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Mayor Greg Nickels Presents Seattle's Newest Public Art Installation to Wallingford Community

Seattle-based Pelar Hosts "Dewdrops" in Tavona Condominiums' Plaza

SEATTLE – July 25, 2007 – Pelar LLC, the developer and owner of Tavona, a 50-unit condominium development on scenic Lake Union, unveiled Seattle's latest public art installation, "Dewdrops," on Tuesday.

"Dewdrops" is a 7-foot-tall, bronze and glass sculpture that will be permanently on display in the plaza of Tavona condominiums.

"Dewdrops" was presented in an unveiling ceremony on Tuesday in the plaza of Tavona condominiums at 3333 Wallingford Avenue. Mayor Greg Nickels, who spoke on the importance of public art in the community, was on hand to present the work to the Wallingford community. Other keynote speakers included Joseph Strobele, president and chief operating officer of Pelar, and Greg Hill of the Wallingford Community Council.

"We are extremely excited to unveil this piece to the Wallingford neighborhood," said Joseph Strobele. "Placing public artwork in the Tavona plaza creates a real sense of community around this project."

Constructed from heavy-gauge bronze, "Dewdrops" is a larger-than-life depiction of fiddlehead ferns. Infused solid-cast glass droplets create the illusion of large dewdrops resting on metallic leaves.

"Dewdrops" is the result of a public-private partnership. The Wallingford Community Council obtained the majority of the funding for the artwork from the city's Department of Neighborhoods matching funds. Funding was also provided by the Tomlinson family, who sold Tavona to Pelar. Pelar assisted in the artist selection process, provided the space and constructed the cement base on which the statue stands.

"This is a perfect example of the whole community working together," said Greg Hill of the Wallingford Community Council.

Designed by Ulrich Pakker, "Dewdrops" will join a distinguished grouping of community artwork in the Wallingford neighborhood, including the "Wallingford" sign atop the QFC

building on 45th Street, the “Sundial” at Gas Works Park, the “Spiral” at the Wallingford Steps and the “Animal Storm” totem at Wallingford Center.

Born in 1951 in Essen, Germany, Pakker began working with sheet metal at a young age. At 14, he began his apprenticeship in Germany and developed as an artist over the years. Known for his perfectionism, Pakker has commissioned works for the University of Pennsylvania’s Schattner Dental School in Philadelphia, The Everett Events Center and G2 Architecture Inc.

Tavona is a 50-unit condominium development on picturesque Lake Union that offers full-studio, one- and two-bedroom condominium homes. Only 13 homes remain, including the penthouse.

Tavona Project Team

- Seattle-based Pelar LLC is the owner and developer of Tavona.
- Tom Wells of Wells Realty Advisors acted as project manager.
- Curtis Beattie and Associates is the architect of record.
- Aldredge and Associates was the contractor.

For more information, visit www.tavona.net.

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