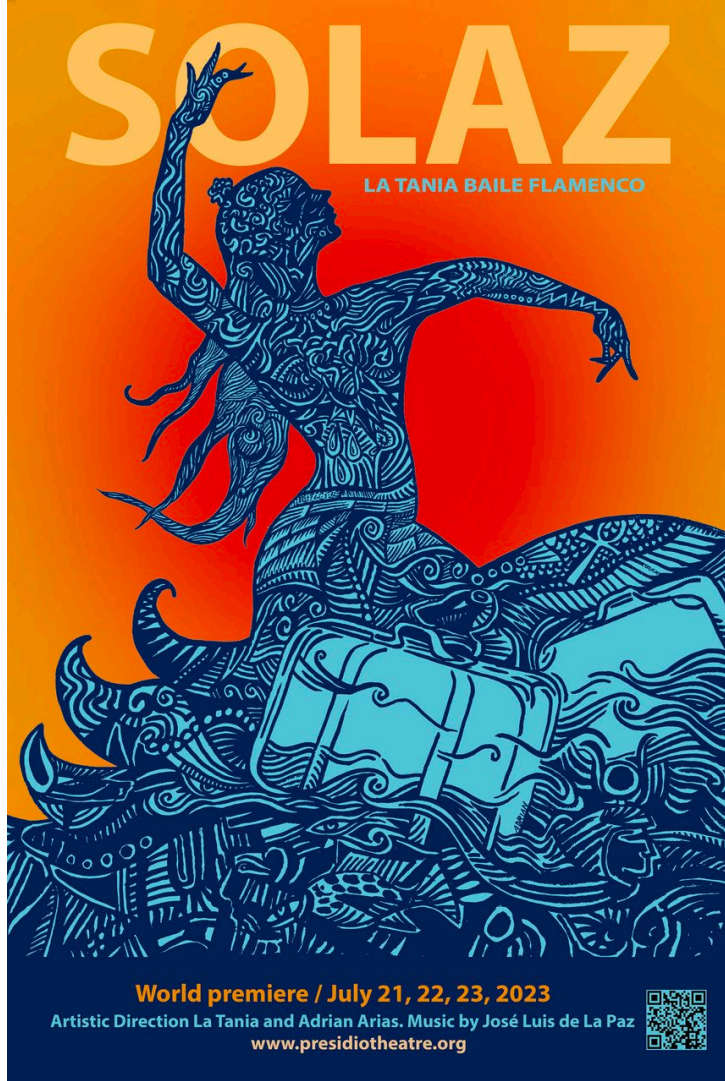


**2026 ART ON
MARKET STREET
POSTER SERIES**

2026 Art on Market Poster Series Public Art Project

The 2026 Art on Market Poster Series, titled *Now & Then: Living Memories*, will focus on previously unrecorded, newly unearthed & unconventional San Francisco histories. The name of the series is taken from a 2017 essay by writer, historian and activist Rebecca Solnit, in which she argues for “more history, not less”. Artists are encouraged to use primary sources, such as: libraries, archives, oral histories, historical societies & museums, public records, etc. to create a cohesive series uncovering overlooked histories and memorializing new histories. This project intersects with the continued work of SFAC’s Mellon-Grant funded Shaping Legacy program.

ADRIAN ARIAS



Solaz, 2023, graphic design and drawing



Forever Golden Trout, 2025, watercolor, ink, and acrylic

ADRIAN ARIAS: PROPOSAL

Every step of Aztec dance awakens living roots and ancestral power.
Cada paso de la danza azteca despierta raices vivas y poder ancestral.



Layers of The Mission: A Celebration of Memory and Resilience
Xochitl, the Aztec dancer featured in the poster, moves at the heart of a living legacy, embodying the ancestral rhythm passed down through generations, rooted in Aztec tradition and blooming in the Mission. Learn more by scanning the QR code



Sweetness and memory in motion through the streets of San Francisco
Dulzura y memoria en movimiento por las calles de San Francisco



Layers of The Mission: A Celebration of Memory and Resilience
Pedro, the ice cream vendor featured in the poster, walks the streets of San Francisco with quiet perseverance, offering more than just paletas. His daily route carries ancestral echoes—guided by tradition, care, and resilience. Learn more by scanning the QR code.



AMIR KHADAR



Commit to Keep Fighting, 2021,
digital illustration

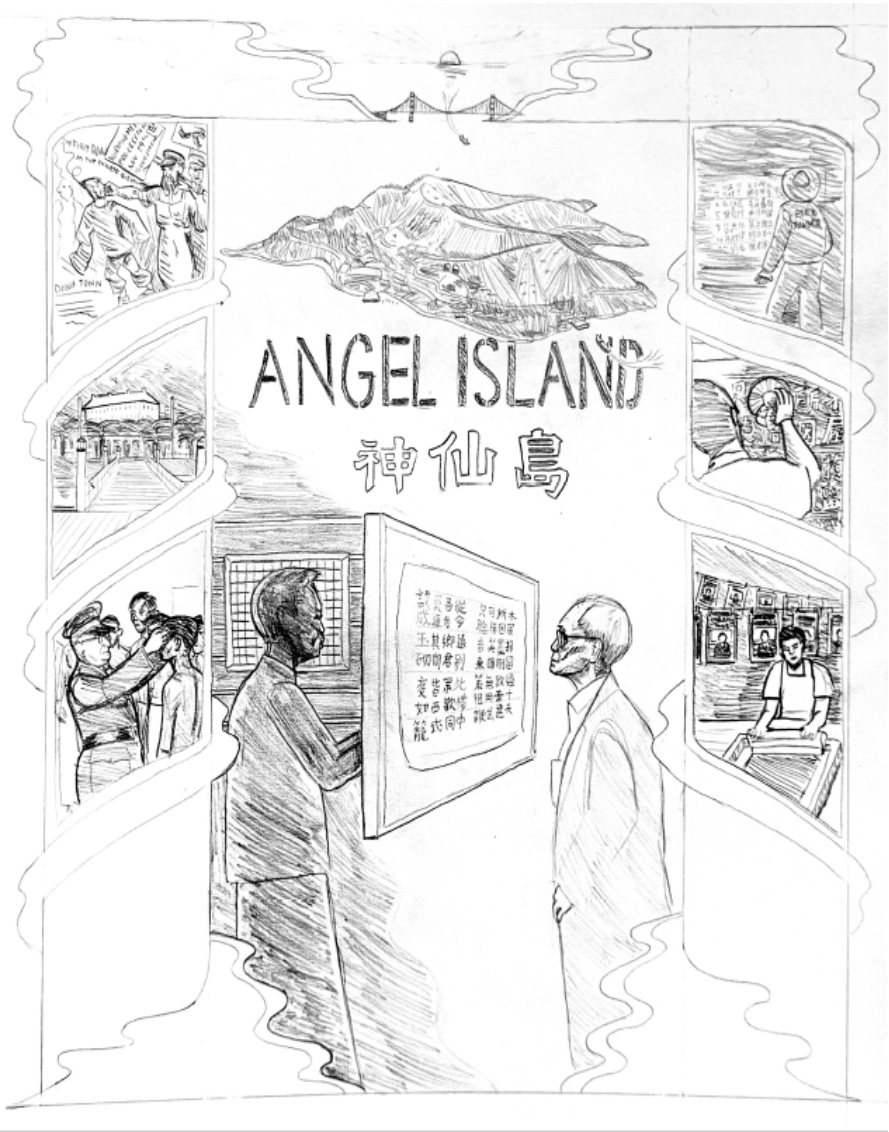


Searching..., 2022, digital illustration



COLIN CHOY KIMZEY

COLIN CHOY KIMZEY: PROPOSAL



Images courtesy of the Kearny Street Workshop archives

THE FIRST ASIAN AMERICAN WRITERS WORKSHOP

Radical Asian Americans in search of roots found an unexpected source in 1970: Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. The island had been converted to a state park and the old immigration station on it slated for demolition when Park Ranger Alexander Weiss discovered Chinese calligraphy carved into the walls under the paint. Unable to read the writing or convince his superiors it mattered, he reached out to George Araki, his biology professor at SF State, who had the walls photographed; the engravings were determined to be poems written by detainees held at the immigration station during the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Laurie J. Chen, 1975

US immigration authorities singled out Chinese migrants for medical examinations, interrogations, and long periods of confinement on the isolated island before ultimately allowing them entry or deporting them. During their imprisonment, the detainees wrote poetry about the voyage to America, their longing for home, and their treatment on the island, keenly aware that they were experiencing racial discrimination.

Zand Gee, 1980

Leland Wong, 1976

Poet Genny Lim, together with historians Him Mark Lai and Judy Yung, began a project (HOC DOI—History of Chinese Detained on Island) to collect, translate, and publicize the poems. They invited photographer Crystal K.D. Huie and other members of Kearny Street Workshop to make wall rubbings of the carvings. KSW mounted an exhibition of the Chinese experience at the immigration station at Jackson Street Gallery in 1976, which inspired members of the Chinatown community to break their silence about their own time in detention. Lim, Lai, and Yung published their interviews alongside 135 translated poems in the first edition of *Island: Poetry and History of Chinese Immigrants on Angel Island, 1910-1940* in 1980.

WAS A DETENTION CENTER

VIDA KUANG



CPA History Mural, 2024, acrylic



Chinatown Love Struggle Resistance 1, 2022, watercolor



VIDA KUANG: PROPOSAL



Next Steps

- **Visual Arts Committee Approval of Recommended Finalist:** August 20, 2025
- **Arts Commission Approval:** September 5, 2025
- **Artist Under Contract:** September 2025
- **Installation of Artwork:** January – December 2026



2026 ART ON MARKET POSTER SERIES ARTIST REVIEW PANEL TWO SUMMARY

MEETING DATE

August 14, 2025

VOTING SELECTION PANELISTS

Rina Ayuyang, Artist & Professor, CCA

Becky Alexander, Archivist, SFAI Legacy Archive + Foundation

Danielle Nanos-Luz, Artist & Archivist, Freedom Archives

PROCESS

Six artist finalists presented their proposals for the 2026 Art on Market Poster Series. The Artist Review Panel discussed the finalists' proposals and scored each artist on the following criteria (1= low score):

- Artistic Merit (1-10)
- Relevant Skills and Experience (1-10)
- Meets the Project Goals (1-10)

RESULTS

Vida Kuang	85
Adrian Arias	83
Colin Kimzey	83
Amir Khadar	82
Patricia Wakida	75
Thad Higa	75

ARTS COMMISSION APPROVAL

Discussion and possible action to approve the final selection of artists, Adrian Arias, Amir Khadar, Colin Choy Kimzey, Vida Kuang, for the 2026 Art on Market Street Poster Series, as recommended by the Artist Review Panel.

Discussion and possible action to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contracts with Adrian Arias, Amir Khadar, Colin Choy Kimzey (dba Colin Kimzey), Vida Kuang for an amount not to exceed \$12,000 each for the design of an artwork for the 2026 Art on Market Street Poster Series.