

Kelly McLain

Continuum, 2001

Patinated copper on glass block
Pierce County 1% for Art Program; PFA 006
Location: Detention Center exterior windows
9th and Yakima Ave, Tacoma, WA



Artist Kelly McLain's project, *Continuum*, is installed at the Pierce County Detention Center on sections of glass block window that wrap around two corners of the five-story building. The blocks have strips of patinated copper applied to the exterior surface to suggest wave forms.

Patina, sometimes called verdigris, is the result of the chemical oxidation of reactive metals such as copper. Patina occurs naturally; however, in this case a specially prepared chemical compound was applied to the metal to achieve this particular color of blue-green.

Through a lasting legacy of publicly held artwork, the Pierce County Public Art Program, administered by Pierce County Arts & Cultural Services Division and advised by the Pierce County Arts Commission, serves our mission to bring art into the lives of all Pierce County residents. Pierce County's One Percent for Art ordinance directs publicly-funded construction projects with costs exceeding \$100,000 to allocate one percent of the project budget for public art.

