

## Joyce Kozloff: Financial Station, Detroit

Detroit," Art Commission, Detroit Transportation Corporation, Financial Station, Detroit People Mover; partially funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Gannett Foundation; Nathan Johnson and Associates, Inc., Detroit, Architects; fabricated by the artist at the Arts/Industry Program, Kohler, WI through the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan; photos Balthasar Korab

"'D' is for Detroit" mixes themes from the local environment with fanciful motifs from Medieval, Renaissance, Celtic, Indian and Persian sources. The dominant shape is a giant letter D, covering most of the wall's 4-story height. Life-size bulls and bears – symbols of the Financial District – cavort around the letter's outline. A number of peacocks posed outside the D, suggested by Whistler's Peacock Room, which originally formed part of the Detroit home of Charles Lang Freer. Five interlocking circles inside the D provide a visual center, and surrounding all the larger elements, twisting floral patterns form a lattice. The design extends along the upward route of an escalator, following the shape of the architecture. The entire work suggests an illuminated letter from an antique manuscript, a miniature decorative element enlarged to vast proportions. The strong basic image is visible from the street, but the complexity of references encourages repeated inspection by daily commuters.