

Memorandum



Date: January 9, 2024

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-04 / Loan Agreement, Bass Museum of Art, *Nam June Paik: The Miami Years*

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-04

RESOLUTION RETROACTIVELY APPROVING (2) LOAN AGREEMENTS WITH THE BASS MUSEUM OF ART FOR ARCHIVAL OBJECTS RELATED TO DEACCESSIONED ARTWORKS "MIAMI" AND "WING" BY NAM JUNE PAIK FOR EXHIBITION AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust retroactively approve two (2) loan agreements of archival objects from the Art in Public Places archives to The Bass Museum of Art, for the purpose of research and inclusion in the exhibition *Nam June Paik, The Miami Years*, organized by Curator James Voorhies, on view from October 4, 2023 – August 16, 2024. Loan materials included media from the following (2) works:

Nam June Paik	Nam June Paik
Miami ¹ , 1990	Wing, 1990
Multimedia installation	Multimedia installation
56”h x 9’w	39.75”h x 28’w

Loan Agreement No. 1 - Executed June 9, 2023

The loan consists of (4) laser discs, which contain original digital material related to one or both artworks by Nam June Paik commissioned by the Miami-Dade County Art in Public Places Trust in 1990, and subsequently deaccessioned from the collection in 2012.

Loan Agreement No. 2 - Executed August 30, 2023

The loan consists of 22 archival objects including newspaper clippings, original documents, slides, and color photographs related to one or both artworks by Nam June Paik commissioned by the Miami-Dade Art in Public Places Trust in 1990, and subsequently deaccessioned from the collection in 2012.

Background

Art in Public Places was approached by Silvia Karman Cubiñá, Executive Director and Chief Curator, and James Voorhies, Curator, of The Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach (The Bass), to access Art in Public Places archives for a research project into two deaccessioned artworks by Nam June Paik, *Wing*

(1990) and *Miami*¹ (1990). Permission was granted by Michael Spring, then Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs, in early summer of 2023. The intent was to access and potentially include found archival materials in the groundbreaking exhibition, *Nam June Paik, The Miami Years* at The Bass organized by Curator James Voorhies scheduled for October 4, 2023 – August 16, 2024, and also to tentatively discuss the potential creation of a new iteration of the deaccessioned artwork *Miami* (1990).

Subsequently, the research into the APP Archives resulted in the museum's request for a loan agreement to account for archival objects to be potentially featured in the upcoming exhibition. These requests were granted as represented in executed loan documents by Michael Spring, then Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs on June 9, 2023, and August 30, 2023. The selected materials were made available to the museum at different times to facilitate their inclusion in the current exhibition at The Bass. Materials will be returned to the APP Archives upon closing of the exhibition.

In conjunction with this effort, APP and The Bass curatorial teams have co-drafted a letter of interest to the Executor of the Nam June Paik Foundation, requesting permission to begin a preliminary inquiry into the ethics, feasibility, and spirit of collaboration toward the potential of contracting with a third party to recreate the former artwork titled *TV Miami*¹ (1990) by Nam June Paik, and to propose engaging the Paik Estate in the evaluation of existing materials related to the deaccessioned artwork and in the development of a feasibility study for the recreation of *TV Miami*, with careful consideration of the use of state-of-the-art technology for the work and its associated long-term maintenance needs. A key discovery in this research has confirmed that the original video content from three of the laser discs can be converted to a current and accessible digital format. It is envisioned that funding for the potential recreation of this work be substantially contributed by The Bass while APP will assume primary responsibility for the regular care and long-term maintenance of the work. This later portion of the work will be funded with APP Conservation funds.

Pursuant to APP program procedures, should the project move forward, both the Art in Public Places Professional Advisory Committee and the Art in Public Places Trust would be engaged in the review and acceptance of the Paik Estate's resulting proposal for the recreation of the work and its accession into the APP collection with joint ownership of The Bass.

APP staff recommends the Trust's retroactive approval of Resolution No. APPT 24-04 authorizing the loan of archival materials to The Bass Museum of Art, for the purpose of research, and subject to identifying the contents and Lender approval, inclusion in exhibition: *Nam Jun Paik, The Miami Years* organized by Curator James Voorhies on view from October 4, 2023 – August 16, 2024. The recreation of Nam June Paik's TV Miami, in any form or iteration, will require expressed permission by the Nam June Paik Estate permission as well as both, written approval by the Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and approval by official action of the Art in Public Places Trust.

¹ It should be noted that the title of the work appears in various forms throughout Art in Public Places Collection records, including "MIAMI," "Miami," "TV Miami," and "Miami Sign." For the purpose of this specific exhibit, Art in Public Places and The Bass will refer to the work as "TV Miami."