



Mural at the Helenvale Resource Centre cut from reflective stainless steel sheeting

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## Art at the Helenvale Resource Centre

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Art and architecture complement each other! And this is no different at the (South African Institute of Architects) award-winning Helenvale Resource Centre; where two urban art pieces, conceived in stainless steel and resin, create focal points, facing each other, along the main approach axis to the entrance to the building, in the "Community Plaza". Standing on the opposite side of Leith Street, the primary art piece, called "Kite Boy," consists on an annulus (ring-shaped) form, out of reflective stainless steel, that evokes movement, upon which a figure of a young child (actually sculpted from a member of the local community), out of cast resin, balances, while looking towards the Centre and flying a kite (a distinctive activity in Helenvale). This art piece has truly become a focal point in the community and is often used as the backdrop for photo shoots for weddings etc. Directly across from Kite Boy, on the opposite side of the Community Plaza, at the main entrance to the Center, stands the Mural featuring words and phrase chosen as a result of a community activation process conducted by the German Development Bank. The text has been cut into reflective stainless steel sheeting. The mural also includes resin cast figures of three children playing. The fact that both art pieces use the same materials – primarily polished stainless steel – truly "binds" the Community Plaza to the Community Centre.



### Details

Location:	Port Elizabeth, South Africa
Grade:	AISI 304 and 316
Surface: finish	sanding to 1200 grit and buffed to a polished shine with cotton mops
Urban design and architecture:	thematrixcc.co.za
Artist:	Michael Barry
Manufacturer:	R & R Aesthetics
Photographs:	sassda.co.za
More information:	sassda.co.za