

TampaPublicArt



Title of Project & Locations:	Police Mural, District Station I (3818 W. Tampa Bay Blvd) & Police Mural, District Station II (9330 N. 30th Street)
Artist:	Andrew Reid
Year Completed:	2001
Materials:	acrylic on birchwood
Commissioning Agency:	City of Tampa, Public Art Program
Architect/Design Professional:	Alfonso Architects



Photo: George Cott

Project Description

District Stations I and II jointly serve the City of Tampa (there are a total of three districts and a headquarters within the City of Tampa). The identical 15,000 sq. ft. facilities have won numerous architectural awards including the H. Dean Rowe, FAIA Award for Design Excellence from AIA Tampa Bay, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1997, and the Award for Excellence in Design, from the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects in 1999.

Artist Concept

"As a muralist, I embrace the idea that public art should do more than decorate. Similar to the murals that came out of Mexico, the former Soviet Union and the WPA in the United States, the purpose of my work is to document, inform and invite the viewer in, forging a relationship between art and its audience. With the assistance of numerous officers from the City of Tampa Police Department, I conducted the best research imaginable. Complete access to the many aspects of duty, from the thrilling to the mundane, that encompass "a day in the life" of a Tampa

Police Officer allowed for me to develop an appreciation of the wide variety of tasks and challenges that face these officers. I witnessed first hand the strong sense of honor, duty and commitment they bring to their job and thus chose to create thematic images in the style displayed before you using color and perspective to represent mood, action and heroism." - Andrew Reid

Reid collaged his documentation of the experiences together in a sketch-like style, not unlike courtroom illustrations. The "action-packed" feel reminiscent of the media, is further hit home with his use of bold color, and television-shaped framing devices. Reid looked to police heroes as seen on television documentaries, and comic book heroes. His heroic depictions suggest an extension or contemporary interpretation of the WPA-style heroic imagery.

The mission of the City of Tampa, Public Art Program is to promote the involvement of artists in projects throughout the city that enhance the physical environment and celebrate Tampa's unique character and identity.

City of Tampa Department of Arts and Cultural Affairs • Public Art Program
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