

sfac san francisco arts commission

San Francisco International Airport; Terminal 1, SFO Hotel, and Other Opportunities on SFO Campus Purchase of Paintings and Sculpture



BACKGROUND:

Over its history, SFO has acquired a collection of paintings, sculptures that reflect many major artists and art movements that have characterized the Bay Area, along with the work of contemporary artists nationally and some internationally . In the early days of the public art program at the Airport, the Commission purchased a number of discreet artworks in the form of paintings and some sculpture. When the new International Terminal was built, there was little opportunity for these kinds of works and the focus was placed on larger, more architecturally integrated artworks.

In 1995 as part of the Master plan for the International Terminal, the Arts Commission commissioned a curatorial review by Karen Tsujimoto and Katherine Holland. The report analyzed and categorized the artworks in the collection, and made recommendations for strengthening our holdings. Since that report

was issued, a number of artworks have been commissioned as a result of the ITB and remodeling of T2 and T3.

The remodeling of T2 and T3 provided the opportunity to mix some of the important paintings and discreet sculptures in our collection with larger commissioned work to great success. By locating and designing locations for these works early in the design process, we were able to achieve the same integrated look for these artworks and provided a richer art experience.

ART OPPORTUNITIES

The renovation of T1, along with the new SFO Hotel and Consolidated Administrative campus will give us new opportunities to not only commission work for the Airport, but add to our collection of discreet works of two-dimensional and sculptural works.

PROJECT GOAL

Unlike the larger, architectural works are commissioned via contracts and seek artists judged best able to respond to a particular architectural condition, the selection of the purchased painting and sculpture should be based more on more intentional consideration of a particular artist's contribution to the existing painting and sculpture collection. Works selected should complement or strengthen specific areas of the collection, and/or represent new trends and artists contributing to the ongoing narrative of Bay Area art. While the backbone of the SFO collection should continue to be made up of Bay Area artists, it should continue to also represent artists from greater California and the nation so that local artists are seen in context of a broader artistic dialogue.

ARTS RECRUITMENT APPROACH AND ELIGIBILITY; SELECTION PROCESS

San Francisco City Purchasing rules under Sec. 21.04 allows for the purchase of Fine Art by the Arts Commission without approval of the purchaser. However the department may need to provide a justification for the selection process. Given the curatorial emphasis on these selections, (and our past experience of making direct purchases of art), staff believes that the following procedure outlined below will meet the Purchaser's approval.

Curatorial Framework:

Staff will draft a set of collection goals and guidelines for the artwork we seek to acquire for SFO. The guidelines will use Tsujimoto/Holland report as well as the Commission's direct experience with working at the airport to inform the guidelines. The curatorial framework will be reviewed and approved by the VAC and Airport Art Steering Committee

Curatorial Committee and Development of an Acquisition list:

A curatorial committee consisting of outside curators and arts professionals will be formed to develop a list of 5 – 10 artists whose work they recommend for purchase for SFO. Arts Commissioners and SFAC staff may also make recommendations. Committee members will be asked to review the Tsujimoto/Holland report, as well as review the artworks currently in the collection. All recommendations will be put in writing with a justification for inclusion in the Airport collection based on the curatorial framework.

Suggested arts professional members of the Curatorial Committee include:

Lawrence Rinder, Director of the Berkeley Art Museum
Lizzetta La Falle Collins, Independent Curator
Renee de Guzman, curator, Oakland Museum of Art
Renny Pritikin, Chief curator, Jewish Museum of Art
Janet Bishop, Chief Curator, San Francisco Museum of Art
Amy LeDuc, Independent Curator

Representatives of Arts and Airport Commission:

VAC Committee members
Arts Commission and Airport Museums Program staff

Upon compilation of the list, staff will research available work for consideration for purchase, along with an analysis of the suitability of available artwork to the site opportunities at SFO. Staff will develop a plan identifying which artworks could potentially be sited in available locations.

A Selection Panel will be assembled to make final selections for purchase.

BUDGET:

Curatorial Committee honoraria: \$1,500 ea.
Budget for T1 acquisitions: \$2,000,000
Budget for other buildings TBD

TIMELINE (Subject to change)

- Project Outline Approval (VAC) 11/16/16
- Form Curatorial Committee 11/16/16—1/10/17
- VAC approval of Curatorial Committee 1/17/17
- Due date for Committee recommendations 3/30/17
- Completion of research of available work 5/1/17
- Completion staff assessment of suitability of available work for specific sites 5/30/17
- Selection Panel meeting June, 2017
- Airport Art Steering Committee approval June, 2017
- VAC Approval of Selected Works July, 2017
- Airport and Arts Commission Approval August, 2017

FURTHER INFORMATION

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