

Discoveries

Artist: Larry Kirkland

July 2006

Evergreen Branch Library / 2635 Aborn Road, San Jose, CA 95121 / Council District 8

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Located in the viewing garden that spans the northeast facade of the library, Larry Kirkland's *Discoveries* speaks of the human potential for learning and exploration through our senses. According to the artist: "What unites all people is our search to understand our world and existence. From the moment we are born we begin the process of discovery that continues throughout our lives. For that reason I have decided to title the sculptures *Discoveries*. The concept of the pieces was to suggest the universal human potential for exploration and learning through our senses. The three large white marble stones were found in Carrara, Italy in the same place where Michelangelo found stone for his carvings over 500 years ago. The carving of the stones into an ear, mouth, and eye, show the human forms emerging out of the rough hewn boulders. It is a balance of the beauty of the natural stone and the beautiful carving of the human forms.

Trees and greenery that hug the creek and mountains form the backdrop for a contemplative, visually restive space.



Above: Detail of *Discoveries*. Photo by Paul Schraub



Above: Detail of *Discoveries*



Right: Detail of *Discoveries*

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Larry Kirkland creates large-scale artworks for public spaces that touch on universal themes and often evoke an association with nature. His work can be seen in many sites around the world, from airport terminals to office buildings internationally from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to Osaka, Japan, and throughout the United States. Kirkland was born in California and currently resides in Washington, D.C. He works part of the year in a studio in Carrara, Italy. More about the artist may be found on his website www.larrykirkland.com

ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

The Public Art Program is part of the City's Office of Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance that provides public art through funding from City capital improvement projects and eligible private development.

For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program.

