



DRAFT

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING  
Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:00 a.m.**

**Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department  
Hybrid Meeting & Virtual via Zoom**

*Historical Resources &  
Cultural Arts*

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<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>
	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	22	22	22	22	22
Nelson de León	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eugenia Incer*			P	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	E	P
Adler Guerrier	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P
Maggie Hernandez* - V. Chair	P	-	P	P	P	P	A	E	P	P	P	P
Dr. Jacek Kolasiński - Chair	E	-	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
Emily MacDonald-Korth	P	-	E	E	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	E
Manny Mato	P	-	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E
Marijean Miyar	P	-	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
Juan Roselione-Valadez	P	-	P	P	P	E	A	P	P	P	E	P

**LEGEND:** A = Absent; P = Present; V = Virtual; E = Excused; \* = New Member; ^ = Resigned Member;  
- = No Meeting    + = Special Meeting

**STAFF:**

Warren Adams, Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Director  
Catherine Cathers, Arts and Culture Specialist

**MEETING RECORD / MINUTES PREPARATION:** Catherine Cathers, Arts & Culture Specialist,  
Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department

The Arts Advisory Panel meeting was called to order by Mr. Kolasiński at 9:05 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 13, 2022 MEETING MINUTES:**

**A motion was made by Ms. Miyar and seconded by Mr. Guerrier to approve the meeting minutes of April 13, 2022, and accept the absences of Ms. MacDonald-Korth and Mr. Mato as excused, which was unanimously passed by voice vote.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. ART BASEL – ARTIST RECOMMENDATIONS**

Panel members were updated on the recommendation they made at the last meeting, which moved forward to the Cultural Development Board (CDB). It was noted that the Board made a motion to

celebrate artworks on Miracle Mile, with the understanding that there would be artworks on loan installed. Staff informed the Panel that discussions for the loans were stalled and another option for Art Basel is needed.

Prior to the meeting, Panel members were provided with a list of artists cultivated through a prominent fabricator who works with many blue-chip artists, who are at the professional level the City is seeking and are possibly available to work within the budget and timeline. It was stated that the list was shared with the City Manager's office and that the Mayor has expressed interest in the artist Hugh Hayden. Ms. Cathers added that, in addition, a 15-foot bronze sculpture by artist Thaddeus Mosely may be available for temporary exhibition during Art Basel and could be in addition to whatever is decided for Art Basel.

Ms. Cathers mentioned that a member of the CDB said they would like more than one name presented from the Panel for Art Basel. She suggested recommending three names and ranking them in order of preference.

The Panel reviewed the list provided by staff, in addition to a list of recommended artists compiled by Panel members for more permanent acquisitions. It was noted that the artists have not been contacted to see if they are available for this opportunity. Ms. Cathers stated that the original list is much longer with more names; however, this list considers those who are potentially available. Staff noted that the CDB has not seen the lists being discussed and they depend on the Panel's expertise for direction. Mr. Kolasiński reminded members that artists need to be approved for inclusion on the pre-qualified artist list.

The recommendation process was reviewed, confirming that the Panel acts as a professional resource that makes recommendations to the CDB. The CDB, then, considers the Panel's recommendation and makes a recommendation to the City Commission for final action.

Mr. Kolasiński asked for clarification of the budget. Ms. Cathers responded that past Art Week/Art Basel projects have ranged from \$80,000 dollars to \$200,000 dollars for the temporary exhibition/commission.

Mr. Guerrier started the conversation of artists with Mark Handforth. He stated that Handforth is based here part-time, has various works that are "pop", uses everyday objects that are scaled up, can hold a large space, catch people's attention, and has shown at significant art fairs. Mr. Guerrier also spoke about Jeffrey Gibson's work, mentioning interest in the artist's merging of languages from Native American vocabularies and how the language co-exists with contemporary language. Claudia Weiser was also discussed as a possibility along with Hugh Hayden. There was concern expressed about the Hayden's primary use of wood, with curiosity about how it would scale into bronze. Panel members discussed artist Wangechi Mutu and her low bronze figurative, animal-

like sculptures of other-worldly creatures.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez made a motion to recommend Wangechi Mutu as the City's 2022 Art Week/Art Basel artist. Ms. Miyar seconded the motion and discussion continued.

Ms. Hernandez suggested at least two alternate artists in case Mutu is not available or able to work within the budget. Ms. Incer recommended adding Mark Handforth and Ursula von Rydingsvard. Ms. Cathers responded that von Rydingsvard is not available within the timeframe. Ms. Incer said Handforth has magnetism to his work and is appealing as a South Florida artist. She agreed that Mutu may also not be available. Handforth's work was discussed in more detail, noting his expertise with material and color, along with his audience rapport.

The Panel discussed additional artists including more discussion about Claudia Wieser and Jeffrey Gibson. Additional artists included Simone Leigh, who the Panel felt was not within the budget and Nicole Eisenman, as a balance to masculine figurative work but who may also not be within the budget. Ms. Cathers noted that some of these artists could be considered for permanent acquisitions.

Mr. Guerrier suggested possibly having a Mutu sculpture on loan. The Panel discussed whether this was a direction to consider. Staff noted that the previous Art Week/Art Basel exhibitions have been new commissions with additional resources allocated if the work is permanently acquired.

Mr. Kolasiński asked if there was any discussion regarding availability of Hugh Hayden's work. Ms. Cathers responded that Hayden's gallery reached out to the City and, along with his fabricator, mentioned the artist's possible interest in working with different materials.

Ms. Cathers said staff would work with the artists on their proposals to ensure suitability for outdoor exhibition and mentioned previous Panel discussions of members wanting to encourage opportunities for artists who have not fully explored public art installations and who are interested in exploring public art.

The Panel briefly discussed the possibility of combining this opportunity with the Mobility Hub. This idea was discarded after reviewing the time needed for approvals, contract negotiation, fabrication, etc.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez brought up Hernan Bas's ephemeral sculptures and wondered if the artist has spoken with a foundry about making more (permanent works). Ms. Miyar asked if this could be a possibility for next year, providing time to work with the artist. Mr. Roselione-Valadez responded that a permanent artwork should be considered, and a budget established. He agreed to contact the artist and to see if there is interest.

Continuing, the following motions were made in order of preference:

**Mr. Roselione-Valadez made a motion recommending Wangechi Mutu as the 2022 Art Week/Art Basel artist. Ms. Miyar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Ms. Hernandez made a motion recommending Mark Handforth as the 2022 Art Week/Art Basel artist. Ms. Miyar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Mr. Kolasiński asked how much time will be left if the recommendation is not approved. Ms. Cathers responded not much, and that another artist will have to be selected.

Ms. Hernandez shared that Mark Handforth recently turned down a commission with the County, stating concern about whether he would be available. Mr. Guerrier added that the artist does a great deal of his own work and may only be able to work on one or two pieces at a time. With this in mind, Mr. Kolasiński said, the Panel should include a third choice. Ms. Incer recommended Jeffrey Gibson. With no further discussion, the following motion was made:

**Ms. Incer made a motion recommending Jeffrey Gibson as the 2022 Art Week/Art Basel artist. Mr. Guerrier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The Panel discussed appointing a member to speak on behalf of the Panel at the Commission meeting when the item is presented.

**Mr. Roselione-Valadez made a motion nominating Adler Guerrier, who accepted, to speak to the City Commission on behalf of the Panel when the item is presented. Ms. Miyar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

b. MOBILITY HUB – ARTIST RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel continued discussion from the previous meeting regarding artists to consider for the Mobility Hub. They were advised of the current estimated art budget of \$600,000 dollars and that it could be supplemented with available art funds.

To assist the discussion, Ms. Cathers shared the Gensler presentation on screen with renderings of the Mobility Hub. At the last Panel meeting, she said, the Panel recommended focusing on the ground-floor plaza area that has a designated location for public art with fifteen-foot high ceilings. Continuing, she said the Panel recommended applying the estimated art budget in its entirety toward a permanent sculpture at this location.

The cut-out area on the east side of the building was discussed as a further recommendation of the Panel to explore a collaboration with the University of Miami. Staff said funds toward this site would come from the Art Fund. Mr. Guerrier recommended working with the University on a design that would establish infrastructure to receive multiple installations over time and include considerations (for the artwork itself) such as form, color, etc.

The Panel was asked for three artists to recommend for the ground-level location in support of the Panel's motion to develop proposals for site specific artwork.

Ms. Hernandez asked about the proposal fee. Ms. Cathers recommended \$2,000 dollars plus expenses for site visits if artists are not local. The Panel discussed whether the artist should be local or not, no determination was made.

The site was discussed regarding the location within the plaza, lighting, and visibility of the artwork overall. Mr. Guerrier noted that the artwork needs to be massive enough to be seen and requires light. Panelists agreed that the artwork needs to have a commanding presence.

In addition to artists on the Panel's list, the Panel discussed, among others, Carol Bove, Math Bass, Jim Drain, Jorge Pardo, and regional artists Karen Rifas, Emmett Moore, Tom Scicluna, Robert Chambers, Barbara Neijna, Lauren Shapiro, and Carlos Betancourt.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez asked about reaching out to Galleries and Gallerists such as LnS Gallery, Nina Johnson, David Castillo, etc. Mr. Guerrier responded that Panel members could reach out to galleries and bring names back to the Panel.

Ms. Hernandez asked how soon names are needed. Ms. Cathers responded as soon as possible for the foundation and plinth to be included in the construction drawings. Mr. Adams said the project is anticipated to break ground late September of this year.

Ms. Cathers asked the Panel to consider the site and who would be willing to do a commission in this location within the recommended budget.

After continued discussion, the Panel decided to table this item for further discussion and make it a priority at the next meeting.

c. PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT – ARTIST RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel discussed how to better support private developers with the artist selection process, focusing on the existing pre-qualified artist list as a tool. Initial discussion focused on the merits of the list itself. At this time, Ms. Cathers said, the list is provided to private developers, who also

often work with a consultant or gallery directly. Mr. Roselione-Valadez said he views the list as finite and suggested eliminating it entirely or paring it down dramatically. It was noted that the list was compiled from different selection methods and if it remains, to be useful, it needs to be re-formatted with more information. Mr. Kolasiński suggested employing an intern for this project and to include proper indexing with the types of work an artist does, materials, project budgets, etc.

Ms. Hernandez, responding to Mr. Roselione-Valadez' point, said the list is limiting to choices and a developer will propose whatever they want anyway. Mr. Guerrier said he liked the list as a head start for a developer and added that an infinite number of choices can be as limiting. Ms. Incer agreed not to do away with it but make it a user-friendly resource that is more comprehensive.

Mr. Kolasiński asked about developing a system that looks at the exciting things happening (in the art world) and harvest those artist names to bring forward; he also said that would be a full-time job and agreed that the existing list is a dead structure.

Mr. Roselione-Valadez asked if 10-15 names could be presented at each meeting with the panel deciding to keep someone on the list or not. Mr. Kolasiński said at the same time, recommend artist names to add.

Mr. Kolasiński asked that the Panel define the function of the list and how it is expected to be used.

Mr. Guerrier mentioned the different metrics used by fabricators, such as how busy an artist is, their availability, budgets, production time, etc. He suggested hiring a consultant to evaluate the practices of artists (on and off the list) and get a better sense of artists who are growing in their practice. Ms. Miyar noted that it would need to be a living tool requiring constant updating. Ms. Cathers said there are nationwide databases (with some of this information); however, they don't have the same criteria as the City.

Mr. Hernandez mentioned the County's Art in Public Places program, which has short-listed artists and proposals that have been vetted and are available. She suggested it as a good place to start and that it includes artists, and local artists, with different price points and installation (environments).

Mr. Roselione-Valadez said he would like to treat it as a wish list – a short list with a range of styles and artists who may be unattainable and attainable.

Mr. Guerrier agreed that a re-formatted list will help make arguments for why an artist is moving forward, why they should be considered, and which type of project is best for them. Having more information, he said, will help the Panel make better decisions.

Staff thanked the Panel for the feedback and said they can present scenarios for further discussion.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES UPDATES:

There were no further updates.

CITY COMMISSION ITEMS:

The Panel was informed of the Commission's approval of the Coral Gables Museum project "Art on the Plaza".

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Ms. Cathers informed the Panel that the Museum currently does not have a sculpture scheduled for the Museum Plaza during Art Basel. They further suggested, she said, that if the City's selected Art Week/Art Basel artist has a work available for loan, they would be open to having it installed on the Plaza throughout the duration of the exhibition.

ITEMS FROM THE SECRETARY:

There were no items from the secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine J. Cathers  
Arts & Culture Specialist