

Threshold

Artist: Philip Beesley Studio & Living Architecture System Group

October 2021

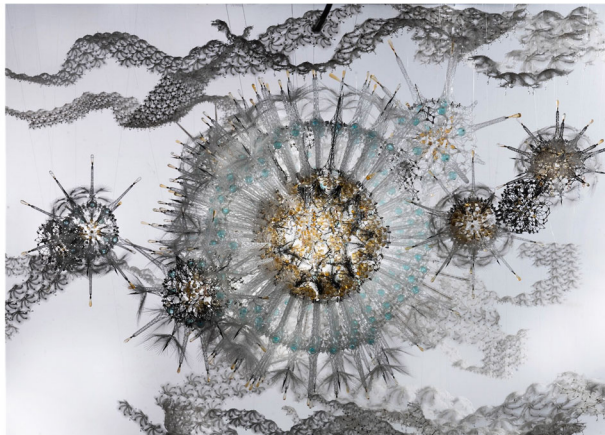
San José Mineta Airport, 1700 Airport Blvd., San José, CA 95110 / Council District 3

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Threshold, located in the Norman Y. Mineta San José International Airport's Terminal B is a group of sculptures in two parts, titled *Shower* and *Nest*. The sculptures, enclosed in large glass showcases, explore the formation of intricate worlds. Each part has its own multi-layered identity. Within the intricate floating hollow of *Nest*, a spiraling pool of clouds contains jewel-like spherical forms that evoke the mythical center of the world. *Shower* contains bursting rays surrounded by a spiraling pool of clouds, evoking planetary auras. The rippling surface of a primordial ocean lies beneath both creations. The combined worlds within *Threshold* offer a dream-like vision.

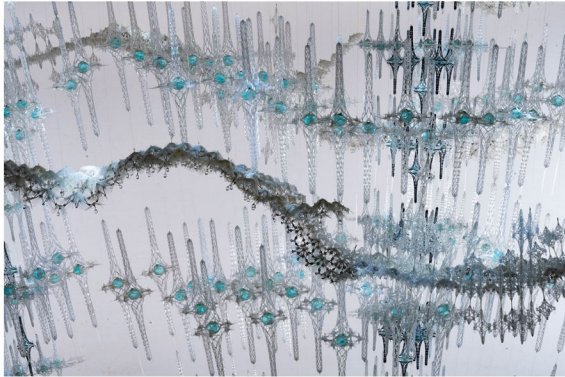


Threshold: Nest



Threshold: Nest - Detail

The artwork is composed of over sixty thousand individually crafted sculptural elements. Combinations of crystalline forms are arranged in multi-layered lattices and cell-like shelters. Clusters of glass orbs filled with biochemical solutions collect and reflect light for a vibrant display that changes with the vivid bustle of travelers and those waiting to greet them.



Threshold: Shower - Detail

New kinds of digital fabrication were developed to create this radiant, shimmering work, including innovative thermal forming expanded from thin sheets of laser-cut material.

Artist Philip Beesely offers, "Through *Threshold*, nature and technology are intertwined, offering a new kind of gateway to Silicon Valley."

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Philip Beesley and Living Architecture Systems Group are an interdisciplinary artist studio located in Toronto associated with the University of

Waterloo. The studio's work has been exhibited worldwide. They specialize in contemporary sculpture using next-generation media and computational design methods featuring intricate geometric structures with exquisitely crafted details. The studio includes pioneering research in responsive near-living systems that integrate artificial-intelligence controls, immersive lighting and movement, and complex 'biomimetic' forms inspired by nature. More information on the collaborative artist team can be found at www.philipbeesleystudioinc.com/ and www.lasg.ca.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

The Public Art Program is part of the City's Office of Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance that provides public art through funding from City capital improvement projects and eligible private development.

For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program.

