

**Seattle Local Organizing Committee & Washington State Public Stadium Authority
Sculpture Application
April 2025**

Background

SeattleFWC26 is the non-profit Local Organizing Committee for FIFA World Cup 2026™ matches in Seattle. SeattleFWC26 is donating to the Washington State Public Stadium Authority a sculpture that celebrates the spirit of global soccer and recognizes Lumen Field's role as one of sixteen host stadiums for the 2026 World Cup.

The Project

Vital Spirit will commemorate Lumen Field as the location of Seattle's six 2026 World Cup matches. In addition to the sculpture, the installation will also feature a FIFA-provided bronze plaque that recognizes Seattle as a host city.



Vital Spirit model: front facing



Vital Spirit model: right profile



Vital Spirit model: left profile



Mockup of FIFA commemorative plaque on metal stand



Mockup of FIFA Seattle commemorative plaque – language may change slightly

Artist Gerard Tsutakawa's Statement

The "VITAL SPIRIT" sculpture embodies an abstract profile standing on two legs. One side has gentle curves and the other is angular which allude to the yin and yang of human nature. The two sides rise up and are brought together by the circle, which symbolizes the unity of the world we all share. This sculpture's abstract design represents the idea of the coming together of the peoples of the world. The spirit of which the World Cup of Soccer represents.

Vital Spirit and Public Art as Legacy

In addition to marking the Stadium's role as a host of the 2026 World Cup, *Vital Spirit* will become the southern anchor and starting point for what will be known as the **Seattle Unity Loop**, a 4+ mile curated path to experience important elements of Seattle's public art and culture. The Unity Loop is being designed as a World Cup legacy project. It is a collaboration between SeattleFWC26 and the neighborhoods of Pioneer Square, Chinatown-International District, Belltown, Central District, and Capitol Hill. The Loop will also highlight art along Waterfront Park and at Seattle Center. This Art-as-Neighborhood-Connector project will encourage out of town visitors and residents alike to experience the unique and diverse artistry of Seattle.

The vision also includes a smart phone application that will promote businesses and cultural touchstones in Pioneer Square and Chinatown/International District (CID) as highlights of the downtown experience. Whether for World Cup visitors, cruise ship passengers, convention visitors, attendees at stadium events or residents, the application and Unity Loop's purpose and goal are to increase exposure and foot traffic in Pioneer Square, the CID, and other neighborhoods and to highlight businesses and diverse attractions as a gateway to shopping, dining, and other community development opportunities. The Loop will also focus on pedestrian movement, transit, and other forms of low-carbon transportation to incentivize more sustainable and healthier ways to explore the unique qualities of the neighborhood partners.

The Artist

Gerard Tsutakawa's sculpture designs reflect a confluence of the cultures and traditions of the Pacific Rim.

Being raised in a Japanese heritage along with the esthetics of other cultures around the Pacific Ocean has inspired his design sensibility. Growing up in the beautiful Pacific Northwest's natural environment has helped develop a rich humanistic style to his creative process. He gathers and uses visual images as bold as a Tongan war club or as sensitive as folded origami paper and integrates them into subliminal art forms.

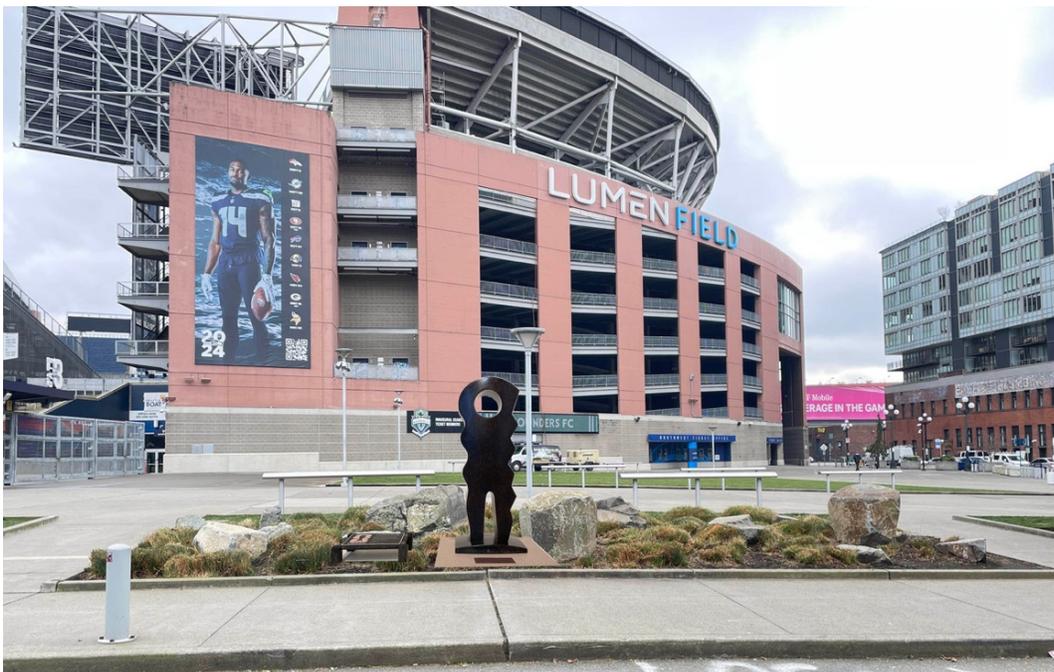
His first public art sculpture commission was created for the International Children's Park in 1979. This sculpture initiated a theme that art can be approachable and interactive; a theme which continued for many of his future large outdoor sculpture designs.

Size & Material Overview

The sculpture will be constructed from silicon bronze. The surface is to have a true dark blue/grey patina sealed with wax (see photos of model on pages one and two for color representation). It will stand 9 feet tall x 43 inches wide x 32 inches deep at its base. It will be attached to a 6 feet x 6 feet concrete pad. The commemorative plaque will be mounted on a 24-inch x 36-inch bronze metal stand.



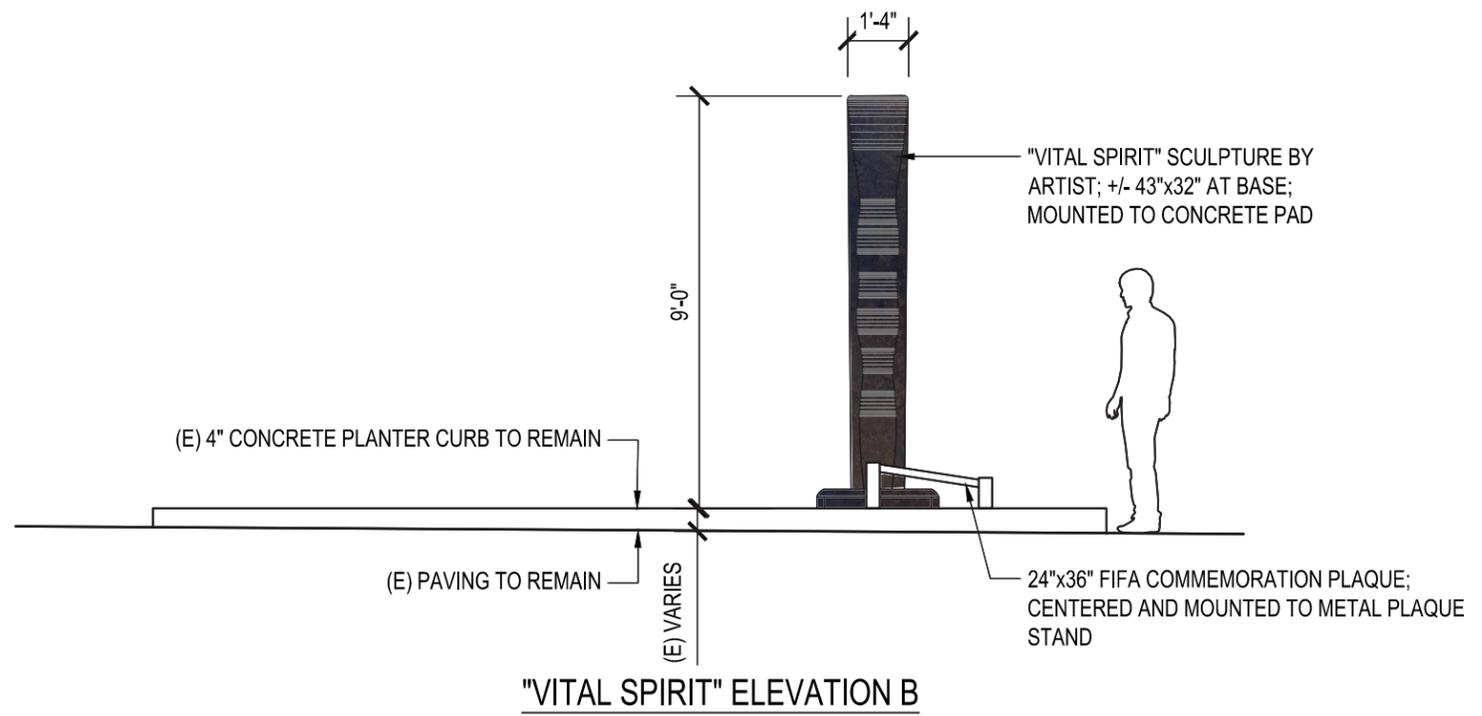
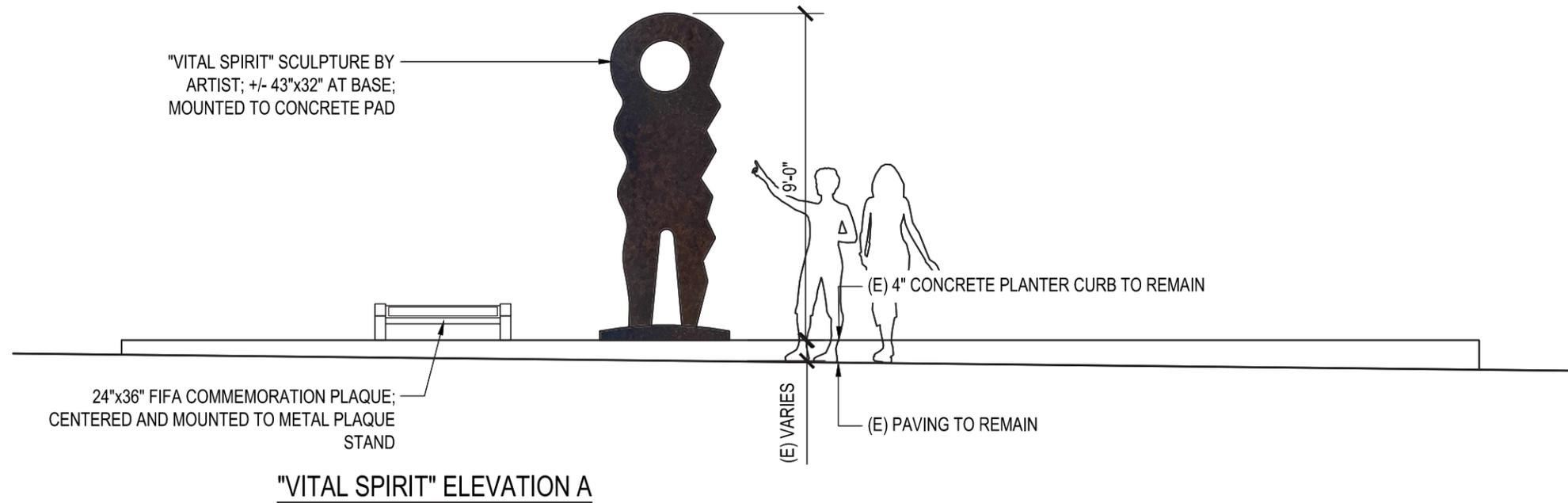
Location: current conditions



Vital Spirit placement in current conditions

Work in Progress

A 12 x 18-inch bronze plaque will be placed in front of the sculpture that will include the sculpture title, artist name, year of installation, abbreviated artist statement, and a list of major donors for this project. This plaque has not been finalized as the donor list is not yet complete. The size, material, and placement of the plaque **is** known and is depicted in the photo on page 4 and the attached specification materials.



THE ARTWORK IS TO BE A TIG WELDED FABRICATION CREATED FROM 3/16" SILICON BRONZE SHEET. THE EDGES AND WELDS WILL BE GROUND SMOOTH AND THE ARTWORK WILL HAVE A PERMANENT BLUE BLACK PATINA AND WAX CLEAR COAT.

'VITAL SPIRIT' | ELEVATIONS

3/28/2025

