

But It Plays Host To Sea Creatures

I t's something that drivers entering Baltimore notice – whales and dolphins playing (in a huge mural) on the side of a building. Owned by St. John's Properties, the building is leased by CapitalTristate; it's our Hamburg Street branch.

Importantly, the mural isn't graffiti

– far from it! It's the work of artist

Robert Wyland, who began painting full-size murals of whales and other marine life on the sides of buildings in the 1980s.

By 1993, his global tour took him to Baltimore. His artwork was dramatic, startling – beautiful. He wasn't finished; before the 2008 Beijing Olympics, mural #100 was completed: A nearly





one-mile-long series of giant canvasses, completed with the help of children from more than 100 countries.

But exterior paintings aren't permanent. Especially in a place where the weather varies, the walls are hit with Sun (and heat), water (and wind) ... snow and ice ... and more.

By the second decade of the 21st century, the Baltimore mural was starting to show some age. A repair was in order.

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In Spring 2014, that got onto the schedule. With St. John's Properties footing the bill, the building's external beauty was restored by Baltimore-based Mural Masters, Inc. The project took several weeks (as Mural Masters scheduled its work around the weather).

The results: See the photos on these pages.

For more information: Wyland's bio on Wikipedia: http:// en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_ Wyland

Home page for Wyland's artwork: http://www.wyland.com/

Wyland Foundation – which says it has has worked (since 1993) with more than 1 million children to raise environmental awareness: http://www.wylandfoundation.org/





