

## 'Stargate' installation set to grace new condo development

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The Yonge and Eglinton area is set to beam into the future with the anticipated installation of science fiction-themed public art to go along with two new condo developments.

The \$1.5 million "Stargate" installation will become a permanent fixture in the area, with large sculptures slated to go outside planned condo towers at 150 and 155 Redpath Ave.

Commissioned by developers Capital Developments and Freed, and conceived by artists Anna Passakas and Radoslaw Kudlinski of Blue Republic,

Stargate will feature two- and three-dimensional sculptures up to 15 feet in height, all in eye-popping colours.

"One side of the street will have one large sculpture – we call it 'the head with six legs' – towering over smaller characters that are 2D and not fully formed," Passakas said.

"The other side of the street, the public art site will be smaller, with a large character and a couple of smaller ones."

The larger pieces will be crafted of bronze and the smaller two-dimensional characters will be made of painted sheet aluminum, and their slim shape is meant to convey that they



Submitted image

The Stargate art installation is slated to be installed outside a planned condo development at 150 Redpath Ave.

are beaming in from another dimension. Glass and ceramic behind will depict the "Stargate"

through which they are arriving.

"We thought of the kind of people who might move into these buildings and what

might inspire them or make them feel like where they live is unique," Passakas said. "It's a bold design and it's very colourful. There isn't much art of this type in the city."

The sculptures will be set back from the sidewalk, so as not to impede pedestrians in the area.

Matt Young, vice president of Capital Developments, said the Stargate concept was selected from a number of entries, adding the selection panel was unanimous in picking Passakas and Kudlinski's design.

"The buildings are going to be very contemporary and very design-forward, so we wanted the kind of artistic concept that has never been seen or done before in Toronto," he said.

Young noted the Stargate concept would also help to herald the portion of Redpath Avenue as a gateway to the Yonge and Eglinton community.

### 'BIGGEST THING'

"The biggest thing is that it will create a real dialogue in the pedestrian realm," he said.

"We wanted to create a reaction – and we hope and think it will be a really positive reaction.

We hope this really stands out and cements this neighbourhood as an up-and-coming neighbourhood."

The futuristic sculptures will be installed following completion of the condo towers in 2019.

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