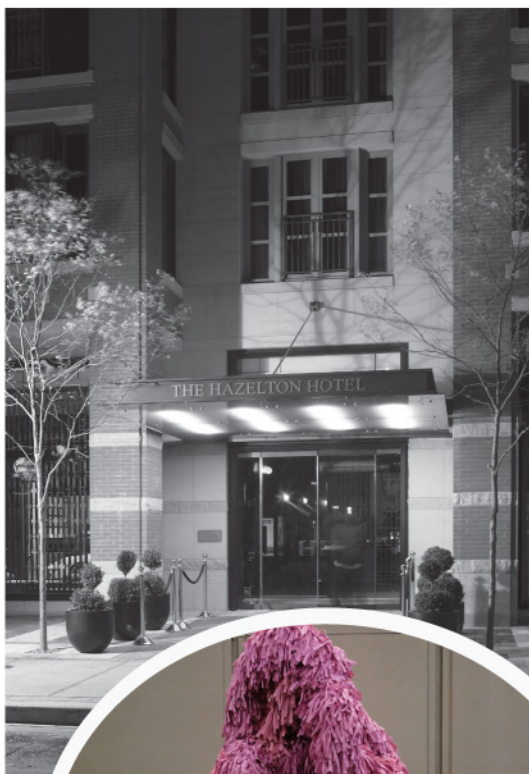


The art collection of The Hazelton Hotel

and the inaugural Hazelton Plinth Sculpture winner



In the bustling trendy neighbourhood of Yorkville, it's usually the stylish pedestrians that capture attention. But at the corner of Hazelton and Yorkville Avenue, the elegant Hazelton Hotel has kept all eyes focused on its sleek lines since first opening its doors just before the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2007.

Six years later, this boutique hotel has kept up its credentials as the A list address for visitors while also contributing to the neighbourhood's longstanding position as an art destination, with the inaugural Hazelton Plinth Sculpture Contest – and a lobby now displaying *I See Through Them*, the winning sculpture by Toronto artist Jaime Angelopoulos.

Adding to Yorkville's art history



A bohemian culture centre for musicians and writers in the 1960s, Yorkville transformed from an area filled with coffee houses and poetry readings to become a neighbourhood of high-end retail in the late 1970s and 1980s, with the opening of Holt Renfrew and Harry Rosen as well as numerous commercial art galleries, such as the Mira Godard Gallery, Gallery Gevik, Miriam Shiell Fine Art and Kinsman Robinson Galleries.

With over 25 galleries and museums within 10 minutes of its location, The Hazelton Hotel opened its doors with a unique art collection, focused on various mediums of contemporary art displayed throughout in its public and guest-only areas of the hotel. Even the valet parking area of the hotel welcomes guests with sand cast glass panels illuminated with an ever-changing colourful LED display by Jeff Goodman.



Clockwise from top Hazelton Hotel exterior, Plinth winning sculpture, Jaime Angelopoulos, "I See Through Them," 2011, cotton and polyester fabric, plaster, foam, 55" x 35" x 27". Courtesy of Parisian Laundry and the artist (Image courtesy of Sam Mogelonsky).

From the Chrome Suitcase Sculptural Grouping by Canadian artist Bruno Billio which greets guests upon arrival to the romantic black and white electrostatic print series Dark Chandelier by Laura Wood on the way to One Restaurant, there's no lack of artistic sensibility within this Yabu Pushelberg designed accommodation.

In 2012, The Hazelton Hotel became the first hotel in Canada to offer the unique service of an art concierge, undertaken by artist Sam Mogelonsky. Happy to inform and advise about the city's art scene, Mogelonsky can provide details on exploring the Yorkville neighbourhood or the city's offerings in other art-positive neighbourhoods such as West Queen Street West or farther afield like the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

Guests can schedule a complimentary tour of the hotel's art collection with Mogelonsky, learning about the hotel's collection of sculpture, mixed media, photographs, installations and paintings found throughout the property, from the screening room foyer to hotel hallways. Names such as Sorel Etrog, Cara Barer, Steven James Brown, William Fisk, Marie Lannoo and Jeff Goodman will soon be added to your art vocabulary, all of which are displayed within the hotel.

The Hazelton Plinth

With this commitment to the vibrant art scene of Toronto, the hotel worked with Mogelonsky to establish the inaugural Hazelton Plinth Sculpture Contest in 2012. Knowing the restrictions of exhibition spaces in the boutique hotel and limited wall space, there was also a consideration for what art competition to create. Seeing there was a void to fill in Toronto's art scene, The Hazelton Hotel decided to focus on sculpture, which has been underrepresented in many art prizes.

Opened to artists in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) in September 2012, the competition received 150 submissions from emerging and established artists, with a wide variety of styles to be considered such as figurative bronzes to stone carvings to abstract works.

A jury comprised of artist Bruno Billio, curator Kelly McCray and art and design consultant Troy Seidman chose Angelopoulos's sculpture, a vibrant pink textile sculpture, which the jurors felt was an evocative, strong and original piece. The artist was awarded \$4000, a night's stay in the hotel and a speaking engagement hosted in the hotel's screening room this spring.

Receiving her BFA from NSCAD University in 2005 and her MFA from York University in 2010, Angelopoulos is a full time artist, with her work currently in the private collections of Aldo Group, York University, BMO and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and is currently represented by Montreal gallery Parisian Laundry.

As described by the artist, *I See Through Them* "...explores the human form...and may strike some people as attractive and others as off putting. I think it is interesting when the line becomes blurred so you can't pin point how you feel about it."

The Hazelton Plinth was installed in January and will be on display in The Hazelton Hotel lobby until July.

www.thehazeltonhotel.com

www.jaimeangelopoulos.com



from top LOBBY: Bruno Billio, "Chromed Suitcase Sculptural Grouping," Nickel-plated aluminum, 156" x 30" x 24" and 84" x 26" x 13", 2007. PORTICO: Jeff Goodman, "Untitled," Sand Cast Glass panels with LED lights, 5 windows, each 102" x 102", 2007. Image credit: Kevin Viner. SUITE: Andrew and Margaret Kisza, "Leaf," Giclée reproduction of original work on paper 40" x 68", 2007.