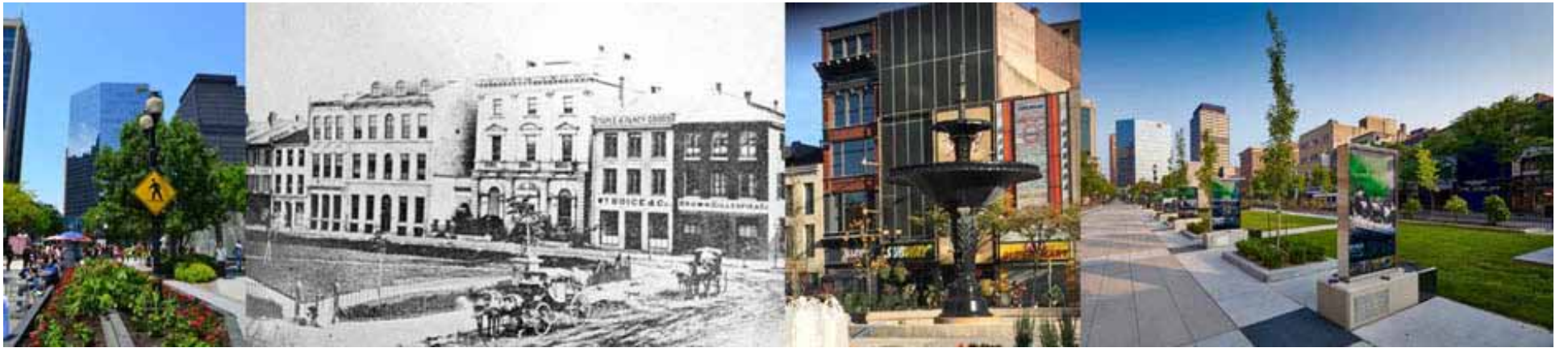


GORE PARK BEACONS PUBLIC ART PROJECT



Artist's Proposal

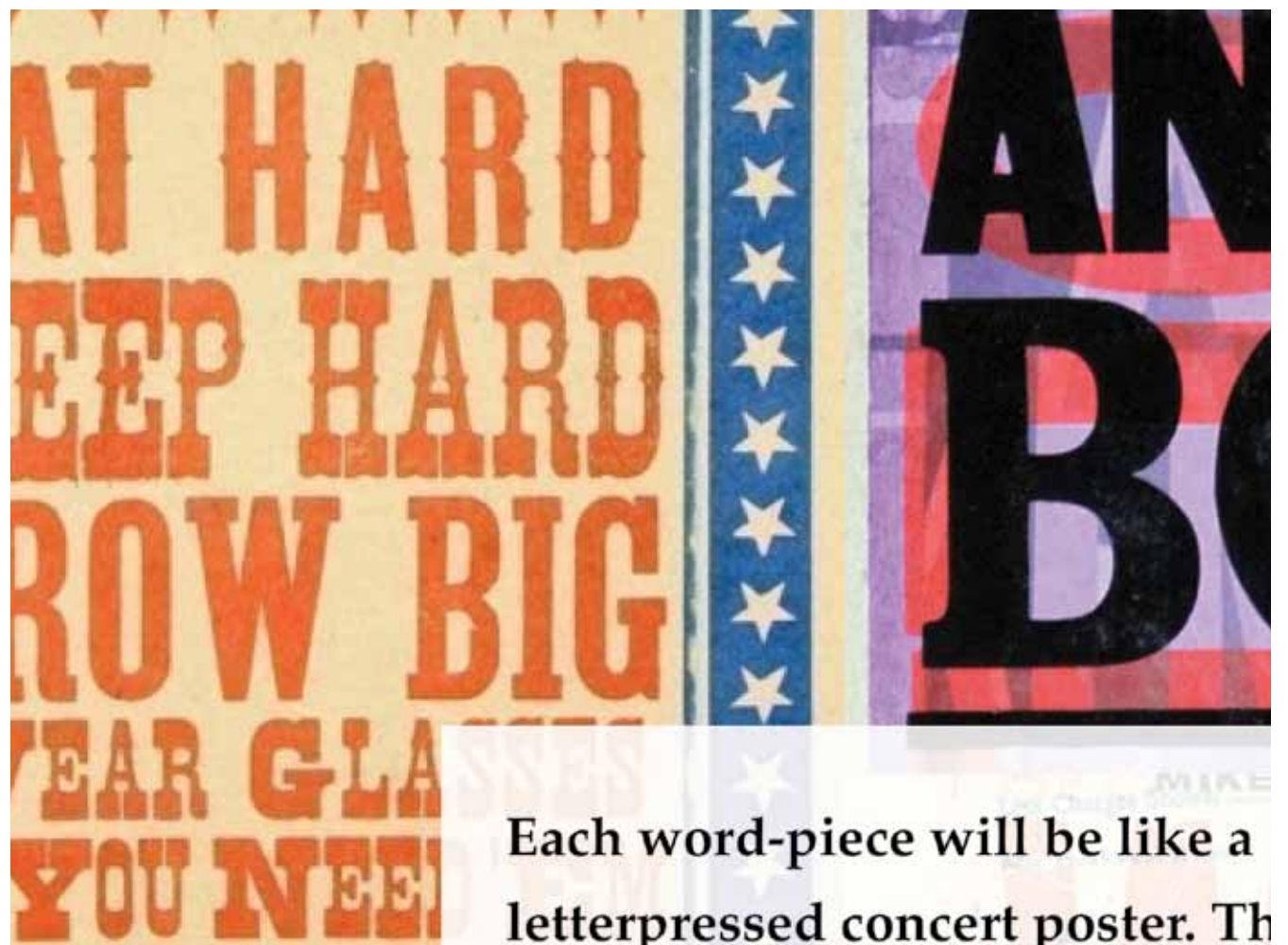
by **Dave Kuruc**

Artist's Concept Statement "Music City Markers"

Music City is a name that civic officials hope Hamilton can be known as. I believe Hamilton already is The Music City and has been for a long time. Local music has made an impact across the country and around the world. It also left an imprint on a young teen coming downtown and hearing local bands for the first time at the 'X-Club', a live music venue in the 90s on King William. I was hooked. Not only did I want to hear more - I wanted to know more too. What was the history of music in Hamilton? Who else should I hear? My love for the city started at a young age and local music was just one more aspect to learn about. Places like The Golden Rail and The Grange Tavern loomed large here. Ronnie Hawkins and his Hawks (who would go on to become The Band) were spoken about as legends. Teenage Head, The Dik Van Dykes and Forgotten Rebels were as punk as anything coming out of England or the States. MuchMusic would show the country that Junkhouse and the Killjoys could rock with the best of them. McMaster radio station CFMU transmitted local sounds to radios across the city. Hess Village was still known as place you could catch live music. My own peers could be found on the stages of La Luna, Transit Union Hall, Dante's Lounge, The Underground and Raven. Before there was a Supercrawl, Sonic Unyon and its roster of local bands were waving the flag of independent music in Hamilton. That spirit inspired me to start a band, release CDs and put on concerts. When I wasn't going to see bands I was flipping through the stacks of used CDs at Dr. Disc and Cheapies. Searching for that elusive album on my list or discovering something new was one of my favourite things to do. I would pore over album artwork, read lyrics and see who was behind the music blasting through my speakers. Music shaped my life and helped me to connect to my city in ways I never could've imagined. Hamilton has always been The Music City to me.

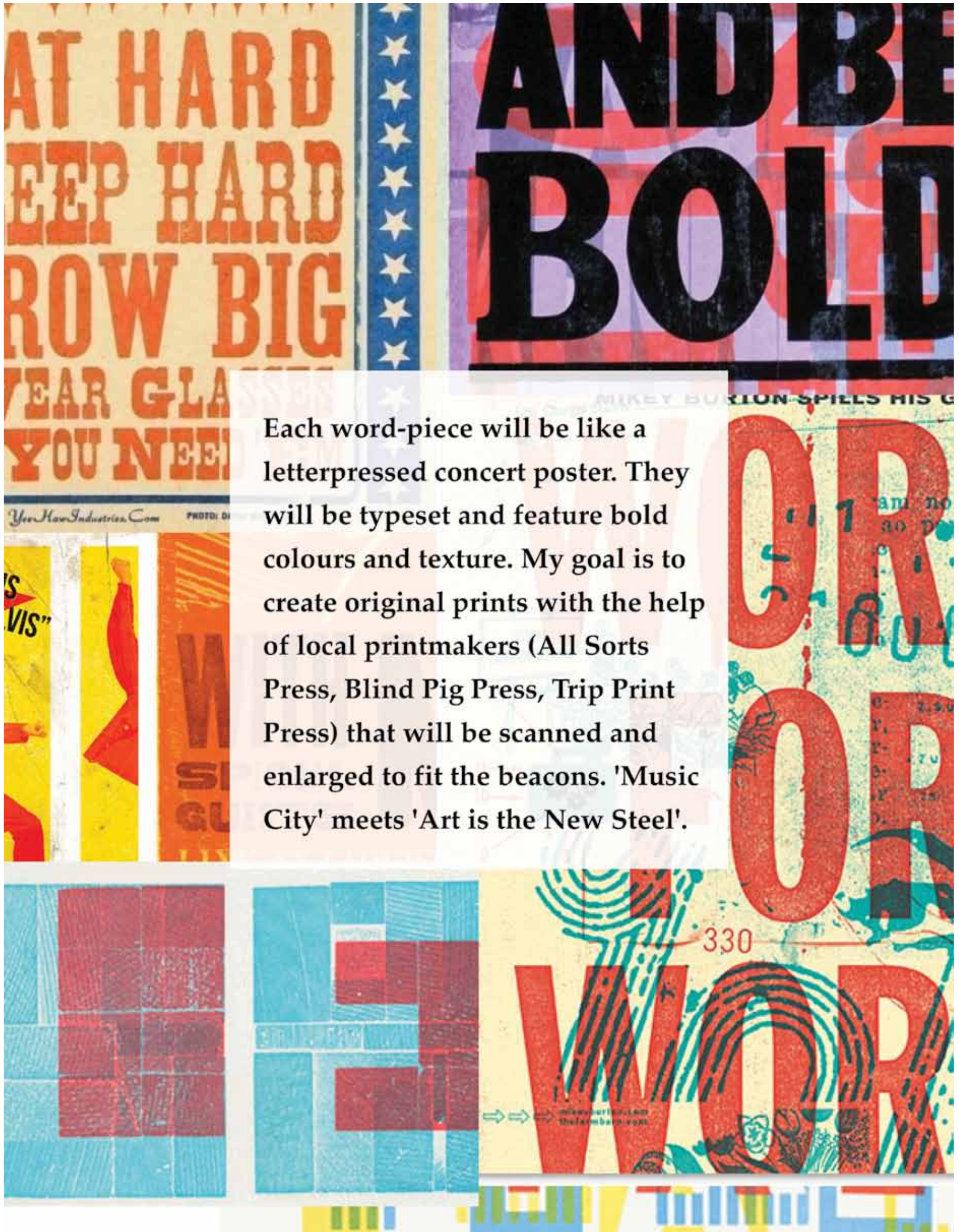
I hope to mark that love for the city and the music made here with my proposal for the Gore Park Beacons. I have compiled lyrics from 12 musicians and bands who are Hamilton-based (or who once called it home) into a series of word-based pieces. I chose lyrics I felt connected to the history and importance of the place. The constantly changing nature of Gore Park is represented here. Along with memory, music, love, anticipation, architecture, conversation, longing, fun, movement, regret, remembrance, distance and reflection. My hope is that these beacons become landmarks and inspire others to discover the music happening here.

What you see is my first-draft concept. If chosen I would treat each word-piece like a letter pressed concert poster. These will be typeset and will feature bold colours and texture. My goal is to create original prints with the help of local printmakers (eg. All Sorts Press, Blind Pig Press, Trip Print Press) that will be scanned and enlarged to fit the beacons. 'Music City' meets 'Art is the New Steel'. I will also seek permission from all writers of lyrics if my proposal is chosen and credit musicians within the works.



Each word-piece will be like a letterpressed concert poster. Th

Partial Detail of Images



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MUSIC CITY MARKERS

GORE PARK BEACONS PROPOSAL BY DAVE KURUC



For the **good times** come and go

SOME
DAY
YOU'LL
REMEMBER
ME
&
PICTURE
MY
FACE

I was
in the
water,
you
were
dry

1

I feel you downtown
Out on the street

There's
some
days
that
I want
to
stay
another
day.

Concrete
rises
hits
you
like a
kiss

2

WELL YOU CAN SEE HOW I'VE CHANGED

Loud
coloured
lights
so bright
that's
where
I wanna
bop

You're so
the same
but you're
so different
I didn't
recognize
you

3

Hundreds of stories before
I showed up

I want
to talk
to you

That
magic
that
you do

She's
gone
downtown
to hear
some
blues

4