



MEETING OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

3 p.m.

Remote meeting via video and teleconferencing

Minutes

Commissioner Ferras called the meeting to order at 3:10pm.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment

Commissioners Present:

Suzie Ferras, Chair

Charles Collins, Interim

Jeanne McCoy

Nabiel Musleh

Abby Sadin Schnair

Commissioners Absent:

JD Beltran

Mahsa Hakimi

Yiying Lu

Commissioner Ferras called for changes to the agenda. She welcomed and thanked Commissioner Collins for joining the committee as interim commissioner for the meeting.

2. General Public Comment

(0:06:02)

There was no public comment.

3. Consent Calendar

(0:07:14)

1. Motion to approve and to accept into the Civic Art Collection the artwork *Pidgeon Drawing – Study for Pet Shelter*, 2018, pastel on paper, by Favianna Rodriguez, accession number 2022.2. The artwork is a study for the wood cutout artworks commissioned for Animal Care and Control.
2. Motion to approve and to accept into the Civic Art Collection the artwork *Study for Garfield Pool*, 2017, mixed media collage, by artist Favianna Rodriguez, accession number 2023.1. The artwork is the color study for the glass window artwork commissioned for Garfield Pool.
3. Motion to approve and to accept into the Civic Art Collection the artwork *Nopal de la Misión (watercolor design for glass window)*, 2021, watercolor and graphite on paper, by artist Juana Alicia, accession number 2023.2. The artwork is the watercolor design for the glass window artwork commissioned for the San Francisco Public Library Mission Branch.
4. Motion to approve *Papa Mak's Burger Angel*, a mural design by Mershon Illgner. The murals will be installed on the building at 3755 Noriega St. at 45th Ave. in District 4. The mural measures approximately 10 ft. tall by 8 ft. wide. The artwork is funded by Grant to Supervisor Gordon Mar's office from Office of Workforce Development and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
5. Motion to approve *Kelp Dreams on Taraval*, a mural design by Cat Sommer. The murals will be installed on the building at 2149 Taraval St. at 32nd Ave. in District 4. The mural measures approximately 10 ft. tall by 8 ft. wide. The artwork is funded by Grant to Supervisor Gordon Mar's office from Office of

Workforce Development and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

6. Motion to approve *Cabinet of Curiosity*, a mural design by Mike Ritch. The work will be installed on an SFMTA utility box at the corner of Ocean Ave and 19th in District 7. The mural measures approximately 6 ft. tall by 3 ft. wide by 2 ft. depth. The artwork is funded by Participatory Budgeting held as a Grant with the San Francisco Arts Commission and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
7. Motion to approve *Ice Plant*, a mural design by Mike Ritch. The work will be installed on two SFMTA utility boxes at 1314 Ocean Ave in District 7. The murals measure approximately 6 ft. tall by 3 ft. wide by 2 ft. depth and 4 ft. tall by 2 ft. wide by 2 ft. depth. The artwork is funded by Participatory Budgeting held as a Grant with the San Francisco Arts Commission and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
8. Motion to approve *Make Things New*, a mural design by Lorraine Garcia-Nakata. The work will be installed at 2828 16th St. between Shotwell and Folsom in District 9. The mural measures approximately 35 ft. tall by 46 ft. wide. The artwork is funded by Property Owners Contractual Fee for Service and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
9. Motion to approve the correction of typos in Section 3 and Section 7 in the Policies and Guidelines for the Civic Art Collection of the City and County of San Francisco Under the Jurisdiction of the San Francisco Arts Commission.
10. Motion to approve the 31 mural designs by eight artists to be installed on 31 SFMTA utility boxes across the City. The

artworks are privately funded and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

1. Sam Flores: 19th St. at Mission St.; 20th St. at Mission St.; 21st St. at Mission St.; 22nd St. at Mission St.
2. Ronnie Buders: 17th St. at Mission St.; 18th St. at Mission St.; 16th St. at Bryant St.; Harrison St. at 16th St.
3. Max Ehrman: Divisadero St. at Haight St.; Divisadero St. at Page St.; Divisadero St. at Oak St; Fell St. at Divisadero St.
4. Eli Maness: Divisadero St. at Hayes St.; Divisadero St. at Grove St.; Divisadero St. at McAllister St.; Divisadero St. at Turk St.
5. Ryan Montgomery: Divisadero St. at Ellis St.; Divisadero St. at O'Farrell St.; Divisadero St. at Eddy St.
6. Lady Henze: Stockton St. at Post St.; Stockton St. at Geary St.; Powell St. at Geary St.; Powell St. at Post St.
7. Diego Gomez: Leavenworth St. and Eddy St.; Ellis St. and Leavenworth St.; Leavenworth St. and O'Farrell St.; Hyde St. and Post St.
8. Rhonel Roberts: Kirkwood Ave. at 3rd St.; La Salle Ave. at 3rd St.; McKinnon Ave. at 3rd St.; Newcomb Ave. at 3rd St.

There was no public comment.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

**4. 180 Jones Street—Philip Hua
(00:09:05)**

Presentation by Lynne Baer of the artwork by Phillip Hua to be installed at 180 Jones Street. Ms. Baer stated that this project has a very short timeline, a small budget of \$90,000 and the site for public art was limited to the façade of the first two floors of the building. Mr. Hua's proposal features

seven plaster medallions featuring different moths and a tiled entryway with porcelain tiles.

The motif of the moth is intended to represent the Tenderloin as a haven for those seeking a change in their lives and the neighborhood's vibrant nightlife history. The moths will be attached to the concrete columns, referencing the architectural medallions of other buildings in the area. The entryways' walls and ceiling will be tiled in a gradient pattern, dark at the base and gradually transitioning to golden at the top/ceiling to evoke a sense of light for the moths on the columns to orbit. The intention is to create a sense of hope and uplift for the residents and the neighborhood. The moths will be 3D modeled, cast in plaster, hand painted, sealed, and gilded with 24k gold leaf. The backgrounds of the moths will be chocolate brown tile.

Commissioner Schnair asked for clarity around the tile entryway. Ms. Baer stated that the tiles are commercially available from Ann Sacks "Elenco" series porcelain gold and nero tiles, and will be cut to fit the space and laid out by Mr. Hua. Commissioner McCoy asked about lighting on the medallions. Ms. Baer said there is no lighting as there is no room in the budget, but because of the materials, the artwork should reflect the natural lighting of the area. Commissioner Collins asked about maintenance of the artworks. Ms. Baer said the artwork is durable and could be power washed with regular building maintenance and included in regular building maintenance schedule.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the design of the artwork *Drawn To The Light, We Are Home For A Change* by Phillip Hua to be installed at 180 Jones Street, located at the corner of Turk Street. The artwork is funded by MOHCD. Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation (TNDC) will be responsible for ongoing maintenance. The work will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

Moved: Schnair/McCoy

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

5. SFAC Galleries Fall 2023 Exhibitions

(0:21:37)

SFAC Galleries Director Carolina Aranibar-Fernandez presented the upcoming schedule of exhibitions for the Main Gallery and City Hall. The City Hall exhibition will be a collaboration with the Mission Cultural Center focusing on the history of community political activism and cultural events through the posters of Mission Gráfica and La Raza Graphics from 1971-1995.

The main gallery will feature a group exhibition curated by Minoosh Zomorodinia with fourteen diverse artists focusing on the concept of space and the interplay of human activities, relationships and interaction that shape and define the essence of place.

There was no public comment.

Motion for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve a curator honorarium in the amount of \$5000 to Mission Cultural Center of Latino Arts for their participation in the 2023-2024 SFAC Galleries City Hall exhibition (title to be determined) on view September 14, 2023 – July 12, 2024.

Motion: for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve a curator honorarium in the amount of \$5000 to Minoosh Zomorodinia for their participation in the fall 2023 SFAC Galleries Main Gallery exhibition (October 13 – December 16, 2023).

Motion: for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve the artist honorarium in the amount of \$900 to Mrin Aggarwal (Supermrin); \$700 to Alex Artz; \$900 to Emsaki; \$700 to Kiana Honarmand; \$700 to Masha Kechaeva; \$900 to Carolina Maki Kitagawa Frisby; \$900 to Nazafarin Lofti; \$900 to

Lorena Molina; \$900 to yétúndé olagbaju; \$700 to Kelley O’Leary; \$700 to Tiare Rixeau; \$700 to Sanaz Safanassab; \$700 to Ebti Shedid; and \$700 to Connie Zheng for the research and development of artwork for a SFAC Galleries exhibition in the Main Gallery on view October 13 – December 16, 2023.

Moved: Collins/Schnair

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

6. Sonoma Valley Museum of Art (0:40:16)

Senior Registrar Allison Cummings presented a loan request for the painting *Seneca*, by Richard Mayhew to the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art for their upcoming exhibition, *Richard Mayhew: Inner Terrain*, September 16, 2023 – January 7, 2024. The painting is currently on exhibit in the Medical Clinic in the International Terminal at the San Francisco International Airport. The SFO Museum team has already approved the loan and plans to print a vinyl reproduction for display for the clinic while the painting is on loan.

Public Comment:

Rebecca Groves called in to report an audio issue with the meeting in the WebEx application.

Staff checked all the settings for WebEx and digital devices and could not find an issue. Various staff who were logged in remotely reported the sound was working for them. It was suggested to the caller to log out and restart their device and log back in.

Motion: to approve the loan of the painting 1979.71, *Seneca*, by Richard Mayhew to the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art for their upcoming exhibition, *Richard Mayhew: Inner Terrain*, September 16, 2023 – January 7, 2024.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

7. 49 South Van Ness Wall
(0:50:23)

Program Associate Craig Corpora presented the final designs by Miguel Arzabe, Aron Kantor, David James Bayus, Lindsay Rothwell, Jeremy Rourke, and Selina Trepp for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project. 49 South Van Ness is a new City building that houses the permit center and administrative offices of several City agencies, including Building Inspection, Planning and Public Works.

Trajectory by Miguel Arzabe captures vignettes of San Francisco city life from different perspectives. Among the comings and goings of the general populace, bubbles travel around the city catching glimpses of everyday life. The bubble is a mediation on the fragility of the human condition.

Using a kaleidoscopic effect to play with the motif of repetition, *Reverberations* by Aron Kantor calls to mind the extravagant staging of Busby Berkeley musicals, this video evolves through three stages of queer magic ritual: creating the space, building the playground, and joyous expression. The film aims to present hypnotizing images which will invite the spectator into the ritual which is ultimately intended to generate a sense of queer joy with each viewing.

Polis (“city” in Greek) by David Bayus is an animated short depicting shapes and movements observed in San Francisco. Buildings expand and contract, build themselves up and tear themselves down. Figures are depicted simply, with an emphasis on motions that describe the routine of daily life (commuting, working, taking out the garbage, relaxing at home).

Threshold by Lindsay Rothwell is a site-specific exploration of the architecture of 49 South Van Ness and its place within the city. The Pavilion’s curtain wall, floor, and curved screen wall serve as thresholds

signaling shifts between the real built conditions and projected imagined spaces. The video is geolocated and shows both the real topography, and the path of the sun as viewed from the building's location in San Francisco.

Jeremy Rourke's *Flower Tower* was inspired by a quote from Herb Caen from 1973, regarding the then new Sutro Tower. He wrote, "I keep waiting for it to stalk down the hill and attack the Golden Gate Bridge." Rourke's Sutro Tower takes a stroll around the city, ending up at the video wall at 49 South Van Ness.

Selina Trepp's *Nothing is forever in the constant flux of building and maintaining* was inspired by the responsibilities of the City Departments within the 49 South Van Ness building. The video reflects the dynamic of building and maintaining that flows throughout the city. Organic space transforms and vistas morph one into the other; they are transformed by being cared for and rebuilt. Each space is equally beautiful, mostly abstract with moments of figuration. The general mood is optimistic; nothing is forever in the constant flux of building and maintaining.

The commissioners were impressed with the variety of stories told that all relate to San Francisco. Commissioner Musleh wondered about the ability to use these videos on digital billboards such as those at Salesforce tower. Mr. Corpora stated he will present five more videos next month.

Artists David Bayus and Lindsay Rothwall both expressed gratitude for the opportunity as there are few video public art opportunities.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve *Trajectory*, the final design by Studio Miguel Arzabe LLC for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project.

Motion: to approve *Reverberations*, the final design by Aron Kantor for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project.

Motion: to approve *Threshold*, the final design by Lindsay Ellen Belchers Rothwell for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project.

Motion: to approve *Flower Tower*, the final design by Jeremy Rourke for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project.

Motion: to approve *Nothing is forever in the constant flux of building and maintaining*, the final design by Selina Trepp for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

8. Gene Friend Recreation Center

(1:25:06)

Project Manager Arianne Gelardin presented the public art project plan for Gene Friend Recreation Center. The center is located on Folsom Street between Harriet and 6th Streets in the SOMA and Filipino Cultural Heritage District. The current building is being re-built and will allow for two new art opportunities. The first opportunity is an integrated wall artwork in the center's gymnasium, that can range from 240-640 square feet, that is visible from the exterior at 6th and Folsom Streets and will have an art enrichment budget of \$520,000. The second opportunity is a two-dimensional artwork program with a \$50,000 budget that would allow for the purchase of pre-existing two-dimensional artworks to be framed and installed along the interior corridors of the center.

Commissioner Collins commented that special consideration should be taken to the artwork in the gymnasium as a busy artwork in a busy athletic space can be distracting.

Commissioner Musleh and Schnair asked about whether there could be an exterior sculpture opportunity anywhere in the space rather than a wall artwork in the gymnasium.

Melinda Sullivan, the SFRPD Project Manager, commented that they have engaged community around public art at this location since 2017. She also shared that this center would have a double court with a full-length acoustic partition that would allow the court closer to the multi-purpose to be closed off for youth activities other than basketball while the other court continues to be available for basketball. Additionally, Ms. Sullivan shared that the soil quality in this area is quite poor and the footing needed to support a sculpture would be more costly than the budget can absorb, leading to the integrated wall artwork as the art opportunity.

No Public Comment.

Motion: to approve the public art project plan for Gene Friend Recreation Center.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

9. San Francisco International Airport: Terminal 3 Connector, 2D Artwork Program (1:46:56)

Project Manager Arianne Gelardin presented the public art project plan for San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program. In 2021 the sculpture *Flourish* by Alison Saar was installed in the corridor. This art opportunity is to purchase existing two-dimensional artwork to be framed and installed in the two wall niches on either side of Saar's sculpture. The art enrichment budget for this project is \$300,000. The two-dimensional artwork should relate conceptually, aesthetically, and/or in an art historical context to the adjacent Saar sculpture and contribute to the quality and diversity of the Civic Art Collection. The project plan will go to the Airport Steering Committee for approval as well.

Commissioner Collins was appreciative of the language used in the project goals of this project plan especially considering the recent work and guideline changes from the Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee.

Commissioner McCoy echoed Commissioner Collins statement and volunteered for the panel.

No public comment.

Motion: to approve the public art project plan for the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3 Connector, two-dimensional artwork program.

Moved: Musleh/Schnair

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Collins, McCoy, Musleh, Schnair

10. Staff Report

(1:58:24)

Mary Chou, Civic Art Collection and Public Art Director, announced the 1842 Temporary Art Project Manager will start the first week of August. Ms. Chou stated that the currently posted 1844 Program Manager position will close on July 27. Additionally, a new 1844 Program Manager position for the Mellon Grant will be posted soon.

Ms. Chou also shared that the new Art on Market Street posters, *Who is San Francisco?* by Triple Dream Comics are currently on display.

Commissioner McCoy asked for the Mellon Grant job posting to be sent out to the commissioners.

There was no public comment.

11. New Business and Announcements

(2:01:40)

Commissioner Ferras announced the next ArtWalkSF event will be on Saturday, August 5th on Irving Street between 19th and 25th Avenues and will feature about 100 artists and vendors and two live music stages.

There was no public comment.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16pm.

Posted 7/31/2023, 3:55PM TP

Approved 8/7/2023

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address:

Language Accessibility

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