

# Overnight Art!



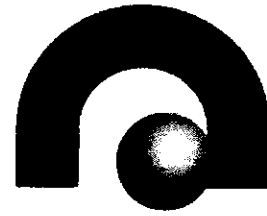
**Art-Speak**  
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH | CULTURAL COMMISSION

## EXHIBIT PUBLICATION

Overnight Art!  
*a temporary public-art competition  
celebrating the arts and culture themes  
in the City of Portsmouth Master Plan*

*Sponsored by*  
Art-Speak, City Cultural Commission  
City of Portsmouth  
*Funded in part by*





# Overnight Art! Art-Speak

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CITY OF PORTSMOUTH CULTURAL COMMISSION

May 2005

**Overnight Art!** was the City of Portsmouth's first public-art competition. The exhibit was a celebration of the arts and cultural themes in the City Master Plan. It was also the culmination of a highly inclusive public process through which many voices were heard.

The success of **Overnight Art!** was due to a number of important factors. First, the artists and artist teams produced high-quality works of art that had strong and understandable connections with the City's Master Plan. Second, the business community stepped up to create a number of important public/private partnerships (listed later in the publication). This was facilitated by a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts. Finally, Portsmouth residents and the visiting public were open and highly receptive to the unique concept and exhibit.

Public art is an important part of the urban landscape. It has the power to humanize public spaces and transcend language and cultural barriers. Overnight Art! added excitement to the City's spring landscape and whetted our appetite for more.

Many thanks to the artists, the Cultural Commission, Joanne Grasso, Assistant Mayor and City Council's representative to Art-Speak, and to the supporting businesses. Together, you have done a great service to our great city.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Sirrell, Mayor  
City of Portsmouth

# Overnight Art!



## Artists and Artist Teams

**Jamie Calderwood** – a sculptor also trained as a landscape architect. He specializes in outdoor pieces that reveal the magical relationship between nature and culture—more specifically landscape and architecture.

**Barbara Rita Jenny** – a visual artist whose work is inspired by macroscopic photographs of human flesh in Baroque-influenced patterning. Jenny specializes in works on paper, vinyl, and lycra, which can be displayed as framed prints, room-scale installations, and public murals.

**Laura Pope** – an arts journalist who has worked as a writer for documentaries, as a magazine editor for the award-winning *New Hampshire Home* magazine, and as story writer for *New Hampshire Profiles* and *Yankee Magazine*.

**TF Moran, Inc.** – a New Hampshire landscape-architecture firm assembled an artist-based team that includes Anne Cruess, Paul Kirby, Matt Routhier, and Mike Krmzemiski. TF Moran's commission will be on display at the Sheraton Harborside Hotel in the Northern Tier area.

**Jennifer Belkus** – a poet who was a finalist in the Portsmouth Poet Laureate *Voices and Visions* Project for her piece "Flowers, Birds and Us." "Flowers, Birds and Us" will be on permanent display in Portsmouth City Hall. Her poems have been accepted by several journals. Belkus collaborated with Tim Gaudreau.

**Tim Gaudreau** – an environmental artist whose passion is the natural and built environment. His public installations are meant to be "found" by unsuspecting viewers, who have no expectation of seeing art. Gaudreau collaborated with Jennifer Belkus.



Tim Gaudreau and Jennifer Belkus

Photography by Richard Haynes  
[www.haynesimages.com](http://www.haynesimages.com)

# Overnight Art!



## Business Partners

**Celtic Crossing**, 112 Congress Street [www.celticcrossing.com](http://www.celticcrossing.com)

**Richard Haynes Photography** [www.haynesimages.com](http://www.haynesimages.com)

**LifeSize Graphics**, 125 Brewery Lane [www.lifesizegraphics.com](http://www.lifesizegraphics.com)

**Miguel's Color Service** 1 Falkland Pl. [www.miguelscolourservice.com](http://www.miguelscolourservice.com)

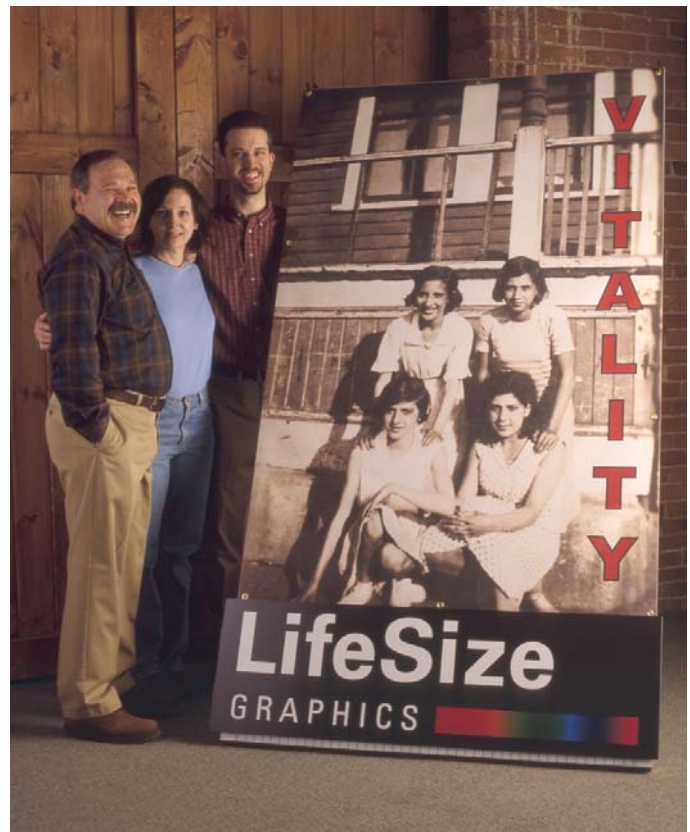
## Portsmouth Police Department

**Sheraton Harborside Hotel**,  
Market Street  
[www.sheratonportsmouth.com](http://www.sheratonportsmouth.com)

**Strawbery Banke Museum**  
Marcy Street  
[www.strawberybanke.org](http://www.strawberybanke.org)

**Upright Fence**  
Lafayette Road  
[www.uprightfence.com](http://www.uprightfence.com)

William J. Hurley, owner;  
Lisa Almand, production manager &  
Glen Fieldsend, graphics manager of  
LifeSize Graphics



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# Overnight Art!



## SOAR!

### Specifications

Media: steel, granite

Dimensions: 12' x  
12'

### Artist Statement

*SOAR!* was a kinetic sculpture made from steel with a granite base. Its form was, at once, reminiscent of the hull of a boat, the sail of a ship, and the spine of a fish.

*SOAR* recalled the historic importance of the maritime industries to Portsmouth. Its presence at an important gateway to downtown illustrates the on-going importance the working waterfront has to Portsmouth, its resident population and its workforce.



Photography by Richard Haynes  
[www.haynesimages.com](http://www.haynesimages.com)

# Overnight Art!



## *Callbox Four*

### Specifications

Media: mixed media  
with audio

Dimensions:  
60"x18"x18"

### Artist Statement

*Callbox Four* was a multi-media interactive station reminiscent of a public telephone. This curious and colorful telephone invited passers-by to pick up the receiver and visualize a personal interpretation of a landscape theme, then to press a button to hear a recording.



These recordings were "found" poems created by weaving together community voices from random, people-on-the-street interview about their own interpretations of our city. By including the public's participation, actual voices, and interaction in the creation of this work, the artists speak to the interconnected web of relationships that are the essence of Portsmouth.

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## *Peace Path: Sidewalk Skins*

### Specifications

Media: Inkjet print  
on 3M sidewalk  
graphic media

Dimensions: (12) 36"x36"  
tiles

### Artist Statement

*SidewalkSkins* consisted of digital prints of human skin on 3M's Sidewalk Media, a material designed for urban outdoor applications. It was installed on the radial entries to Goodwin Park, a memorial park where the *Soldiers and Sailors* monument is located.



*SidewalkSkins* appealed to the Diversity of Portsmouth People and Economy theme in the Portsmouth Master Plan. The work was conceived as a way to inspire people to connect to human history and Portsmouth history, and to enable people to embrace and nurture diversity.

Photography by Richard Haynes  
[www.haynesimages.com](http://www.haynesimages.com)

# Overnight Art!



## *Art as Architecture / Architecture as Art*

### Specifications

Media: granite

Dimensions: 30"  
x 30"

### Artist Statement

*Art as Architecture / Architecture as Art* commented on the recently blurred line that separates art and architecture. The artist suggested that buildings sometimes look like sculpture, and sculptors are turning buildings inside out to create art. This visually poetic piece interacts with the Portsmouth community, whose art (some would say) is its architecture.



This piece commented on the desire to bring art into architecture through the Percent for Art Program, one of the programmatic goals of the Master Plan.

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## *Gateway*



### **Artist Statement**

*Gateway* was a testament to the residents of the Italian North End, a waterfront neighborhood district that was razed in the 1960s. Vintage photographs on three panels brought the faces and stories of the North End residents to the corner of Market and Deer Streets, where a granite bench/monument listing the name of residents was installed.

The title of *Gateway* was a double entendre. Not only did it reinforce the Portsmouth Master Plan theme of "gateways to our city," it also spoke to the North End neighborhood that was once an immigrant gateway to Portsmouth and the United States.

Photography by Richard Haynes  
[www.haynesimages.com](http://www.haynesimages.com)

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## *Portsmouth Says "Hi!"*

### Specifications

Media: Mixed media letterboxes; digital sign, and found poetry

### Artist Statement

A number of mixed media letterboxes were placed in downtown locations, conspicuous in design and characterized by a unique symbol or text. They functioned as interactive stations instructing community members to leave written responses to thematic questions. A poem was drafted from this input, and played on a public utility sign in Market Square.



Themes from the Portsmouth Master Plan will be posited in an engaging, playful manner for consideration by community members, whose written responses will be transformed into art for and experienced as art by the community served.

Photography by Richard Haynes  
[www.haynesimages.com](http://www.haynesimages.com)

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## *Portsmouth Says "Hi!"* Anthology

Jennifer Belkus & Tim Gaudreau

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#1	#2	#3
THE OCEAN IS WHERE I SWIM	OPEN SPACE IS A ROOF- TOP & COOL	FOUR STRIPED BASS DO
HAS NO PARKING METERS	DRIZZLE OF RAIN. I TAKE A	CARTWHEELS & SOMER- SAULTS ONE
THE SEAGULLS R ARTISTS	HIGH POTENCY BLEND.	DAY OFF MY KAYAK. I TEAR THE
WHERE WE'RE GOING...	FEELING FAMILIAR, I PRETEND	SKIN OFF A WHOLE OTHER BODY
WE DON'T NEED ROADS	IT'S UR FACE & STARE	& I FEEL LIKE I AM SMALL,
YOU CAN LIVE.	BLANKLY & SLACKJAWED AT BRICKS.	LIKE A GUY I USED TO KNOW.

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## Portsmouth Says “Hi!” Anthology

Jennifer Belkus & Tim Gaudreau

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#4	#5	#6
ART IS WHATEVER WAVES YOU	THE WORLD IS COMING	PEOPLE LEAD TO ROADS.
WE LOST OUR BEST MAN IN ITS	SAVE YOUR BENCHES & POTHOLES,	WHEN YOU OPEN YOUR EYELIDS &
SURF. THE CLOSENESS OF THE	THE BEAST SAID.	THE POINT REMAINS, PLACES
OCEAN, A MAGIC BOX ROARING &	& YOUR HAIR SCARES ME	LEAD TO PEOPLE LIKE
LOUD, IF U FELT ITS PRESENCE	WHAT KIND OF STORY IS THIS?	SUNFLOWERS CAST NARROW
I WOULDN'T BE WRITING THIS NOW.	PLEASE SLOW IT DOWN...	SHADOWS, AFTER THEY R CLOSED.

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## Portsmouth Says “Hi!” Anthology

Jennifer Belkus & Tim Gaudreau

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#7	#8	#9
THE YOUNG & THE WORKING-	ART IS NOT A LAZY SCHTICK,	A CLUSTER OF AGGRAVATED
CLASS PLAYING HACKEYSACK	OVER THE TOP USE- LESSNESS,	PEOPLE ATE MY
SUNTANS, CUTE BOYS, WAVE-	A PEN CAP THAT’S NOT A PEN CAP	GARBAGE CAN. SYNTHETIC
SURFING & DRY ITCHY SKIN.	OR GUMDROP BUTTONS. WHAT WILL	POLYMERS & COFFEE ALL DAY,
QUIET UR MOTORCYCLE DOWN,	UR HISTORY BE? WILL IT BE	DOWNTOWN IS BUSTLING &
LET’S PLAY FOR THE DOG.	PAINTED WHITE 3 TIMES?	SUNSHINE IS FREE.

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## Portsmouth Says “Hi!” Anthology

Jennifer Belkus & Tim Gaudreau

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### #10

THE WAVES  
OF MY  
FATHER'S

BACK,  
TRYING TO  
ERASE ME.

MY TOES,  
FORCING  
GROOVES,

KEEP IT  
OPEN.  
WHEN I

STEP BACK  
UNTIL SUB-  
MERGED

AGAIN, THE  
SALT FILLS  
MY EARS.

### #11

WALKING TO  
SPRING,  
A CHARCOAL

WIND  
COLLAPSES.  
CHILLY IN

SHADOW  
NOW  
- GETTING  
PEOPLE TO

STAND  
STILL IS  
NOT ALWAYS

OUCHLESS.  
ROLLING  
OVER & OVER

I PULL  
DOWN  
THE FENCE.