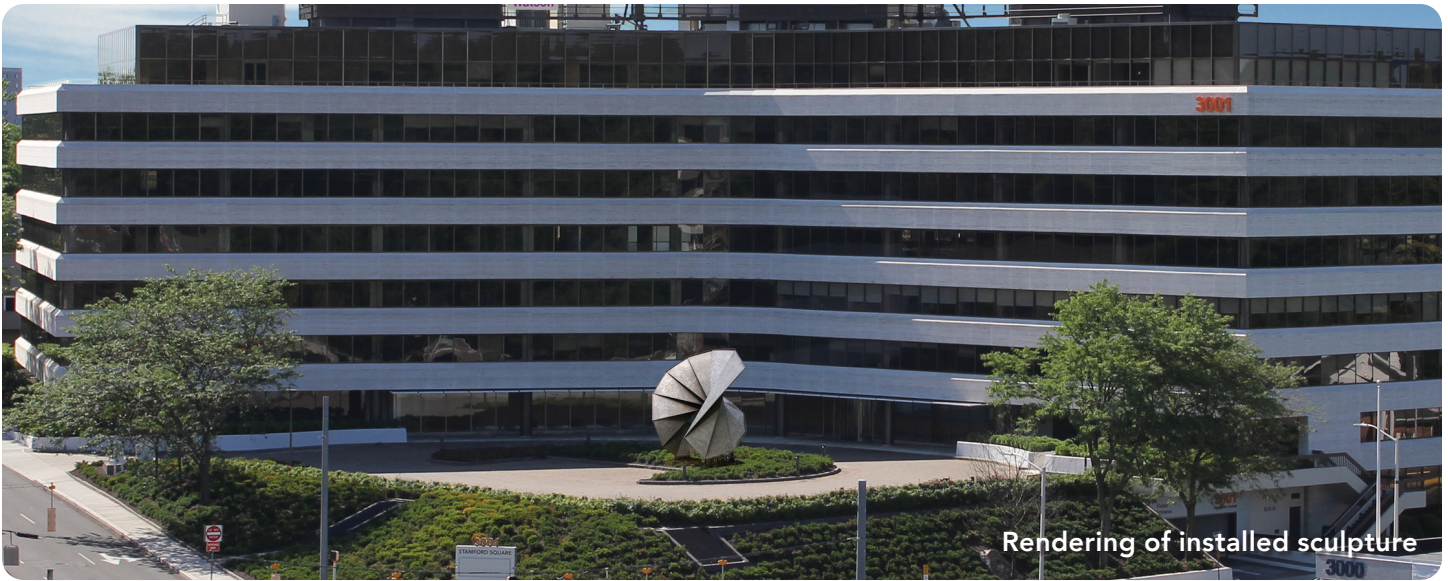


Searching for Peace by Luis Arata

1980, aluminum, 18' x 18' x 18', 6,000 lbs., Bruce Museum
on loan to The Ashforth Company and located at 3001 Stamford Square



Searching for Peace was gifted by the Howmet Aluminum Corporation in 1981 to the Town of Greenwich. Howmet had its corporate headquarters at 475 Steamboat Road across the street from the Bruce Museum. The sculpture was installed and remained permanently displayed at the Bruce Museum on Museum Drive for over 40 years.

In September 2023, in order to make room for a larger sculpture at the museum, *Searching for Peace* was moved to its new location. It is now on loan to The Ashforth

Company and located at its 3001 Stamford Square building on Summer Street in Stamford, CT. Prior to moving the 6,000-pound sculpture, it underwent a complete restoration by Versteeg Art Fabrication in Bethany, CT, which included the arduous task of disassembling, polishing, and reassembling the piece.

Arata's *Searching for Peace* is a double fan shape composed of welded, triangular aluminum plates, a process pioneered by the renowned sculptor, David Smith. The spiraling abstract modern art piece resembles billowing sails on a tall ship or an unfolded oriental fan. However, *Searching for Peace* is a non-objective sculpture, which means that it does not depict any specific object or person. Instead, it is up to the viewer to interpret the meaning of the sculpture. Some viewers see the sculpture as a representation of the human spirit searching for peace and harmony. Others see it as a symbol of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. Whatever its interpretation, *Searching for Peace* is a powerful and moving sculpture that has resonated with viewers for decades. It is a reminder that the search for peace is a universal human experience.



Luis Arata

Luis Arata (1925-2009) was a Uruguayan American sculptor. He was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, and studied at the National School of Fine Arts. In 1947, he moved to the United States and continued his studies at the Art Students League of New York. He lived and worked in New England for the rest of his life. Arata's sculptures are abstract and non-objective, but they often express themes of peace, harmony, and the human condition.

Ashforth believes art is important and adds timeless value to a building. Viewing original art in the halls, lobbies, offices, and outside of buildings has positive, productive, inspirational, and uplifting effects. In choosing art, Ashforth strives to create a look that is both modern and symbolic of our building brand and architecture, and that is eye-catching, inspiring, and fun for those who enter the building each day.

