

## Las Vegas: Cosmopolitan installs original artwork inside new Starbucks



Artist George Rousse's installation dominates the inside of a new Starbucks at the Cosmopolitan hotel-casino on the Las Vegas Strip. (Erik Kabik)

By **Jay Jones**

MARCH 21, 2016, 8:10 AM

**I**f you want to enjoy contemporary art while sipping on a latte, Las Vegas' newest Starbucks can oblige. The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas now boasts a coffee house with the latest creation by French artist and photographer Georges Rousse. The hotel-casino is known for making art part of the resort experience, like its elaborate chandelier on three levels that houses bars inside beaded curtains of light.

Rousse's multicolored panels form portions of the walls and ceiling at the Starbucks that opened March 14 on the casino floor near the Las Vegas Boulevard entrance.

For decades, Rousse has displayed his artwork and photography in exhibitions worldwide. However, the unnamed Las Vegas installation is the first piece of art he has created for permanent public display.

Rousse's multicolored panels form portions of the walls and ceiling at the Starbucks that opened March 14 on the casino floor near the Las Vegas Boulevard entrance.

For decades, Rousse has displayed his artwork and photography in exhibitions worldwide. However, the unnamed Las Vegas installation is the first piece of art he has created for permanent public display.



Portions of George Rouse's newest work of art are incorporated into the architecture of the Starbucks. (Erik Kabik)

“For me, a circle is a shape in motion,” Rouse told an interviewer when the work was being incorporated into the architecture. “All of the points have the same distance from the center. Therefore, there is some sort of perfection in form.”

The Starbucks is open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily and until 10 p.m. on weekends.

While many visitors are sure to snap photos with their cellphones, Rouse prefers a vintage Kodak Brownie camera to capture his images.

Now 68 years old, Rouse received the camera as a Christmas present when he was 9 years old. To this day, it remains his constant companion.



While visitors to the new Starbucks likely will snap plenty of photos with their cellphones, artist Georges Rouse still prefers to use the Kodak Brownie camera he was given nearly 60 years ago. (Erik Kabik)