



FLAIR ACROSS AMERICA

A Monument to Celebrate the 1996 Olympic Games

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FLAIR ACROSS AMERICA 1996 - 2016 FACT SHEET

Description: The *Flair*, a 24-foot high heroic bronze monument created by artist Richard MacDonald, celebrates the triumph of the human spirit. The sculpture portrays a gymnast performing a twirling scissor-like movement called the "Flair."

The Flair Across America cross-country tour of ten cities, May 31 - June 29, 1996, promoted the arts and art education and local gymnastics programs. The sculpture is permanently installed in Georgia International Plaza in Atlanta and dedicated on July 8, 1996, just prior to the start of the 1996 Summer Games. The plaza was centrally located among several venues for the Games, and was near the entrance to the Georgia Dome, where gymnastics events were featured.

Mr. MacDonald donated the monument to the State of Georgia, the Georgia World Congress Center and the City of Atlanta.

Artist: Richard MacDonald is an internationally acclaimed artist whose sculptures, paintings and drawings are represented in galleries worldwide. Mr. MacDonald's studio is in Monterey, California.

Mission 1996: To increase the public's awareness and appreciation of art through presentation of an inspirational and moving work at a time when society's exposure to art had decreased; to educate people about the importance of art to society; and to inspire people, especially children, to pursue their creative impulses. The cross-country tour, from California to Atlanta, incorporated gymnastics performances by local clubs with the goal of furthering the profile of the sport.

Symbolism: The sculpture celebrates the triumph of the human spirit, and reflects the credo of the Games, that the essence lies not in the victory, but in the struggle. The monument, then and now, pays tribute to the dedication, desire and determination of the athletes - and all people - in the pursuit of excellence.

The circle, representing perfection, symbolizes the world itself and the unity of humankind. By depicting the athlete with the circle firmly in hand, the artist has given symbolic voice to the hope that world harmony is ultimately within humanity's grasp.

Dimensions: Monument Height, including pedestal: 24'
Ring Height: 7'4"
Shoulder to shoulder, Width: 4'7"
Right hand to toe of right leg: 15'6"

Media Contact:
Mel Ahlborn
Email: mahlborn@richardmacdonald.com