

# Felipe De Neve Branch Library

## Public Works Improvements Art Program

### *"Hollow Wall Diptych"*

Joseph Pinkelman and Stephen Freedman

A library is much more than a mausoleum of dead words, It's a time travel machine through which we can rediscover our past and reinvent our present. In a time when the written words has fallen victim to movies and television, our *Hollow Wall* is intended as a signpost for travelers who enter the Felipe de Neve Branch Library, an invitation for people to reconsider the potentials of words.

Just as our physiology describes our biological history, so does text describe the history of written communication in sentences, words and the letters themselves. Writing evolved from drawing, through hieroglyphs, as a way to communicate an action through time. Each letter is a pointer leading us into the story, to the roots of meaning.

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*Hollow Wall* consists of two 1/8 inch steel panels which have been cut through in the pattern of a poem's text. The 6 feet by 4 feet rectangular panels will be slightly curved, like the open page in a vertically oriented book. The panels will be positioned on the east wall of the reading room above the shelving. The letters of this text poem are positioned to be read in the left-hand panel, and are mirrored in reverse in the panel on the right.

While the left panel carries apparent meaning, the right panel alludes to the physical content of text. *Hollow Wall* is not a book, but a three dimensional work about perception, balance, language, meaning and the written symbols of our thoughts and actions.