

To: Visual Arts Committee

From: Lynne Baer
Public Art Advisor

RE: 1064-68 Mission Street/Permanent Housing for People Experience Homelessness

Background

Mercy Housing California (MHC) in partnership with Episcopal Community Services (ECS) is developing a supportive residential development in the Mid-Market neighborhood of San Francisco. The development will consist of housing and related social services for formerly homeless adults and seniors, the relocated Tom Waddell Urgent Care Clinic which will be joined by the offices for the San Francisco Homeless Outreach Team and the CHEFS (Conquering Homelessness through Education in Food Service) Program. CHEFS is ECS's workforce development and social enterprise program for people currently experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless individuals reentering the job market. The residential component of the project will include 100 apartments for seniors and 150 apartments for adults who have been chronically without housing for many years. Due to the location of the development (within the San Francisco Planning Code district C-3) and because there is a ground lease from the City's Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, MHC/ECS is required to provide art equal to 1% of that portion of the development's construction cost to be paid for with public funding from the City of San Francisco, and to provide the art to be installed and maintained in areas on the site of the building and clearly visible from the public sidewalk or open space feature.



Artist Selection Process and Community Involvement

Lynne Baer was selected as the Public Art Advisor and an Art Selection Committee was formed consisting of representatives from MHC and ECS, the architects, and members from the surrounding community including Soma Pilipinas, and Rene de Guzman, Curator, Oakland Museum. Over 100 languages are spoken in the South of Market with Filipino as the largest

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immigrant sector and the site is located in the SomaFilipinas Cultural District. The RFQ was distributed widely to artists, arts organizations, as well as cultural entities in California, with an emphasis on reaching diverse artists.

The goals of the selected artworks is to enhance the neighborhood, dignify the residents, complement the building architecture, and speak to the cultural diversity of the surrounding community. Twenty artists and artist groups were reviewed by the Selection Committee and seven artists were selected to submit proposals. The finalists went on an Ethno Voluntour walking tour of the Filipino Cultural Heritage District lead by Gene Alejo of SOMCAN to understand the history of the area. The artists and proposals were presented at a public meeting at the Bayanihan Community Center and at a Mercy Housing Advisory Committee meeting. With public input, the Selection committee selected four artists to further refine their proposals which were again presented at a Mercy Housing Advisory Meeting receiving positive comments.

Proposals:

Privately Owned Public Space (Community open space): *Pasalubong Passage*

Artists: Michael Arcega - Gate

Leah Rosenberg - Passage

Michael Arcega: *Past Forward*



- ❖ Gateway is subdivided by textile patterns from the three main regions of the Philippines: Luxon, Visayas and Mindanao.
- ❖ The mirror-polished stainless steel reflects the viewer and their surroundings.
- ❖ Simultaneously the textile pattern is cut through to allow visibility into the Pasalubong Plaza.

Michael Arcega is an interdisciplinary artist working primarily in sculpture and installation. His research-based work revolves largely around language and sociopolitical dynamics. Directly informed by Historic narratives, material significance, and geography, his subject matter deals with circumstances where power relations are unbalanced. As a naturalized American, his investigation of cultural markers are embedded in objects, food, architecture, visual lexicons, and vernacular languages. For instance, vernacular Tagalog, is infused with Spanish and English words, lending itself to verbal mutation. Michael has a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and an MFA from Stanford University. His work has been exhibited at venues including the Asian

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Art Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego, the de Young Museum in San Francisco, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the Orange County Museum of Art, The Contemporary Museum in Honolulu, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Cue Arts Foundation, and the Asia Society in NY among many others. He has completed two projects for the San Francisco Public Art Program; Valencia Street and Chinatown.

Leah Rosenberg: *Pasalubong Passage*



- ❖ Colors play an important role in our lives. They remind us of a place, a time of year or our favorite traditions and can also shape the way we feel.
- ❖ The colors of the benches and tables are found in plant life and food found in Filipino/Tagalog cultures.
- ❖ The benches and tables in the shape of boxes refer to the *mapagbigay* attitude of generosity and the tradition of *pasalubong* (welcome gifts) which are often sent in boxes called the “*Balikbayan boxes*”.
- ❖ The viewer doesn’t need to know Leah’s references for the colors and shapes to enjoy the welcoming environment they create.

Color and process play a primary role in San Francisco-based artist Leah Rosenberg's works which span painting, sculpture, printmaking, food and performance. Leah received a BFA from Emily Carr Institute in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 2003, and went on to get an MFA from the California College of the Arts, San Francisco. Her works have been exhibited nationally and internationally at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; Art Moves, Poland; the Sarasota Art Center, Sarasota, Florida; and the Golden Pavilion, Hamburg. space at McColl Center for Art with *Color for the People*, a site-specific exploration of color and taste. Her recently installed mural, *Everywhere A Color*, can be found in the International Terminal at SFO, which like her book *The Color Collector’s Handbook* published with Chronicle books last spring, hopes to connect everyone from everywhere through color. This passion for color and collaboration led to her work as Creative Director for Color Factory in SF (2017) and NYC (2018).

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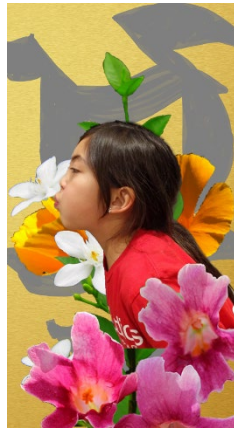
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Two Walls facing Courthouse and Wall on Jessie Street: *Respect, Justice, Mercy*
 Artist: Dave Kim



Mercy (Compassion)



Justice



Respect

Proposal for North Facing Two Walls: West and East



Two murals that work as stand-alone images or a unified one, two murals together represents a young Filipino girl making a wish, paying homage to Filipino culture but universally the idea of having a child-like hope, wishing for good into the future.

Proposal for East Wall, Jessie Street Termination



The core theme of this wall is "Respect" as the only view from 6th Street.

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Currently based in Oakland, Dave was born and raised in Los Angeles. Straddling both northern and southern California, Dave Young Kim attended the University of California, Davis before earning an MFA, Studio Art at Mills College. He was awarded the Asian Pacific American Heritage Award, San Francisco in 2015 and has been included in exhibitions at the Berkeley Art Center, Asian Art Museum, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. He has created murals in the cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and Reno. Being born of Korean immigrant parents he draws much influence from cultural history, family lore and personal experiences growing up in Southern California in depicting images that shape identity. In his contextualized works, he uses the specific to talk about more universal themes of the human condition. Ultimately his work is premised on the idea that we are all looking for a place to call home.

Stevenson Street Windows; “This Bird” (Title from a Jarvis Jay Masters experience)
Artist: Rosana Castrillo Diaz



The birds will be created with a silver mirror-like finish placed between two layers of glass, reflecting the viewer and creating a sense of light from the sun and sky.

Born and raised in Spain, Rosana currently lives and works in San Francisco. She received a Bachelor of Fine Art degree in 1993 from Facultad de Bellas Artes, Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain; a Bachelor of Born and raised in Spain, Rosana currently lives and works in San Francisco. She received a Bachelor of Fine Art degree in 1993 from Facultad de Bellas Artes, Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain; a Bachelor of Fine Art degree in 1996 from Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH; a Post-Baccalaureate degree in 1999 from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; and a Masters of Fine Art degree in 2003 from Mills College, Oakland, CA. Rosana has been the recipient of many awards including the Artadia Art Award, Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue, New York, NY; the SECA Art Award, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; and the 1999 Photographer’s Forum Magazine Excellence Award. Rosana’s solo exhibitions include Contemporary Art Museum, Raleigh, NC; Shasta College, Redding, CA. San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Drawing Center, New York, NY

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