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New mural takes flight



SCARBOROUGH - Mural Routes and Scarborough Arts Council are pleased to announce the installation of a new mural, titled *Flight*, at Birchmount Road and Danforth Avenue. Painted on cut-out plywood panels during the summer of 2003, *Flight* was installed earlier this week on the wall of Milty's Car Wash. The mural was inspired by the migration of the Monarch butterfly and explores themes of migration, transition and change.

Flight was created by a team of young artists led by experienced muralist, Rob Matejka. Minal Patel, Fathima Mohiuddin, Katy Mulla and Thea Chow worked with Matejka to create the mural, from concept and design to painting of the vibrantly coloured panels. The mural was painted over the course of the summer of 2003, and will become a part of Mural Routes Urban Mural Trail.

Flight is the first manifestation of a larger project, called *The Monarch Butterfly Project*. This project commences this summer, and will engage youth from the Kingston Road area in an urban arts training project. Mural Routes and the Scarborough Arts Council are located along the Monarch butterfly's migration path. Hundreds of families are housed in the motel strip along Kingston Road. The themes of transition and migration are key to the area - the Monarch butterfly provides one manner in which to dialogue about the constant change and flux of residents, while at the same time celebrating the beauty that travels through the community, even if only for fleeting moments.

Flight is a lasting legacy to the community, a work of art that celebrates migration and change. Murat Kandemir, one of the owners of Milty's Car Wash, jumped at the

opportunity to have the mural installed on their wall. Supporters of the arts, Kandemir and his business partners had been looking for a way to transform the wall, and are very happy with the mural. Keep your eyes on the wall this summer, as additions are made to *Flight*. For more information, contact Mural Routes at 416-698-7995 or visit www.muralroutes.com

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