

# 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 25-06 / Germane Barnes - Gallery at West Brickell Tower / Addendum I

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## **Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-06**

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM I TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH GERMANE BARNES, IN THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 FOR ADDITIONAL FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES OF THE ARTWORK 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 Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Germane Barnes in the not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000.00 for additional fabrication and installation services of the artwork for the Gallery at West Brickell Tower phase project.

### **Background**

On June 12, 2024 through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-28, the Trust authorized a Professional Artist Services Agreement with Miami-based artist Germane Barnes in the initial amount of \$250,000.00 for Phase I – Design Services and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of his artwork concept “Rockers” for the Gallery at West Brickell Tower phase project. Though this initial concept for the “Rockers” was quite playful and deemed appropriate for the pool deck, in further discussion with the client team, APP staff determined that the artwork’s required foundations and hoisting needs would significantly hinder the proper installation of the work and its future care.

As an alternate, the client team identified a prominent outdoor garden area by the building’s main vehicular entry that could accommodate the artist’s alternate and large-scale proposal for this project. This alternate concept, called *Identity*, is part of a series of three new works titled *Columnar Disorders*, upending the triumvirate columnar order—Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian—in favor of a new trinity—Migration, Labor, and Identity. With this work, the artist counters millenia of glaring architecture erasure by recentering underrecognized African contributions, particularly from North Africa. Unbound by conventional columnar design rules, Barnes’ *Identity* highlights historical narratives from the African Diaspora by collapsing architecture, archeology, and anthropological disciplines into traditional sculptures. Inspired by typical African hairstyles such as cornrows, box braids, and dreadlocks, *Identity* celebrates Black hair, Black form, and Black joy. The column made its debut at the 2023 Venice Architectural Biennale.

APP staff has negotiated a reduced price of \$300,000.00 from the original acquisition cost of the

work at \$365,000.00 and is in conversation with the Related Urban project team to cover the artwork installation expense including foundation, transportation, and hoisting of the sculpture to its designated ground level location. However, the current budget allocation for this commission of \$250,000.00 will need to be increased by \$50,000.00 to acquire the work as offered by the artist. APP staff confirms that this additional expense can be covered by unencumbered funds in the APP internal program contingency for the Gallery at West Brickell project.

As such, APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-06 authorizing Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Germane Barnes in the not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000.00 for additional Phase I – Design Services and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the artwork project for the Gallery at West Brickell Residential Tower phase.