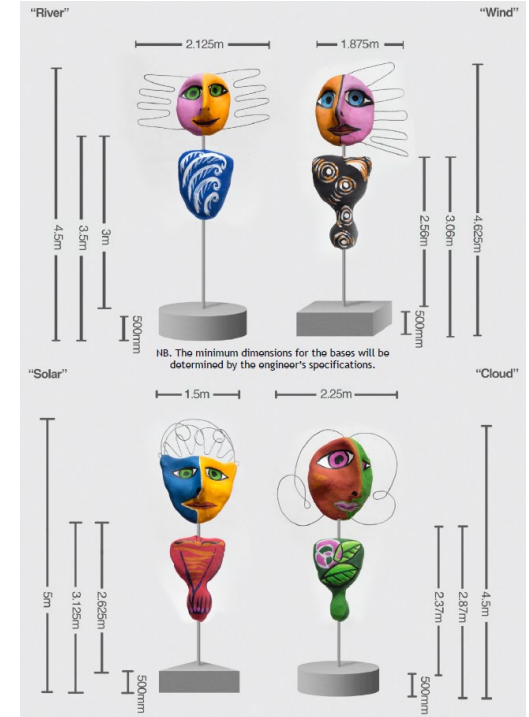
The Four Graces are made up of four medium-to-large scale kinetic figures (the heads turn with the wind) and the bases/plinths act as seats. The impressive scale, vibrant colours and sparkling sunlight/moonlight/streetlight/car headlights continually animate the works. The wind moves the heads, bringing life to the works watching over the people using Linear Park, and using Kingsgrove Road. The works are connected to each other as a family, a group of friends, as members of the human family. They reflect the multicultural communities along the M5 corridor. The sculptures are named and embody elements of nature:

**Wind** – hair / wind blowing. Black body with stars and moon. Esoteric, mysterious, ancient.

**River** – Hair / waves flowing in both directions. Blue body with waves, reference the Cooks River. Dreams, transition, development and creativity.

**Cloud** – Cloud shaped hair / halo, green body with leaves and flowers, taken from local indigenous plants and nature.

**Solar** – Electric element and crown. Small ears like an owl or a possum. Red body with crossed arms and sand dunes.



# Vibrant, site-specific portals to the park

**THE FOUR GRACES: DEBORAH HALPERN**

The two works at the southern entrances - “Cloud” and “Solar” - relate to each other across the southern side of Kingsgrove Road. “Cloud” is connected and concerned for nature and “Solar” with the world of science and the future.

The two works at the northern entrances to the park - “Wind” and “River” - are young beings conversing across Kingsgrove Road. They are outgoing, inquisitive, adventurous.



“CLOUD” – SOUTH-EAST GATEWAY



“SOLAR” – SOUTH-WEST GATEWAY



“WIND” – NORTH-EAST GATEWAY



“RIVER” – NORTH-WEST GATEWAY

**THE FOUR GRACES: DEBORAH HALPERN**

Deborah Halpern in her studio. The small models for The Four Graces are in the bottom right of the photo and she is surrounded by multiple works in progress.



# Artist Practice

## THE FOUR GRACES: DEBORAH HALPERN

In addition to creating small models of planned artworks, Halpern uses various small figures to assist with the relationship of the audience to the work when it is scaled up.

The models do not yet embody the depth and complexity of detail she will also be able to achieve when she is working to scale.

They are also used to discuss fabrication and construction with her collaborators.



# Artist Quote

## *THE FOUR GRACES: DEBORAH HALPERN*

The work I make is for people, about people, drawn from the concerns and passions of people.

Communities want and need places that inspire, surprise and delight and I create works that optimistically and authentically respond to people and place.

The land, the weather, the creatures that inhabit that place and the ones who pass through - I am inspired by time and temporality, the seen and the unseen.



# Audience

## **THE FOUR GRACES: DEBORAH HALPERN**

The figurative sculptures are memorable and easily identifiable, thereby functioning as navigational tools for wayfinding, and meeting points.

They transition the audience from the road and footpath to an engagement with nature. Standing up to 5 metres high, the brightly coloured playful four figures are kinetic as their heads turn in the wind. The figures also allow for audience interaction and connection and community engagement as the plinths act as seating for visitors to the park. This also encourages visitors to the park to experience a sense of place.