

Memorandum



Date: October 8, 2024

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-55 / Beverly Acha – Civil and Probate
Courthouse / Addendum I

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-55

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM I TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH BEVERLY ACHA IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$126,000.00 FOR PHASE II – FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF THE ARTWORK FOR THE CIVIL AND PROBATE COURTHOUSE PROJECT (FROM MIAMI-DADE INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ART FUNDS)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Beverly Acha in the fixed fee amount of \$126,000.00 for Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the artwork for the Civil and Probate Courthouse project.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on January 25 - 27, 2023 to review design proposals from a group of seventeen (17) artists shortlisted from a national Call to Artists for a combined series of public art opportunities for the Civil and Probate Courthouse, located in Downtown Miami on NW 1st Ave between Flagler St and NW 1st Street. This public/private development will serve the Civil and Probate Divisions of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, the Clerk of Courts and other related court partners including administrative services, court-related programs, court support functions, and facility management services. A very special project with great community significance, the new courthouse will functionally replace the existing iconic Miami-Dade County Courthouse which has been in service since the 1920s. The project includes twenty-four (24) floors, forty-six (46) finished jury courtrooms and one (1) additional shell space for an additional four (4) jury courtrooms including fifty-nine (59) secure parking spaces. The courthouse is designed to be a significant landmark.

After careful deliberation and input from the client teams, APP Trust members, and APP staff, the PAC unanimously recommended the commissioning of Miami-born, New York-based artist, Beverly Acha, to develop one of the two design concepts presented for installation at a designated waiting room. The concept involved the translating of imagery derived from one of the artist's original painting into a large-scale mosaic mural or the installation of a series of unique paintings to be applied to the feature wall. Acha's painting practice often responds to the environment in which they are made by drawing inspiration from the surrounding architecture, landscape, light, and natural space.

On April 11, 2023, through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-21, the Trust authorized a total budget of \$180,000.00 for Beverly Acha's recommended artwork commission and the approval of an initial \$54,000.00 contract to facilitate the artist's design development services. Through this process, the artist decided to create a large-scale original painting comprised of (4) different sections on canvas. This approach offers the artist the most flexibility to complete the work on time for the opening of the new courthouse. The artist has completed (3) different color scheme variations for the composition of the proposed work and has secured the client's approval and selection for the final design option.

Given the substantial completion of the artwork's design development, APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-55 authorizing Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement with Beverly Acha in the fixed fee amount of \$126,000.00 for Phase II - Fabrication and Installation of the artwork for the Civil and Probate Courthouse project.