

CITY NEWS

High art has wings

BRIGHT IDEA
WORDS: GEOFF CROCKETT

THE man behind those shiny fingers at 175 Eagle St is back with another sculpture to brighten up the city streets.

Kelvin Grove artist Sebastian Di Mauro has been awarded \$400,060 to make the front of the new State Government office building at 33 Charlotte St a bit more interesting.

The commission, the largest to be awarded under the Queensland Government's public art policy, Art Built-in, is made of cast aluminium and will rise close to 4m in the air.

Di Mauro said the work, entitled *Drift*, featured two 3.6m high sculptures that "resemble seed pods or winged creatures which have evolved from an organic form".

"In a subtle way, the artwork conveys the concept of growth, regeneration and

renewal, reflecting the evolution of the site where an old building has been demolished to make way for a new building," he said.

Arts Minister Matt Foley said the commission was a "great coup" for Brisbane and would transform the entrance to the \$55 million building.

"It is a great example of Art Built-in's success in providing opportunities for major sculptural commissions for Queensland artists," Mr Foley said.

"Art Built-in generates numerous job opportunities for artists and arts workers, and provides significant public artworks for the State Government Collection that will be a legacy for future generations."

Di Mauro has designed the piece and it was cast at Urban Art Project at Eagle Farm using recycled aluminium sourced by Tall Ingots at Yerongpilly.

The building and the sculpture are expected to be on show at Charlotte St by December.



SHINING LIGHT: Artist Sebastian Di Mauro has been commissioned to bring life to a new office block in Charlotte St.