

'Travellers' sculpture leaves Audubon Park for Jefferson Parish



'Travelers' by artist Deborah Masters is being moved from Audubon Park to West Esplanade Avenue in Jefferson Parish (Photo courtesy Michael Manjarris)

By Doug MacCash, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune
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Four bronze sculptures by New York artist Deborah Masters are being moved from their location in Audubon Park near St. Charles Avenue to West Esplanade Avenue near Power Boulevard in Jefferson Parish, said [Michael Manjarris](#), the man behind the ongoing [Sculpture for New Orleans](#) project.

Manjarris co-founded Sculpture for New Orleans in 2006 as an effort to beautify the city in the aftermath of the 2005 Hurricane Katrina and flood. Since then Manjarris, with the help of various artists, institutions and benefactors, has placed scores of sculptures across the city, [most conspicuously along Poydras Street](#).

The Masters sculpture titled "Travelers," seemed particularly appropriate when it was installed in February 2008 since the figures seem to symbolize displacement. The four expressive, larger-than-life bronzes were valued at \$300,000 at the time. The sculptures, on loan from Masters, were a temporary addition to the park, which now has other plans for the site, Manjarris said.

Manjarris said the move was privately funded. Scott Walker, of the Jefferson Parish Department of Streets, said there has thus far been no cost to parish tax payers.

Take a (primitive) video tour of Sculpture For New Orleans in 2008 below.

Sculpture For New Orleans

Artist Michael Manjarris gives a tour of world-class public sculpture in New Orleans

Doug MacCash, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune

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Sculpture for New Orleans co-founder Michael Manjarris sent this note via email, which I asked permission to post beneath the story:

"TRAVELLERS by Deborah Masters has left Audubon Park," he wrote. "Sculpture for New Orleans would like to thank Ron Forman, John Bullard, David and Tiffany Oestreicher and Dorian and Kell Bennett along with Peter Lundberg for their efforts and support in placing TRAVELLERS in Audubon Park in 2008.

"This wonderful sculpture of three refugees carrying everything they own on their backs became a symbol of New Orleans will to live and to survive. TRAVELLERS came to New Orleans after a brief exhibition at Storm King Art Center in New York and graced Audubon Park for seven years. They became the cornerstone of Sculpture for New Orleans, what we represent and what it has become today."

