



## MEETING OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, December 17, 2025**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Draft Minutes**

Chair Ferras called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

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

#### **Commissioners Present:**

Susie Ferras

Al Perez

McKenna Quint

Debra Walker

#### **Commissioners Absent:**

JD Beltran

Nabiel Musleh

SFAC staff in attendance: Civic Art Collection and Public Art Program

Director Mary Chou and Deputy Director of Programs Ebon Glen.

### **2. General Public Comment**

**(0:06:08)**

There was no public comment.

### **3. Consent Calendar**

**(00:06:52)**

1. Motion to accept into the Civic Art Collection *Disruptive, Disrespectful, Rude*, an oil on canvas painting by Christopher Williams. The 2019 artwork measures H40 1/16 in. by W30 1/8 in. by D1 1/5 in. The artwork is a gift by the artist to the Civic Art Collection.
2. Motion to approve *Bridging Cultures: Step by Step*, a mosaic mural design by Ross Holzman. The mosaic mural will be installed on five pillars, comprising approximately 404 sq. ft., of the Bosworth pedestrian bridge that spans Bosworth Street at Lippard Avenue in the Glen Park neighborhood, in District 8. The artwork is funded by Glen Park Beautiful and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection. The artwork will be maintained by the artist and Glen Park Beautiful.
3. Motion to approve *Eyeliner*, a mural design by Juan Manuel Carmona. The mural will be installed at 1026 Valencia Street, in District 9. The mural measures approximately H3 ft. by W12 ft. The artwork is funded by San Francisco Artists Grant and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection. The artwork will be maintained by the artist.
4. Motion to approve Construction Documentation of *Joy Personified*, a series of 7 human-scaled steel rod sculptures by Kristine Mays for the India Basin Shoreline Park Public Art Project, located at Hunters Point Blvd at Hawes Street.

**Moved: Walker/Perez**

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Perez, Quint, Walker

There was no public comment.



#### **4. Orpheum Theater Temporary Mural by eL Seed with Building 180 (0:8:20)**

Civic Art Collection and Public Art Program Director Mary Chou stated that this is an informational item only, that the project is not on City property and does not contain city funds, before introducing Shannon Riley, CEO and Founder, Building 180 and Joe Garcia from SkunkWorks. *The Chiaroscuro: Light Within the Shadows*, an initiative launched by Skunkworks, a nonprofit founded by incarcerated people, brings international artists such as Faith XLVII and Keya Tama inside San Quentin to paint murals. For their next initiative, contemporary artist and world-renowned muralist, eL Seed, proposes mirror murals at two locations. One mural would be painted inside the walls of San Quentin with the help of the incarcerated individuals and staff, the counterpart mural is proposed for the southern façade of the Orpheum Theater in San Francisco's Civic Center at Hyde Street and UN Plaza to be painted with the help of family members of the incarcerated individuals who work on the mural in San Quentin. The goal of the project is to create a symbolic space where both communities meet. The mural will include a quote from Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* "The world changes in direct proportion to the number of people willing to be honest about their lives" in Arabic calligraphy. The murals will be installed in both locations in early January 2026.

The Commissioners praised the concept and inquired about community involvement, maintenance, choice of artist and signage at the Orpheum Theater location. Joe Garcia discussed the process of artist selection, shared that the mural will start at 10 ft off the ground level for easier maintenance and that a QR code will be posted explaining the significance of the mural. Shannon Riley listed all the community partners, city departments and District Supervisors who were engaged with for this project.



There was no public comment.

### **5. Big Art Loop: Sue Bierman Park – This is Loop (0:34:30)**

Program Associate Paris Cotz introduced Meredith Winner, COO, Building 180 who presented *Toroid* by UK based artist team This is Loop for Sue Bierman Park as part of the Big Art Loop program. *Toroid*, a mirrored acrylic, steel, aluminum and composite sheeting sculpture measuring 13 ft. high by 39 ft. wide will be placed in a grassy area of the park along The Embarcadero. Decomposed granite will be placed under the sculpture to reduce grass maintenance needs by Recreation and Park Department during the length of the installation. The artwork is reflective and intended to be interactive by allowing people to walk under and through it.

There was no public comment.

**Motion:** to approve *Toroid*, a sculpture by artist duo This is Loop (Alan Hayes + Harriet Lumby) at Sue Bierman Park, along the Embarcadero. The sculpture is composed of mirrored acrylic, steel, aluminum and composite sheeting. The sculpture measures H13 ft. by W39 ft. The sculpture will be installed for one year and will be maintained by Big Art Loop and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

**Moved: Walker/Quint**

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Perez, Quint, Walker

### **6. West Portal Branch Library Memorial Sculpture (44:15)**

Alfonso Hinojosa-Chavarria, Security and Emergency Management Analyst at the San Francisco Public Library presented the sculpture, *Ramos Pinto De Oliveira Memorial*, created by Michael Brown and David Cole, a permanent gift to the San Francisco Public Library. The bronze geometric



sculpture honors the Ramos Pinto De Oliveira family who were killed in a car accident in front of the West Portal Branch Library on March 16, 2024. The sculpture depicts four pillars, each engraved with the name of one of the family members killed and the text “together forever, your deep love for each other will be your lasting legacy.” The sculpture will be placed in the southwestern corner of the exterior courtyard of the West Portal Branch Library at Ulloa Street and Lenox Way, facing the site of the accident. The artwork will be maintained by the Facilities Division of the library in collaboration with the artists and funds raised by “Livable City.” The library, artists, District 7 Supervisor’s office, the local community and the Brazilian and Portuguese communities as well as extended family members of the Ramos Pinto De Oliveira family were involved in the creation of this memorial.

**Public Comment:**

*Emma Hare, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Myrna Melgar of District 7, spoke in support of the project. The supervisor’s office has been involved in this project since March 2024. Family members of the victims wrote the poem included on the memorial sculpture. The office hopes this symbolic design to be commemorative and healing for both the family and the local community.*

The commissioners inquired about lighting for the artwork. Alfonso Hinojosa-Chavarria stated there would be no artwork lighting at this time, only environmental lighting.

**Motion:** to approve a sculpture, *Ramos Pinto De Oliveira Memorial*, created by Michael Brown and David Cole, honoring the Ramos Pinto De Oliveira family, installed in the planter bed area near the southwestern corner of the exterior courtyard of the West Portal Branch Library on a pre-existing concrete base. The memorial statue is made of bronze and concrete. The artwork is H42 in. by W24 in by D24 in. The artwork will be maintained by the Library and the artists and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.



## **Moved: Walker/Quint**

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Perez, Quint, Walker

## **7. Public Art & Collections Annual Report (0:58:30)**

Civic Art Collection & Public Art Program Director Mary Chou and Senior Registrar Allison Cummings. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025 Public Art and Civic Art Collection Annual Report. Mary Chou gave a summary of Art expenditures and new commissions and purchases, including projects at the Airport, with Muni, Rec and Park, the Library, SFUSD and Treasure Island. Gender, geographic location, and race and ethnicity demographics of the newly commissioned artists and artists whose works were purchased, were shared. Ms. Chou gave a summary of all the projects completed in fiscal year 2025 including permanent commissioned pieces, the Art on Market Street poster series, temporary art installations, StreetSmArts murals and the Shaping Legacy project.

Allison Cummings presented a summary of Civic Art Collection Care expenditures for fiscal year 2025 and gave a brief history of Capitol budget allocations. Fiscal Year 2025 was the largest allocation from the capitol budget in the history of the Arts Commission, in part to right size cuts to previous years budgets that were decreased significantly during the pandemic. Ms. Cummings highlighted completed conservation projects, relocation projects, conservation assessment projects, vandalism abatement projects and the Shaping Legacy work.

The commissioners asked clarifying questions about budgets, capital versus bond funds, the Mellon Grant and how they could advocate for the budget. Ms. Chou stated that the Mellon Grant covers 100% of the Shaping



Legacy program. Ms. Cummings discussed the different funding sources and how they vary year by year. The Streamlining task force has made a recommendation to remove care of the collections from the City Charter and move it to the Administrative Code; however, it is unclear what this means for the budget process and how it may change.

There was no public comment.

## **8. Staff Report** **(1:57:18)**

Ms. Chou shared information on the Civic Center Plaza Temporary Sculpture: Request For Proposals. The San Francisco Arts Commission invites artists and artist teams residing in the United States to submit proposals for the temporary display of an existing freestanding sculpture, or series of sculptures, of prominent scale in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza, located in front of City Hall. Organized in support of *Shaping Legacy*, a Mellon Foundation funded initiative to critically examine and reimagine San Francisco's monuments and memorials, this project supports a creative exploration of how public art can foster a more inclusive and representative civic narrative. The selected sculpture should embody inclusive histories, invite community dialogue, and enrich the collective understanding of civic memory and belonging. It should also demonstrate a strong visual presence that responds to the scale and formality of Civic Center Plaza. Deadline to submit proposals: Jan 12, 2026.

There was no public comment.

## **9. New Business and Announcements** **(1:59:46)**



Commissioner Perez recommended people view the Cable Cars that are decorated for the holidays. Each cable car was adopted by a different non-profit and decorated.

Commissioner Walker encouraged people to view GlowSF and the illumination at City Hall.

There was no public comment

## **10. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Posted 12/29/2025, 1:15pm TP

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## **Archives Available**

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

[https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=152](https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=152)

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