

ART WALK

INSPIRING INSTALLATIONS



Image:
Fiona FOLEY Mangrove Cap 2009.
Photography by Alicia Stevenson.

Take a stroll through the Mackay City Centre and explore our iconic art installations, designed and created by some of Australia's most talented artists.

Whether you are a creator, artist, or just enjoy the beauty of art, there is plenty to discover in the Mackay City Centre. Start your cultural journey anywhere and stop for a shop, a coffee, a light lunch or dine with a glass of something cold.

Mackay City Centre your Cultural Destination



Image: NICHE ART (Glen MANNING and Kathy DALY) Canefire 2016. Photography by Jim Cullen

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Mackay Regional Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Yuwi People, and we pay our respects to Elders past and present, and to the young emerging leaders.

MAP of Locations at Back of Book



1. THE MACKAY HORIZONS

This community art project was originally a series of artworks representing the horizons of the region from the mountains to the coast, and formed part of the 1993 Mackay City Centre Redevelopment that involved over 100 community volunteers, arts workers and artists. An arts studio and bronze foundry were established in the Paxton's building on River Street as part of the project, and all artworks were produced locally, including the sand-cast and flat plaques and a number of three dimensional bronze sculptures.

In 2015 The Mackay Horizons was relocated to the Mackay Showgrounds as part of the Mackay City Centre Revitalisation Project.

2. LOCAL WILDLIFE

These sculptures of Local Wildlife commemorate Mackay's 150th anniversary of European settlement.

The eight sculptures depict a joey kangaroo, emu chick, sleeping wombat, cockatoo, fruit bat, lorikeets, possums and a scrub fowl and have all been made from a Camphor Laurel tree removed from Greenmount Homestead, Walkerston.



Image 1: The Mackay Horizons 1992: 2015. *Photography by Donna Maree Robinson.*

Image 2: Adriaan VANDERLUGT Local Wildlife 2013 & 2018. *Photography by Donna Maree Robinson.*

3. THE ELEMENTAL LABYRINTH

The labyrinth is a symbol of self-reflection. As a metaphor for life, it consists of a single, winding path leading through a series of twists and turns into the centre and out again. *The Elemental Labyrinth* also incorporates eight elements: water; wood; fire; metal; earth; mountain; wind; and, sky/space.

The elements represent the natural cycle of nature/the external environment.



4. ENTWINED

Entwined has re-purposed a large, industrial cane crushing roller from the old Pleystowe Sugar Mill. The roller is mounted upright on the exterior of Artspace Mackay, appearing to have functioned as a device for peeling back the exterior layer of copper from the building.

Entwined is an example of integrated public art, where the artist worked closely with the architects. At the time architect Michael Rayner said of the design *"the architecture seeks to question the role of architecture as sculpture in a quirky way – the building's street façade peeling open to encase an old artefact from the sugar industry"*.



Image 3: Jill CHISM The Elemental Labyrinth 2002. *Photography by Dean Whitting.*

Image 4: Craig WALSH Entwined 2002. *Photography by Dean Whitting.*



5. TRUE NORTH

Constructed from marine buoys and lights, the artwork relates to Mackay's buoyant mining community, working port and recreational marina, as well as marking safe passage through the Great Barrier Reef to Matsuura, Japan.

Two buoys, strident in their colours of work – red, yellow and black, are hung high off the ground under the canopy of the shopping centre. The other two, located on Matsuura Avenue along the river, were updated in 2021 to reflect the artist's practice of working with found objects and materials that "have had quite a life". Donna recalls fondly the practice of adorning Queensland gardens with marine buoys found washed up on the beach. Allowing the larger of the two buoys to fade naturally over time honours this age-old tradition of repurposing these utilitarian objects for aesthetic effect.

6. CROWS



This work is installed above head height at Mackay's Bluewater Lagoon.

On sunny days, it's shadow extends the work onto the ground and water. On one level this work operates in a playful and whimsical fashion.

However, the concepts that underpin the work also cast a shadow. In the 1800s South Sea Islanders were "blackbirded", a colloquial term used to describe the forcible removal of people from their islands to Mackay where they were forced to work as slaves in the sugar industry.

Fiona Foley

Six art installations by Fiona Foley highlight the Bluewater Trail beside Mackay's beautiful Pioneer River. Her research and discussions with local communities in the Mackay region, the Indigenous Yuwi People and the Mackay Australian South Sea Islander community, inform and infiltrate these works. Her incorporation of local Indigenous narratives, their exploration of some of the difficult histories of Mackay, has brought air and recognition to the dispossessed.

Image 5: Donna MARCUS True North 2012 & 2021. Commissioned by Lend Lease & MRC. Photography by Jim Cullen.

Image 6: Fiona FOLEY Crows 2009. Photography by Alicia Stevenson.

7. YUWI



This two-metre-high text names local Aboriginal people and their lands.

The text is foregrounded with a bronze ring (or wreath) inlaid into the ground as a symbol of a sacred land. Places in and around Australia had names when settlers arrived in colonial times. While some of these were adopted, others were misheard, or romanticised, so as to render them palatable and legible for the incoming Europeans. By rendering the local name for place in large red letters along this thoroughfare in Mackay, Foley gives the first inhabitants of this land visibility and honours their memory. *The wreath laid in front of these letters remembers those lost, killed and dispossessed, and notes the sacred qualities of these lands.*

8. FISHBONES



Fiona Foley's *Fishbones* are like wings, lined up, evoking the fish spine. These artworks honour memories of Mackay's maritime history and act as a marker to the wharf precinct. Inspiration for these works was drawn from history – the Yuwi People were noted by early settlers for their fishing prowess.

However, bones necessarily evoke death – those who have passed on, or were 'dispersed'. Mackay's history includes incidents in which local Aboriginals were killed.

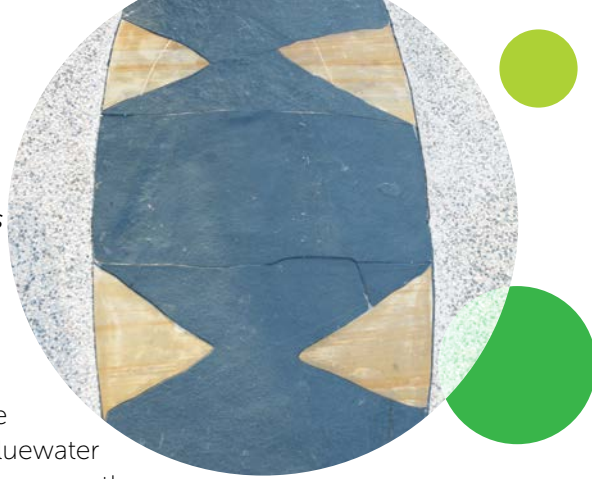
Image 7: Fiona FOLEY Yuwi 2009. Photography by Alicia Stevenson.

Image 8: Fiona FOLEY Fishbones 2009. Photography by Alicia Stevenson.

9. SHIELDS

In this work, historic shield designs that belong to the Yuwi People were sourced at the Queensland Museum and brought back to the area, inlaid into the pavement.

Their installation in the fabric of the stone adds a cultural layer to the Bluewater Quay development zone. In this busy area, they are a gentle reminder of the original owners and the traditions that have been enacted on these lands in times past.



10. SUGAR CUBES

This circular installation beside the Pioneer River represents the complexity of history involving the sugar industry. Sugar cubes are stacked like pillars.

This industry has been one of Mackay's most significant successes, yet these works also acknowledge the historical importance of South Sea Islanders to both this industry and to Mackay. This city is home to Australia's largest population of Australian South Sea Islanders. Detailed on the surface of the sugar cubes are thumb prints of their South Sea Islander ancestors and the names of transporting ships in recognition of the history of their human cargo.

Image 9: Fiona FOLEY Shields 2009. *Photography by Alicia Stevenson.*

Image 10: Fiona FOLEY Sugar Cubes 2009. *Photography by Alicia Stevenson.*

11. MANGROVE CAP

The monumental Mangrove Cap (some nine metres tall) that Foley designed sits beside the Pioneer River in an open grassy landscape.

The health of our rivers, fish and environment is nurtured by the quality of our mangrove stocks, and their importance is reinforced through the creation of this giant statement in steel designed to visibly age in the salty environment. The work is given an other-worldly, starry ambience by using solar-powered lights which glow through and beneath the cap in pricks of light.



12. UPON THE LEVEE WALL: COMMUNITY MURAL

UPon the Levee Wall tells the story of Mackay's river port settlement, from the original Indigenous inhabitants to early European settlement, the arrival of South Sea Islander indentured labourers, other waves of migration, early industry through to modern-day Mackay.

The 300 metre mural began its life as a community art project as part of Animating Spaces Mackay UPI, designed to revitalise and celebrate significant or unusual spaces within regional communities.



Image 11: Fiona FOLEY Mangrove Cap 2009.

Image 12: Margaret BURGESS, Susan GEE, May-Britt MOSSHAMMER, Tracey ROBB, Andrea WRIGHT UPon the Levee Wall: Community Mural 2009. *Photography by Donna Maree Robinson.*

13. MEETING PLACE

Meeting Place *celebrates geographic areas of the Mackay region: fresh water, sea, mountains and lowlands and the gathering of the community.*

165 residents of all ages and abilities explored local themes in a series of printmaking workshops across the region, creating prints which have been etched onto the artwork. The mangrove forms symbolise the meeting of freshwater and sea, and the interconnectedness of ecosystems. The curved composition represents the Pioneer River.



14. YELLOW BRICK ROAD - ELTON JOHN MURAL

Mackay City Centre's *Yellow Brick Road - Elton John Mural* was officially opened by Mayor Greg Williamson on Tuesday, September 19, 2017. The Elton John-inspired mural was commissioned by local business, Sun City Signs, to commemorate the Elton John visit as it was such a rare event for our region. The mural is located on the external Westpac building wall in the City Centre.

This colourful and quirky legacy art piece is a fantastic and unique addition to the Mackay City Centre and can be found in 4th Lane, off Wood Street.



Image 13: Wanda BENNETT and Tracey JOHNSON Meeting Place 2016. Photography by Jim Cullen.

Image 14: Sun City Signs Yellow Brick Road - Elton John Mural 2017. Photography by Donna Maree Robinson.



15. 7th Lane Street Art

Created as part of Mackay's Easter Laneway Festival; *7th Lane Street Art* was an artwork project that turned a blank wall in the City Centre into a bright and engaging space.

16. 17. 18. 19. BUILDING BLOOMS

Building Blooms are triffids on a large scale, gigantic organic shapes that demand attention. Artist Brian Robinson, a north Queenslander by virtue of his Torres Strait Islander heritage, is known for his ability to combine elements organic and manmade into a unique fusion that speaks to both popular culture and art history, to his own heritage and to broad contemporary interests.



Robinson describes the Deco Blooms as being designed to fuse with the Art Deco features of Mackay's built heritage, while his Urban Blooms speak to the flowering plants from the botanic gardens, not only in Mackay but spread across the Eastern seaboard. They use the two elements together to celebrate growth and life.



Image 15: 7th Lane Street Art. Photography by Donna Maree Robinson.

Images 16, 17, 18, 19: Brian ROBINSON Building Blooms 2016. Photography by Jim Cullen.



20. CANEFIRE

Mackay's most central public art installation, Canefire was inspired by the city's natural landscape and predominant natural resource, sugar cane.

It seeks to capture the light and movement in an explosively burning and fragmented mass of sugar cane in its shiny chrome formation. Its position, on a roundabout that is the fulcrum within the Mackay City Centre, allows for its visibility and vistas to four streets.

21. RACQ Angels of the Sky

The Angels of the Sky mural celebrates 25 years of service by RACQ CQ Rescue to the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday communities.

RACQ CQ Rescue has been providing vital aeromedical and search and rescue services to anyone, anywhere, anytime across Central and North Queensland since 1996. The blue and yellow rescue helicopter is synonymous with saving lives and is available 24/7, 365 days a year.

The mural has become an 'unofficial' extension of the Laneway Project located in the City Centre.



Image 20: NICHE ART (Glen MANNING and Kathy DALY) Canefire 2016. Photography by Jim Cullen.

Image 21: Jodie CONNOLLY Artist Jordache CASTILLEJOS Angels of the Sky 2021.



22. 5TH LANE STREET ART

The 5th Lane activation project was created by 16 local artists and 5 visiting artists from across Queensland and Australia. The original idea of creating colourful murals to engage the public, turned into a fusion of creative art and technology, which brings the art alive through the inclusion of augmented reality.

To enjoy the Laneway artwork on a new level, follow the instructions below to upload the Zapper App and look for the seven Zapper code icons along the laneway.

For further information on the artists and the 5th Lane activation project, please visit mackaycitycentre.com.au.



**GET ZAPPAR
ZAP THE CODE**



 **FREE City Centre Wifi here**

Use your phone camera Or free QR Code App to scan the code for more instructions.



Trouble shooting the Zapper App

If your laneway experience using zapper is not working please try the following trouble shooting tips... Make sure you ZAP the code on the wall next to the artwork first / Stand on the zapper icon on the ground / Move your phone slowly over the artwork / Ambient lighting and Sunlight may affect the app / Turn your sound on for a better experience. Augmented Reality made possible by Mackay Tourism and monkey3media.

Image 22: Kingfisher and Children's Artwork (Jodie Connolly and Mackay Junior Artists) 2019. Photography by monkey3media.

Image 23: Bungee Jumping Caterpillars (Maya Harrison and Kate Brunner) 2019. Photography by monkey3media.

Image 24: Swirling Sun (Marissa More) 2019. Photography by monkey3media.

Image 25: Platypus (Brightsiders) 2019. Photography by monkey3media.

Image 26: Ulysess Butterfly (Marissa Moore) 2019. Photography by monkey3media.

Image 27: Tiger Moth Joy Ride (Anita Laura Kroger) 2019. Photography by monkey3media.

READY

Download Zapper free from your App store.



AIM

Scan the zapcode then aim at the whole image.

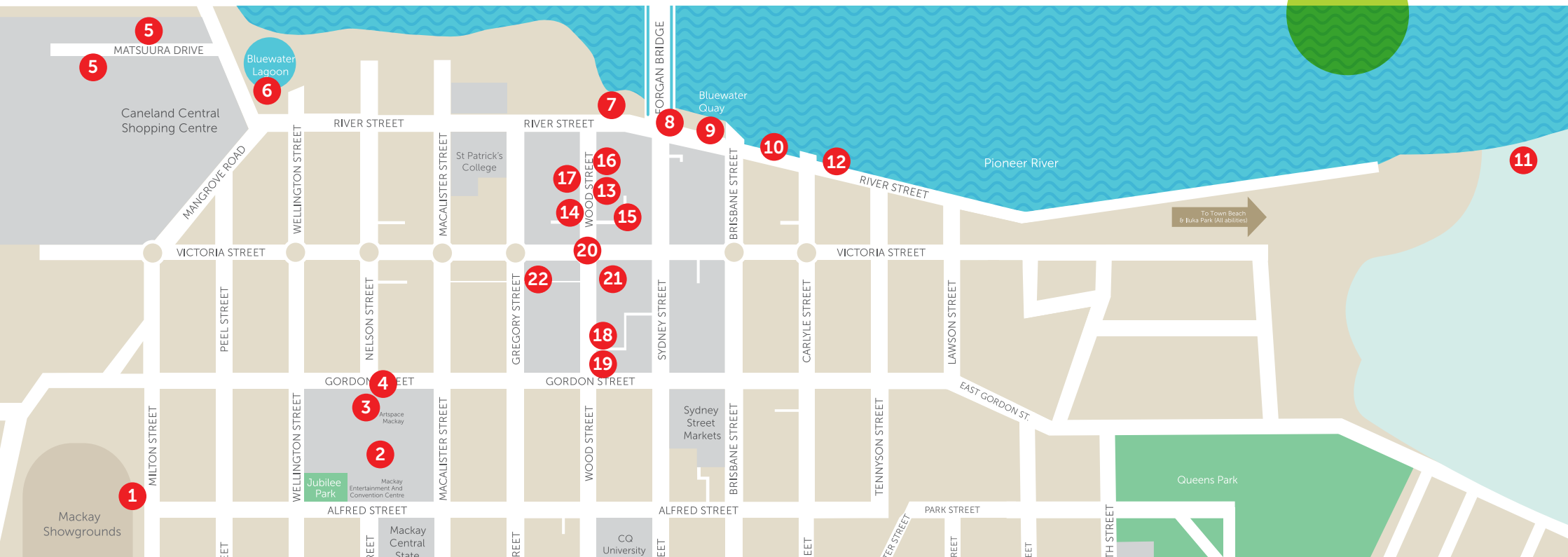


ZAP

Watch the artwork come to life!



MAP OF LOCATIONS



- 1. The Mackay Horizons.** Horizons Art Walk - Showgrounds (near admin building and behind, along the Milton Street fence line towards pavillions).
- 2. Adriaan Vanderlugt Local Wildlife** - 8 wooden sculptures outside the MECC.
- 3. Jill Chism The Elemental Labyrinth,** located in the grounds of Artspace Mackay (i.e. front entrance).
- 4. Craig Walsh Entwined,** built into the front/Gordon Street-facing external wall of Artspace Mackay.

- 5. Donna Marcus True North,** Caneland Central entrance and Matsuura Drive.
- 6. Fiona Foley Crows,** located in the Bluewater Lagoon facility, Bluewater Trail.
- 7. Fiona Foley Yuwi,** located on River Street, Bluewater Trail.
- 8. Fiona Foley Fishbones,** Bluewater Quay, Bluewater Trail.
- 9. Fiona Foley Shields,** Bluewater Quay, Bluewater Trail.
- 10. Fiona Foley Sugar Cubes,** Bluewater Quay, Bluewater Trail.

- 11. Fiona Foley Mangrove Cap,** Sandfly Creek Reserve, Bluewater Trail.
- 12. UPon the Levee Wall: Community Mural,** River Street, Bluewater Quay, Bluewater Trail.
- 13. Wanda Bennett and Tracey Johnson Meeting Place,** Wood Street Park.
- 14. Yellow Brick Road - Elton John Mural** - 4th Lane (off Wood Street).
- 15. Community Artists 7th Lane Street Art.** 7th Lane (next to McGuires Hotel).

- 16, 17, 18, 19: Brian Robinson Building Blooms,** Wood Street.
- 20. Niche Art Canefire,** intersection of Wood and Victoria Streets.
- 21. RACQ Angels of the Sky.** Jodie Connolly & Jordache Castillejos (off Wood Street).
- 22. Local and Visiting Artists 5th Lane Street Art** 5th Lane (between Gregory and Wood Street).

Artspace Mackay

Artspace Mackay is a regional art gallery owned and operated by Mackay Regional Council and is an ideal entry point to the unique culture and creativity of this region. Ideally located in the Civic Precinct, alongside the Mackay Entertainment Convention Centre (MECC) and Jubilee Community Centre.

Gallery Opening hours

10am to 5pm Tuesday to Friday
10am to 3pm Saturday & Sunday
Closed Monday

FREE ENTRY

www.artspacemackay.com.au

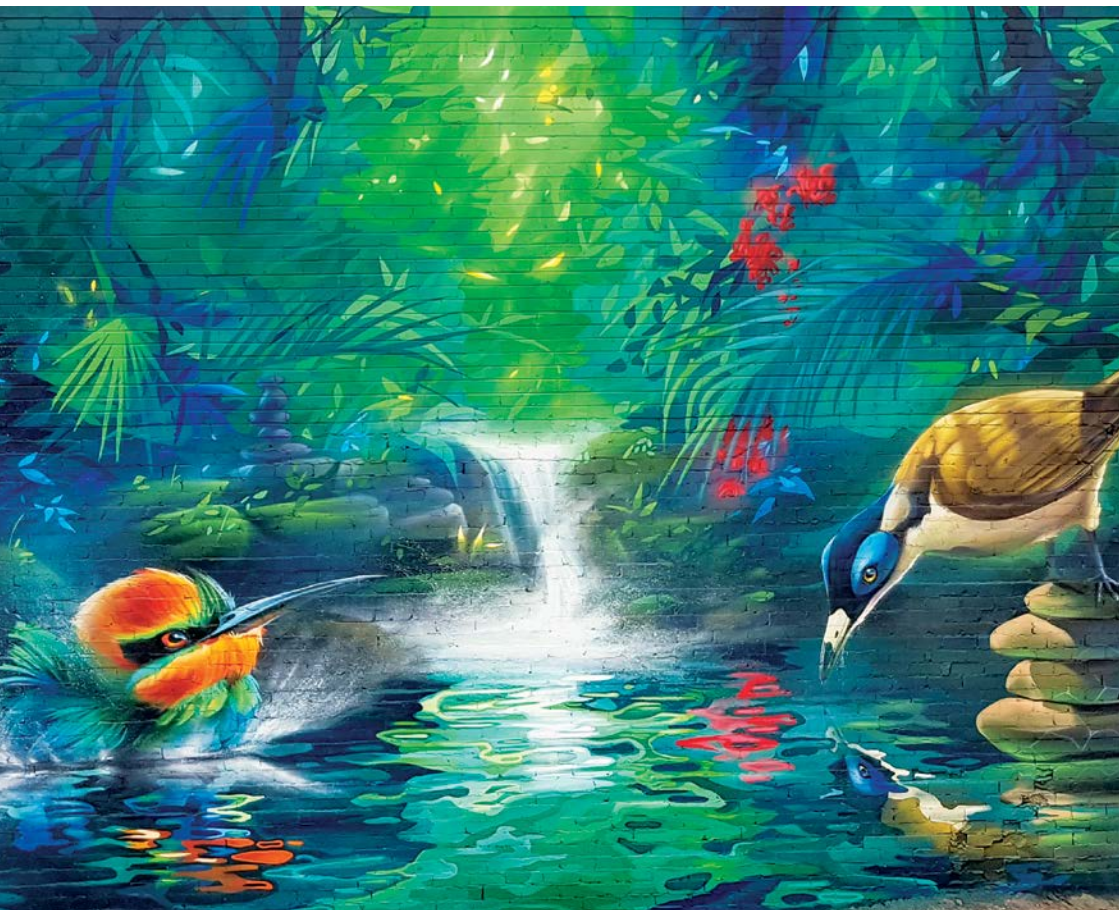


Image: Scott NAGY *Finch Hatton Bird Bath 2019* Completed as part of 5th Lane Street Art. Photography by Scott Nagy.

