

The Planet: *A Cosmic Observatory Hovering in an Idyllic Park*

The PLANET sculpture is a 109 foot diameter spherical mirror representing the Earth. It reflects hundreds of square miles, creating a microcosm of land, rivers, ocean, sky, stars and city lights. The large Earth sphere is supported 15 feet overhead by a 30 foot diameter spherical mirror representing the Moon in true proportion. The sculpture's total height is 124 feet, It's footprint is just 12 feet in diameter. The 109 foot sphere has a dual identity, representing the Sun in true proportion to a 1 foot diameter spherical mirror "Earth" resting on the lawn.

The reflection in the PLANET changes with the hour, the season and the weather—It's appearance is always brand new. Its spherical form resonates throughout the universe: All stars, planets and moons, as well as all the atoms they're made of, are spherical.

The well-being of the Earth is the most important subject of our time. The PLANET is a symbol of global consciousness. The panoramic image in the PLANET is optically high-resolution and deeply three-dimensional. To enhance the beauty of its reflection the sculpture is set in an open lawn; a glade in a forest of many tree species. The setting is a living exhibition of the diversity of nature. The forest will be appropriately dense to act as a carbon-sink, eventually offsetting the sculpture's embodied carbon deficit. The PLANET requires no lighting other than that provided by the Sun, Moon and stars. Solar powered park lamps, carefully light the forest grounds at night.

The two large spheres are constructed out of approximately 2,300 curved stainless steel panels attached to a geodesic-like frame structure. The structure is supported by a robust core anchored to a massive foundation hidden underground. The accompanying one-foot diameter sphere is solid stainless steel and secured by a shaft in the ground.

The sculpture offers an awesome yet sublime experience to visitors: A monumental yet approachable sculpture hovering in an idyllic park.