



RICK MADONIK/TORONTO STAR

A transit rider, waiting for a bus, takes in the mural painted on a wall at the southeast corner of Wilson Ave. and Bathurst St.

★ URBAN LIVING

Mural adds sparkle

Whimsical art reproduced so well adds pleasure to being at the corner of Wilson Ave. and Bathurst St.

Re *Wilson Ave. parkette*

I would like to thank Toronto Parks and Recreation Department people for having converted the once dank and dingy southeast corner of Wilson Ave. at Bathurst St. into an absolutely delightful eye-catching parkette. That particular location is well known to the thousands of transit goers who have waited ever so often for their TTC buses toward the York Mills subway station.

Rising above this particular corner is a concrete wall over and behind which rolls, ever unceasingly, the mundane, noisy and pollutant spewing traffic of westbound

Highway 401. Before the parkette was built, this bus stop offered a rather dank and dingy experience of the city.

One day, the parkette sprang into place, complete with landscaping, beautifying flowers and information signs. This was a clear improvement in the overall experience at that location, even if the space remained backed by that dank, gray and dingy concrete wall.

Imagine my surprise and absolute pleasure when, a little while later, that concrete wall became covered with an absolutely magnificent tableau showing what I believe to be several reproductions of

beach scenes done by the French impressionist painter Georges Seurat. How delightful to see that lady standing in the shade with her pet monkey, and the bathers and the picnickers.

How amusingly whimsical to see such art reproduced so well and so publicly. The tableau, covering what was once bare gray concrete, has added such sparkle and simple pleasure to the experience of being at the corner of Wilson and Bathurst.

Whoever conceived of this parkette and its decor is to be highly congratulated and thanked because it is a beautifully inspired achievement. As a result, the effort has in its own way added to the pleasure that Toronto can provide, even on such a small scale.

Remy Landau, Toronto