

Memorandum



Date: June 10, 2025

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-33 / Nancy Rubins – Civil and Probate
Courthouse / Professional Artists Services Agreement

Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-33

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH 1717 STUDIO, INC. (LEAD ARTIST NANCY RUBIN) IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$180,000.00 FOR ACQUISITION OF ARTWORK FOR THE CIVIL AND PROBATE COURTHOUSE PROJECT (FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PEOPLE AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ART FUNDS). THIS RESOLUTION SUPERSEDES TRUST RESOLUTIONS NO. APPT 23-20 AND APPT 24-43.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with 1717 Studio, Inc. (lead artist Nancy Rubin) in the fixed fee amount of \$180,000.00 for the acquisition of artwork for the Civil and Probate Courthouse project. This resolution supersedes Trust Resolutions No. APPT 23-20 and APPT 24-43.

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.

Meeting deliberations resulted in the PAC unanimously recommending the commissioning of California-based sculptor and installation artist, Nancy Rubin, to create a site-specific triptych of framed original collages for placement at a designated waiting room in the new courthouse. On April 11, 2023, the Trust approved the PAC recommendation and a total commission budget of \$180,000.00 with an initial design contract authorized through Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-20 in the amount of \$54,000.00 for design services. Furthermore, on July 9, 2024, the Trust through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-43 authorized a contract addendum in the remaining commission amount of \$126,000.00. Due to other professional commitments and an extended

stay out of the country, the artist did not execute the Trust agreement, nor addendum, as approved. Nevertheless, the artist completed the project at her expense to the specification required of the proposed commission and therefore, the APP staff recommends the acquisition of the completed work.

APP staff is in receipt of photographic documentation confirming the satisfactory completion of the artist's scope of work which continues the artist's signature body of work that experiments with perceptions of three-dimensional space using various images of watercraft and boats that when collaged, have a visual similarity to colorful organic blooms of flowers. The imagery is related to the artist's institutionally recognized practice of monumental sculpture. The work's archival quality is achieved by the use of pigment inks on archival alpha cellulose paper cut and collaged onto Arches paper and floated in a light wood frame with protective UV plexiglass. The artwork is ready for crating and shipping to Miami for installation at the designated typical courtroom floor lobby wall.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-33 authorizing a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with 1717 Studio, Inc. (lead artist Nancy Rubin) in the amount of \$180,000.00 for acquisition of an artwork for the new Civil and Probate Courthouse project. This resolution supersedes Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-20 and APPT 24-43.