

= Angkor I =

Angkor I is an outdoor stainless steel sculpture by Lee Kelly , located at Millennium Plaza Park in Lake Oswego , Oregon , in the United States . The 1994 sculpture stands 14 feet (4 @. @ 3 m) tall and weighs 1 @, @ 000 pounds (450 kg) , and was influenced by his visit to Southeast Asia one year prior . In 2010 , Angkor I appeared in an exhibition of Kelly 's work at the Portland @-@ based Elizabeth Leach Gallery . The Arts Council of Lake Oswego began soliciting donations in 2013 in an attempt to keep the sculpture as part of the city 's permanent public art collection , Gallery Without Walls . The fundraising campaign was successful ; donations from more than 40 patrons , including major contributions from the Ford Family Foundation and the Oregon Arts Commission , made purchase of the sculpture possible . Angkor I has been called a " recognizable icon " and a " gateway " to the park 's lake .

= = Description and history = =

Angkor I was designed by Lee Kelly , an Idaho @-@ born Oregon sculptor whose works are influenced by modernism and abstract impressionism . Created in 1994 , Angkor I is a large @-@ scale stainless steel sculpture with a surface that is " gesturally and roughly finished " . It stands 14 feet (4 @. @ 3 m) tall and weighs 1 @, @ 000 pounds (450 kg) . In *Living in Sculpture : The Studio Work of Lee Kelly* , Paul Sutinen writes that Angkor I , along with Angkor II and Phi Mai , were influenced by Kelly 's 1993 visit to Cambodia , Indonesia and Thailand . His visit to the temple complex Angkor Wat inspired the sculpture , as evidenced by its plaque .

In October 2010 , Kelly moved the sculpture to the Portland Art Museum for his summation exhibit , which was open through January 2011 . Later that year , the sculpture was installed at Millennium Plaza Park in Lake Oswego , on loan from Elizabeth Leach Gallery , the Portland @-@ based company which represents Kelly . A board member for the Arts Council of Lake Oswego had initiated the loan proposal to Kelly and the gallery for this public display . According to Nancy Nye , executive director of the council , the sculpture is prominent in the park and " provides a gateway to the lake " .

= = = Permanent installation = = =

In October 2013 , Nye began soliciting donations for the purchase of Angkor I , which was scheduled to return to the gallery unless \$ 55 @, @ 000 could be raised by 5pm on November 1 , 2013 . Two weeks prior to this deadline , the council had raised \$ 31 @, @ 750 , more than \$ 20 @, @ 000 short of the asking price . In an interview published by *The Oregonian* , Nye said , " Lee Kelly is a living legend and the pride of Oregon 's artistic community . And his studio is right here in Clackamas County . He 's a local treasure . " She also wrote in a press release , " It would be a terrible loss to the community to have this sculpture removed , but it 's fast becoming a reality " . The council 's board chair , Shari Newman , also stressed the urgent need for financial assistance , saying " We ? re more than halfway there , but what we really need is a handful of lead donors to step forward and make this important work a permanent part of the City ? s collection . And we need them now . " During the final two weeks of the fundraising campaign , the council draped a black parachute over the sculpture and posted signs requesting financial assistance , such as " Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot , this sculpture is leaving ... Let 's hope it 's not . "

On November 1 , *The Oregonian* reported that the council 's director was certain enough money had been raised to keep Angkor I in Lake Oswego permanently , as part of its Gallery Without Walls public art program , though the exact amount of funds raised was uncertain . The Arts Council of Lake Oswego confirmed the purchase via social media on November 5 . Kelly and the Elizabeth Leach Gallery each donated \$ 5 @, @ 000 , and the Ford Family Foundation and the Oregon Arts Commission had awarded a \$ 10 @, @ 000 matching grant in May 2013 . All funding was provided by private businesses , foundations and individuals ; none came from city or state funds . Portland

Tribune and The Oregonian both published comments from Nye , in which she expressed delight about the addition to Lake Oswego 's public art collection and providing access to the " fine " and " magnificent " work for future generations . The council planned a commemoration ceremony at the sculpture 's permanent location ; expected attendees were Kelly , Mayor Kent Studebaker , and members of the Ford Family Foundation and the Oregon Arts Commission . On November 7 , sister publications Lake Oswego Review and Portland Tribune published a " reader 's letter " written by Nye , in which she thanked the more than 40 funders who helped purchase Angkor I.

= = Reception = =

art ltd. magazine said Angkor I 's " reflective surfaces , ground in sweeping gestures , are as important as its form . " According to Nye , the sculpture " has become a recognizable icon " . In her press release , which was published during her fundraising campaign , she wrote : " People often comment that its placement creates a gateway , or window to the lake . If Angkor I is removed , it will leave a real void in the landscape . "