



► The Grumman Greenhouse sculpture combines a Naval plane with a garden. Griska bought the plane, which was used after the war to drop depressants on forest fires, on eBay.

## It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's a new sculpture

A new sculpture installation will soon open at Lenfest Plaza combining two disparate concepts.

A former Cold War-era anti-submarine Naval plane is being painstakingly reconstructed and turned into a harbor for nutritive and medicinal plants by Philadelphia Academy of the Fine Arts graduate Jordan Griska.

"It was mostly about changing the function of the airplane from something disruptive to something productive that generates life," said Griska, 27. "The airplane is grounded,

so it no longer has movement in that sense, but growth creates movement in another way."



Griska was selected by a committee at PAFA to create the first of a series of one-year exhibitions at Lenfest Plaza's west end. He bought the decommissioned plane on eBay five months ago and had it trucked up from Alabama.

"I was already interested in recycling and green concepts, so I combined that with my body of work," he

said. The plants will be maintained by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and donated to its City Harvest Program, which provides meals for low-income families.

"It's great, because former pilots are really enthusiastic about this type of plane," said Caryn Kunkle, director of the Philadelphia Salon, which helped fund the project. "A lot of them were pulling up lawnchairs and watching as we installed it."

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