

# The Boston Globe

## Here's a look at the new Dewey Square mural that's going up near South Station

By [Steve Annear](#) May 1, 2019



Commissioned by the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, 38-year-old artist Stefan "Super A" Thelen started working on his installation in Dewey Square on Saturday. He plans to finish it early next week. The work is titled "Resonance."(PAT GREENHOUSE/GLOBE STAFF)

A new mural is swooping in and taking over the side of the Dewey Square building across from busy South Station.

The painting, called "Resonance," started going up on the massive wall on the Rose Kennedy Greenway over the weekend, and depicts two large and colorful barn swallows — one of which is [breaking free from a glass enclosure full of dead and wilting flowers](#).

It's being done by Dutch street and gallery artist Stefan Thelen, who goes by the alter ego [Super A](#), said officials from the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy,

the organization that commissioned the artwork.

“Super A is known for his hyper-realistic and ethereal depictions of metaphorical narratives,” a statement about the artist [on the conservancy's website says](#). “Juxtaposing real and surreal figures, Super A’s work creates a strong critique of global and social issues. His work confronts viewers with the challenge, or even facade, of individual liberty in the face of injustice and oppression.”

The “monumental mural” of the blue-and-white birds on the air-intake structure is meant to question the “social, political, and emotional systems that confine our freedom.”

“He illustrates the urgent necessity of breaking free from those confines, like the Barn Swallows pictured, in order to truly live,” according to the conservancy’s website. “A looking glass, the glass cloche allows us to examine the invisible societal and structural borders trapping us.”

According to a sneak peek of a sketch of the mural [shared by GregCookland.com](#) this week, one of the birds in the mural will be sitting on a stem with a yellow flower blooming at the tip. The second bird will be crashing through a glass case, seemingly toward freedom.

Thelen’s artwork is expected to be complete by Monday, May 6, the conservancy said in an e-mail to the Globe.

It replaces artist Shara Hughes’s landscape mural titled “Carving Out Fresh Options,” which has been on the Dewey Square wall since last May.

Previous works featured on the wall have included murals by Otavio and Gustavo Pandolfo of [Os Gemeos](#), Matthew Ritchie, [Lawrence Weiner](#), Mehdi Ghadyanloo, and [Shinique Smith](#).

People who have stumbled upon the work in progress at Dewey Square this week seem to be impressed by Thelen’s work.

“The new [@HelloGreenway](#) mural in progress is stunning!” Corey Dinopoulos tweeted Tuesday night.