

Memorandum



Date: January 14, 2025

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-01 / Loan Agreement, Olga de Amaral “*Coraza de Cal y Canto*” and support materials to Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami)

Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-01

RESOLUTION APPROVING A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART MIAMI FOR THE ARTWORK BY OLGA DE AMARAL “CORAZA DE CAL Y CANDO” AND SUPPORT MATERIALS FROM THE MIAMI-DADE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COLLECTION FOR EXHIBITION AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES FROM MARCH 1, 2025 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2025.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve the loan of collection artwork *Coraza de Cal y Canto* by Olga de Amaral and related support materials to the Institute of Contemporary Art Miami (ICA Miami) for exhibition and educational purposes from March 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025.

Background

Art in Public Places (APP) staff received an inquiry from Stephanie Seidel, Monica Grossman, and Blake Grossman, curators from the Institute of Contemporary Art Miami (ICA Miami) on the potential loan of collection artwork *Coraza de Cal y Canto*, by Olga de Amaral. With dimensions of 198” high by 98” wide, this fabric/textile work was commissioned for \$12,000.00 in the late 1970’s for installation at the Miami International Airport (MIA) Satellite Terminal and remained on view through late 1998. Per information in the collection archives, APP staff confirmed that the artwork was removed from MIA in 1998 for conservation purpose and it’s been in APP storage for at least the past 18 years.

Organized in collaboration with the Fondation Cartier, Paris, the exhibition at ICA Miami brings together over fifty works by Olga de Amaral from the late 1960s to the present. Beyond the artist’s iconic goldleaf pieces, the exhibition also encompasses early explorations and experimentations with textile along with a selection of monumental pieces commissioned for public spaces.

After meeting with APP to assess the artwork and related archive materials, on November 18, 2024, Ms. Seidel sent a formal letter of request for the loan, noting that the work is not only an outstanding example of the artist’s experimental and unique approach to the medium of Fiber Art that draws equally from the history of Modernism, the vernacular textiles in Colombia and pre-Columbian art. This work would make a significant contribution to the artist’s retrospective emphasizing the important historic connections of Mrs. De Amaral to Miami-Dade. The work will be in view as part of the ICA Miami exhibition running from May 1, 2025 - October 2025.

It is envisioned that wall text, original scholarly writing, and a brochure will be produced highlighting *Coraza de Cal y Canto* as part of the ICA Miami exhibit. APP will receive new high-resolution images of the artwork while on view to replace the dated photo documentation available for this collection work. ICA Miami will also donate a copy of the catalogue of the artist's work to the Michael Spring Art Reference Library.

Considering that this artwork belongs to the Miami-Dade Aviation Department's (MDAD) public art collection and it has been in storage for an extensive period of time, APP staff will request written permission from MDAD for the temporary exhibit of the work at ICA Miami contingent on Trust approval of this loan request. APP will concurrently work with MDAD staff to find a new permanent location for reinstallation of the work in the airport grounds.

Prior to loaning the work, APP, through its miscellaneous conservation services contract, will fully restore and clean the artwork to ensure its excellent condition for the exhibition. It is envisioned that the restoration and exhibition effort will assist in identifying a proper location for its installation at a Miami-Dade County facility where it can be once again prominently displayed and enjoyed by the public in general

The Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami (ICA Miami) located in the Miami Design District at 61 NE 41st St, Miami, FL 33137, is dedicated to promoting continuous experimentation in contemporary art, advancing new scholarship, and fostering the exchange of art and ideas throughout the Miami region and internationally. Through an energetic calendar of exhibitions and programs, and its collection, ICA Miami provides an important international platform for the work of local, emerging, and under-recognized artists, and advances the public appreciation and understanding of the most innovative art of our time. The museum is deeply committed to providing open, public access to artistic excellence by offering year-round free admission.

The criteria of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs' Art in Public Places (APP) program when considering a collection loan includes: 1) the benefit of the scholarly research and commentary on the work, such as with an exhibition catalogue; 2) the opportunity to broaden awareness about APP program; 3) the satisfaction of terms of the loan including that the borrower cover all costs of shipping by a professional art handler at the approval of APP, insurance of the work during the loan period, conditional reporting before and after all points of transit by a certified entity, appraisal, documentation, and other requirements as requested by APP; and 4) that the artwork be on loan for a relatively short period of time.

APP staff recommends the approval of Resolution No. APPT 25-01 authorizing a loan agreement of APP collection artwork *Coraza de Cal y Canto*, 1977 by Olga de Amaral and related archive materials to ICA Miami for inclusion in the Olga de Amaral Retrospective Exhibition from March 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025.