

# Memorandum



**Date:** June 11, 2024

**To:** Chair and Members  
Art in Public Places Trust

**From:** Marialaura Leslie, Director  
Department of Cultural Affairs

**Subject:** Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-31 / April Bey – Gallery at West Brickell /  
Professional Artist Services Agreement

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## **Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-31**

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH APRIL BEY, LLC (LEAD ARTIST APRIL BEY) IN THE NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$80,000.00 FOR PHASE I DESIGN SERVICES AND PHASE II- FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF THE ARTWORK PROJECT FOR THE GALLERY AT WEST BRICKELL RESIDENTIAL TOWER PHASE (FROM MIAMI-DADE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED URBAN PUBLIC ART FUNDS).

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with April Bey, LLC (lead artist April Bey) in the not to exceed amount of \$80,000.00 for Phase I – Design Services and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the artwork project for the Gallery at West Brickell Tower phase.

### **Background**

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on May 30, 2024 to review design concepts from a group of eight (8) artists invited to propose from a National Call to Artist for interior and exterior works for the housing development known as Gallery at West Brickell, a public-private partnership between Related Urban and the Miami-Dade Department of the Public Housing and Community Development located in the Brickell neighborhood at 201 SW 10th Street, Miami FL 33130. Opportunities for public art in the building tower included light-based and suspended artworks, screening systems, and applications of two and three-dimensional works and or installations for interior spaces, as well as applications of free-standing artworks for the roof-top pool deck.

After careful deliberation and input from the client and APP teams, the PAC recommended Los Angeles-based artist April Bey, originally from New Providence, Bahamas, to create two new fiber and mixed media tapestries that relate to one another as a diptych to be installed prominently in the main lobby. The artist has identified two main walls each directly behind the concierge's and the leasing bar desk. The works, introduced as part of the artist's series COLONIAL SWAG, incorporate woven textiles, sherpa, velvet, ecoshag fur, bamboo gold earrings, and beads. The artist proposed creating a custom Plexiglas enclosure to display and protect the works from dust and touching. The works expand upon Bey's body of work critiquing American and Bahamian culture, feminism, generational theory, social media, AfroFuturism, AfroSurrealism and post-colonialism.

Based on funding earmarked for the public art program for the development's tower phase and the artist's preliminary proposal budget, APP staff recommends a budget allocation of \$80,000.00 for the (2) two original tapestries and authorizing release of these funds to the artist under a single phase contract incorporating milestones and deliverables that address the timely completion of the design, fabrication, and installation phases in tandem with the last 8 months of construction.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-31 authorizing a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with April Bey, LLC (lead artist April Bey) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$80,000.00 for Phase I – Design Services and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the artwork project for the Gallery at West Brickell Residential Tower phase.