

THE ART COMMITTEE FOR THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

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PRESS ADVISORY

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MAJOR SCULPTURE DEDICATION AT NEW CASTLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Wilmington, DE - Artist Brower Hatcher's "*Beacon*", a towering, lighted sculpture with intricate strands of color soaring 51 feet into the air will be dedicated on Monday, January 22d at 4pm at the New Castle County Courthouse. The dedication ceremony will include remarks by the Honorable Myron T. Steele, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Delaware, Charles F. Richards, Jr., Chair of the Art Committee, Brower Hatcher and William M. Shea, Chair of the Artist Selection Committee.



Commissioned by the Art Committee for the New Castle County Courthouse, "*Beacon*" is a symbol of the light of justice, and represents the evolution of our legal code. Concentric shells and multi-colored geometric structures of stainless steel encase a tower of steel and glass. The concentric bands contain quotations from three important landmarks in human judicial history, Exodus, the Code of Hammurabi and the legal writings of Confucius. "*Beacon*" represents both the solidity of our judicial system and its openness to the needs of future generations. In a first for the artist, Hatcher has also designed the surrounding seating and paving plan in the courtyard plaza.

Brower Hatcher with "*Beacon*"

Law realized as a structure. The idea of laws is monolithic, transparent and historic. It has a historic source."

Hatcher says, "*Beacon*" is the concept of

The sculpture comes to Wilmington thanks to an unprecedented partnership between the legal community, dedicated volunteers and public and private supporters of the arts, and the Art Committee for the New Castle County Courthouse.

Brower Hatcher is well known for his spectacular pieces of public art, having created major pieces for many cities including Denver, Colorado, Minneapolis, Minnesota and *"Starman in the Ancient Garden"*, a Plaza and Canopy Design, for Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia. Most recently he installed *"Linear Accelerator"* in the St. Louis Metro, a sculpture that showcases interactive lighting integrated into a matrix, which responds to commuter and train traffic.

Hatcher is based in Providence, Rhode Island. He is a three-time winner of a National Endowment of the Arts Fellowship and has won numerous other awards including a Guggenheim Fellowship, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship and the Honeywell Environmental Excellence Award. Brower Hatcher has exhibited widely throughout the United States and England.

The Committee's first major installation at the Courthouse was a significant mural entitled *"The Artisan"*, by artist Frank E. Schoonover, the "Dean of Delaware Artists". A massive and imposing piece, measuring 24' by 7', *"The Artisan"* was created to inspire and educate the students and citizens of Delaware. It represents the crafts, trades and industry that were vital to the state in 1938 when DuPont Vice President and public benefactor H. Fletcher Brown commissioned the piece.

On November 10th, 2005, the Committee dedicated *"Floating Forms"* by Robert Goodnough, named by Time Magazine one of the 100 best artists in America. A visual feast of brilliant color *"Floating Forms"* consists of three large panels, fifteen by nine feet each of brightly colored metal shapes that are designed to project at varying distances from the wall.

For Chief Justice Myron T. Steele of Delaware's Supreme Court, the Art Committee has made an important contribution to the Courthouse: "The Judicial Branch employees and our clients, the Bar and the public, will forever be grateful to Chairman Richards, the many hardworking committee members and the donors who labored tirelessly to provide substantive esthetic ambiance to our New Castle County Courthouse environment. It is a present and lasting contribution for which we are deeply grateful."

"Beacon" Dedication

4pm, Monday, January 22d, 2007

Lobby, New Castle County Courthouse

500 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware

A short reception will follow

For more information on artist Brower Hatcher: www.midoceanstudio.com