

Factsheet – The Rings Artwork

On location at The Spot, in Derby city centre, one of the pieces of artwork which has been installed as part of the 2016 renovation of the area is a set of steel rings representing motion and time. Here are the facts and stats on the rings.



Early Story In July 2013, Derby City Council, QUAD and St Peters Quarter BID published an open design competition to appoint an artist to work with these partners and local businesses in The Spot area. A shortlist of 4 was established and the public vote made in September 2013.

Design: The design, by the London architect firm DPQ, is inspired by Derby's tradition of excellence in ingenuity, innovation and engineering and uses 4 interwoven rings to create a dynamic artwork which references the idea of 'motion'. The form is derived from a continuous loop created from 4 helixes folded in on itself. The final form is both structurally efficient and aerodynamic and creates clean and contemporary lines.

Materials: The art-piece is constructed from 8 sections of 168mm/6.6ins x 7mm/0.3ins thick rolled stainless steel circular hollow section, demanding high levels of precision and skill. The sections are Grade 316 stainless steel throughout, both inside & out, which eliminates the risk of rust. Each ring is formed of two halves and fixed together on site. The sections are welded at the central joints to eliminate seams and all visible sections will be polished to 320 grit finish resulting in a brushed finish to reduce glare. The piece will be 7m/24ft in diameter to ensure that its scale relates to the scale of its surroundings.

Cost: £50,900 funded by D2N2 through the Local Growth Fund from central government and could not be used by the council for any existing services.

Weight: Each ring weights up to one tonne

Accessibility: The new landscaping slope the surface so that the Spot will readily accessible to all. The artwork is being designed to ensure, as far as is possible, that people with visual impairments will be able to locate the piece, using heavier textured material at ground level. Small bespoke benches will be provided; they have armrests to help people in and out of the bench.