

Under the Sun

Location: Victoria, Australia

Architects: Robert Owen and Joanna Buckley

According to Ecclesiastes 1:9, "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun". Well, now, thanks to the imaginative design of Melbourne artists, Robert Owen and Joanna Buckley, there is a new sculpture entitled "Under the Sun" at the entrance to Stockland's Point Cook Centre, in Victoria, Australia. This mesmerising art form is a 1300 kg stainless steel sculpture with a diameter of 6.5 meters, suspended above the entrance as to resemble the moon floating over the earth. The piece was commissioned as part of a \$20 million revamp and was completed in 2014. Engineering work was carried out by Anthony Snyders of Adams Consulting Engineers and the fabrication by the artists themselves, in conjunction with Jeph Neale of Artery Cooperative and Luke Adams of Eco Electrics. The detail work was laser cut by Arrow Laser. The artists specified 316 stainless steel for the sculpture and the supporting mast and cables, for its excellent corrosion resistance, especially having regard to the harsh environment of coastal cities. The production was aided by 3D modelling in consultation with Ronstan Tensile Architecture

General Manager, Rowan Murray. The surfaces of the structure were polished done by MME Surface Finishing. The final result of this complex collaborative effort is a piece of unique art-work bringing together the elements for which stainless steel is justifiably famous – pleasing aesthetics, excellent corrosion resistance, durability and formability. For the architectural, building and construction sectors, the only limitation on the use of stainless steel is the scope of the imagination. (This story and the photographs have been supplied by ASSDA and we gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of Richard Matheson and Lissel Port).

Details

Environment:	urban
Fabrication process:	(Dish) No. 6 Finish - laser cut - pickling - passivating - electropolishing
Grade/surface:	316L
Main thickness or diameter:	(Dish) 6500 x 6500 x 465mm. (Cables) 4mm, 5mm, 7mm and 10mm
Date of completion:	2014
Manufacturing company and material supplier:	Ronstan Tensile Architecture, ACS2 Stainless Steel
More information:	assda.asn.au



Picture courtesy of John Gollings

To see more stainless steel in architecture, [click here](#)